
“LET THE METAPHORS
SPEAK TO YOU”

An LDS Commentary on Isaiah

ANN N. MADSEN

Dedicated to those who live in the time about which Isaiah prophesied

Isaiah 12

Chapter 12 is a sublime hymn praising the LORD.

12:2; “Surely God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid, the LORD Jehovah is my strength and my song.” Much of the imagery here is similar to the Song of the Sea in Exodus 15. See also 1 John 4:18: “perfect love casteth out all fear.” Isaiah 12:2 is one of two locations in Isaiah where Yahweh is repeated twice (both songs of praise), here shown as “LORD JEHOVAH.” See also Isaiah 26:4: “Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength.”

12:3; “With joy, you will draw water from the wells of salvation.” What an inspiring declaration! Notice that the hymn ends, “Shout aloud and sing for joy, people of Zion, for great is the Holy One of Israel *among you*.”

12:4–6. This short chapter repeats various names for God ten times. These verses seem to refer to the gathering of Israel after the restoration of the gospel.

12:6. “Holy One of Israel” refers to Jehovah or Yahweh. This title is used twenty-six times in Isaiah but only six times in the remainder of the Old Testament. The title is found forty times in The Book of Mormon (many, but not all, of them in direct quotations from Isaiah).

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