

Isaiah

Chapter 66

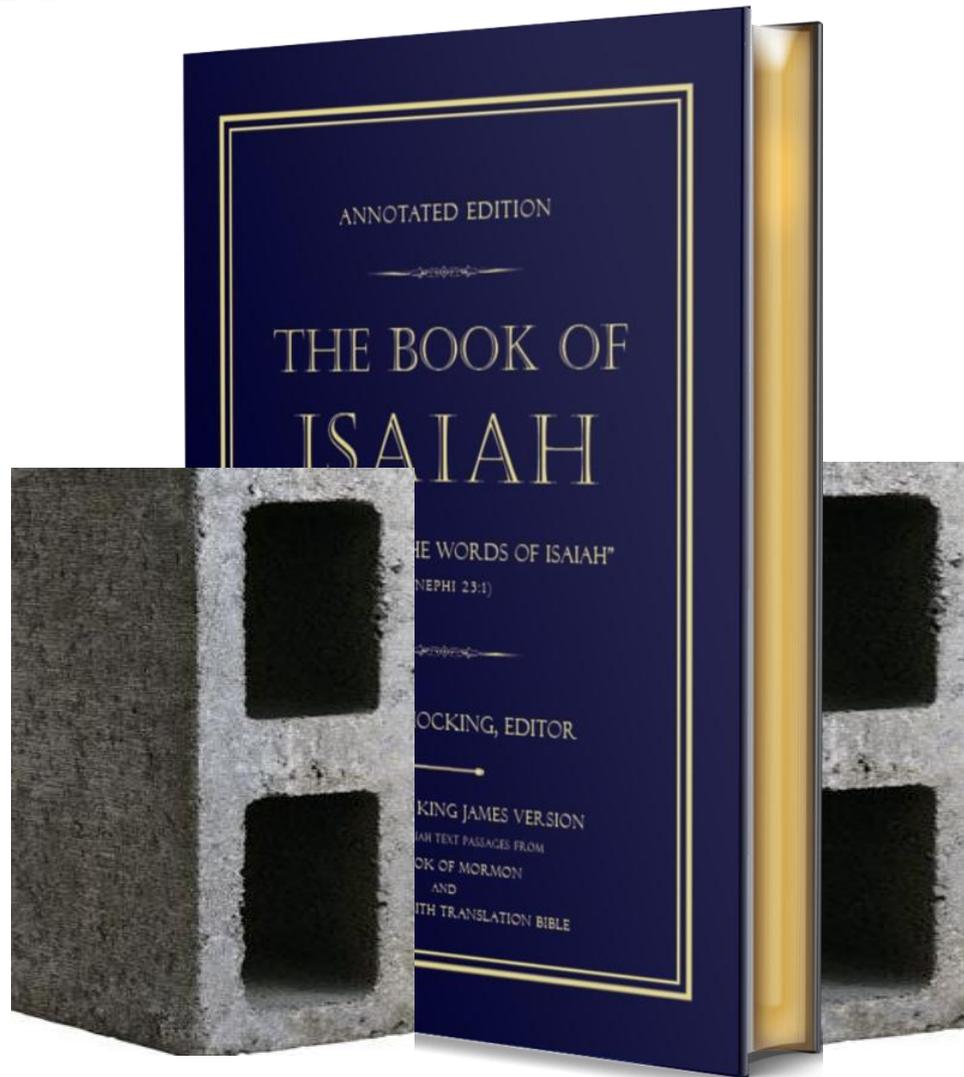
Christ Church

Winter 2026

Isaiah Chiasm

- A. Condemnation, pleading, promise restoration – 1-12
- B. Oracles to nations – 13-26
- C. Woes – 27-35
- D. Historical narrative – 36-39
- C'. Yahweh triumphs over idols – 40-48
- B'. Songs of Servant – 49-54
- A'. Condemnation, pleading, promise restoration – 55-66

- Isaiah 1-12 with 55-66 forms an **inclusio**





Isaiah

Rebellion (2 Chronicles 28:5-15)

Meaningless Offerings

...ion concerning Judah and

10Hear the word of the LOR
you rulers of Sodom;

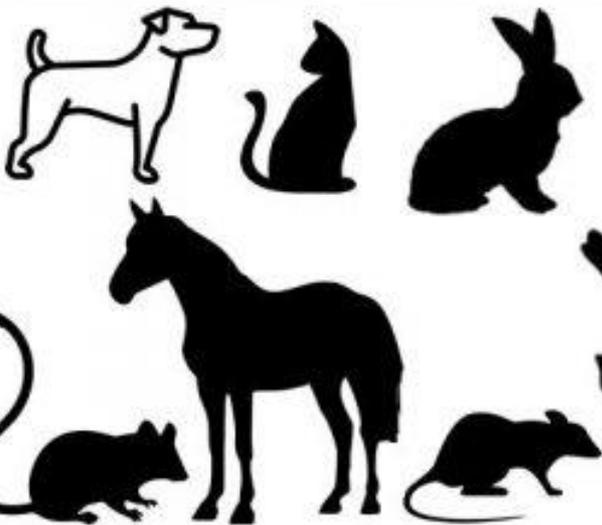
- **1:1-12:6 Introductory message – of condemnation, pleading, and future restoration**
 - Begins – calling for repentance - 1:1-31
 - Condemns empty religious practices, injustice, wickedness – 1:12-15
 - God’s eyes are hidden, He won’t hear their prayers, hands full of blood – 1:15
 - Themes – devouring beasts, Sabbath, briars and thorns, unacceptable sacrifices, drunkenness, burning, dark to light
 - Wolf and lamb, cow and bear, lion eat straw like ox – 11:6-9

