Has God Grown Weary of Us?
Isaiah 43:1-7 & 21-25

When difficult times come, we often ask, "Has God grown weary of us and turned His back on us, His people?" God's people in the 6th century BC were asking those questions, and God answered them and us **Isaiah 43:1-7 & 21-25** with these words: "Do not fear." They had reason to fear. They had been defeated by a powerful military. Jerusalem and the temple had been destroyed, and many had died or been taken to Babylon as captives. Their troubles caused them to ask if God had removed His hand of protection from them and was done with them. We can feel like that at times too.

The answer to that question in Scripture is "No." The reasons God gives them are these: I have "created you." **Eph. 2:10** says to us, "we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works." To them He said, "I have redeemed you." **1 Peter 1:18-19** says to us, "YOU were redeemed… with the precious blood of Christ." To them He said, "I have called you." **1 Cor. 1:9** tells us, "God is faithful, who has called YOU into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." To them He said, "I love you." **1 John 4:10** tells us, "This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved US and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins."

God admits that being His people does not insulate us from much of the pain and brutality of a world marred by sin. The difficulties we face are not a sign of God's failure or lack of love but an opportunity to see that He will bring us through.

Finally, God says that we needn't fear that He is done with us because of our sin. He said, "I sweep away your transgressions for my own sake and remember your sins no more." In other words, God's relationship with us is not transactional. It isn't about what we do. It's about who HE is.

Here's how God responds when you ask if He has, or will, remove His hand of protection and mercy from you because of your sins and failures. "No," he says, "I distinctly remember forgetting them."