- **55:1-66:24 Concluding message – of condemnation, pleading, and future restoration**
 - Begins – calling for repentance – 55:1-56:1
 - Condemns empty religious practices, injustice, wickedness – 58:1-14; 66:3
 - God’s eyes are hidden, He won’t hear their prayers, hands full of blood – 59:1-3
 - Themes – devouring beasts, Sabbath, briars and thorns, unacceptable sacrifices, drunkenness, burning, dark to light
 - Wolf and lamb, cow and bear, lion eat straw like ox – 65:25

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UNCLEAN



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- Isaiah 66:1 - God has nothing against the Temple per se
 - He moved Haggai and Zechariah to lead a rebuilding project
 - He inspired Malachi to condemn those who offered imperfect sacrifices
 - The point of this verse is the same as in 57:3-13, and 65:1-5 – The Lord is against empty rituals

- Ritual is used to enhance one's own power, or to satisfy one's own needs – v. 3



- In v. 4 God called – no one answered and God spoke – no one listened
- So the Lord turns to His remnant, those who ‘trembled at His word’ (v. 5)



- As we've learned to expect throughout Isaiah – judgment and destruction quickly give way to hope and restoration
- In vv. 7-9 we see God's gifts are not proportional to our sin
 - When we meet our own needs – it is arduous, like labor pains
 - God's gifts are babies without pain

- Barrenness and childlessness is a theme in Isaiah
 - 26:16-18; 29:23; 37:3; 49:19-21; 51:17-20; 54:1-3



- This language is targeted at the pagan fertility cults – Baalism, Asherah, El
- Those ‘religions’ focused on the critical need to maintain ‘fertility’ of fields, farms, orchards, and wombs in order to defeat death

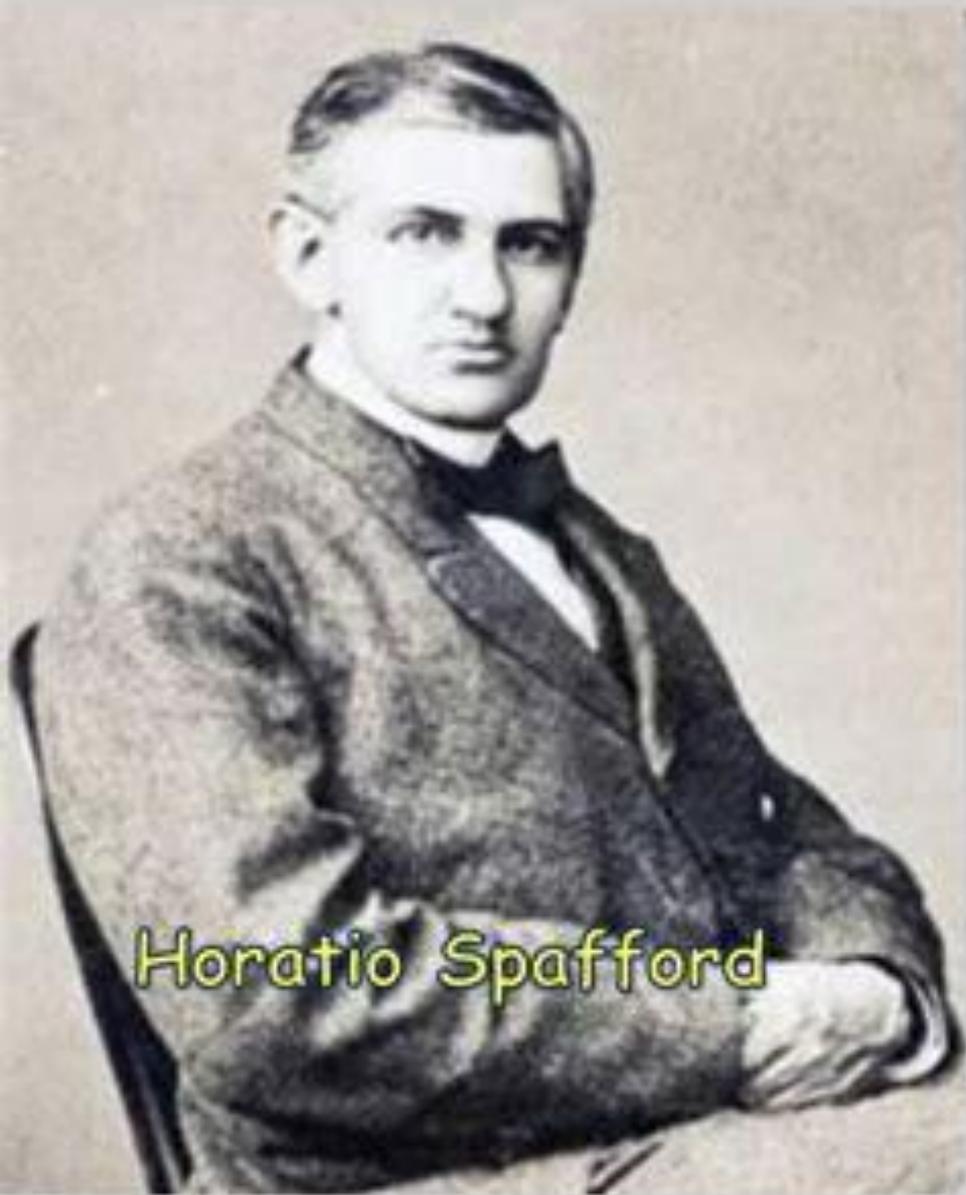
- This is the significance of the nursing imagery in v. 11

A short aside

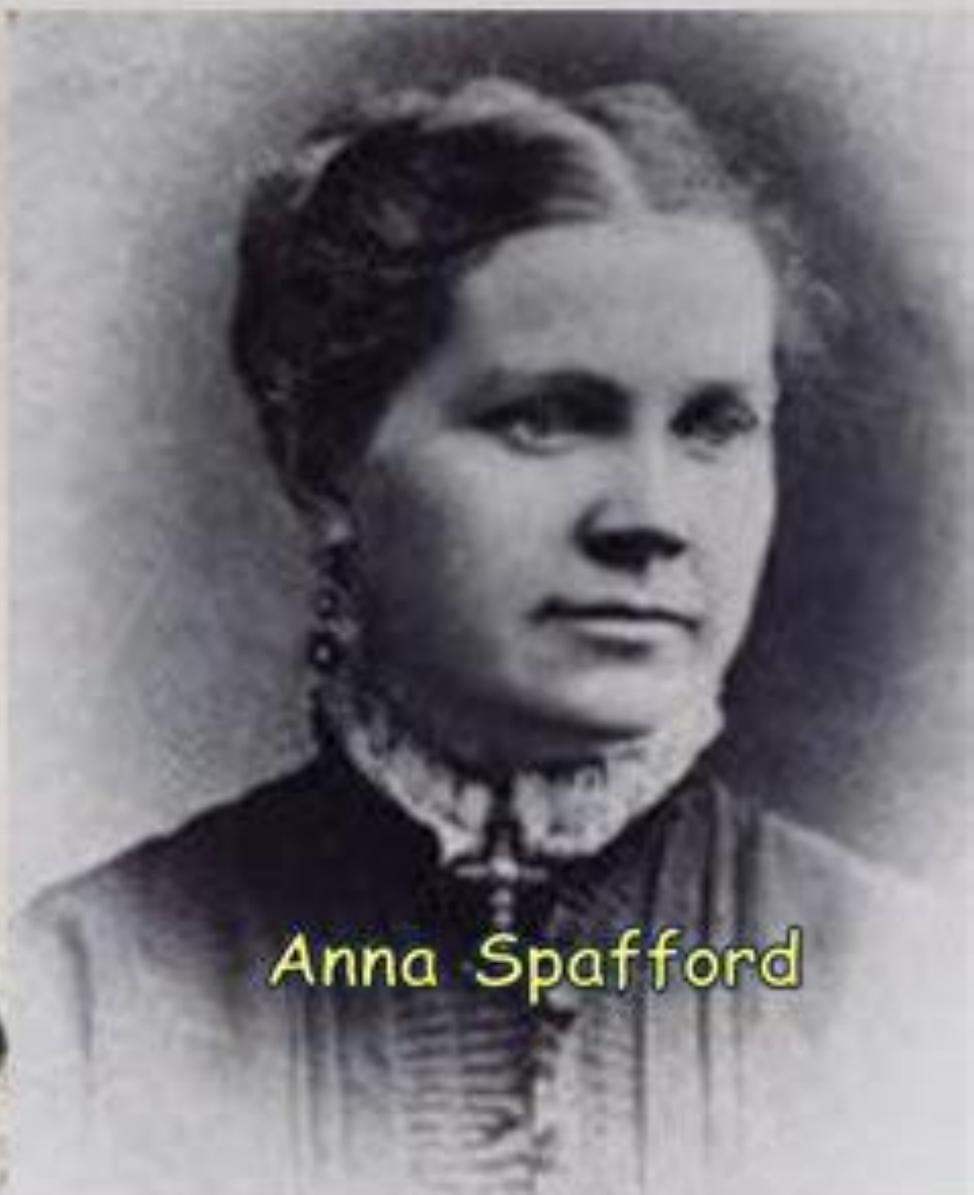


HORATIO SPAFFORD

(1828 – 1888)

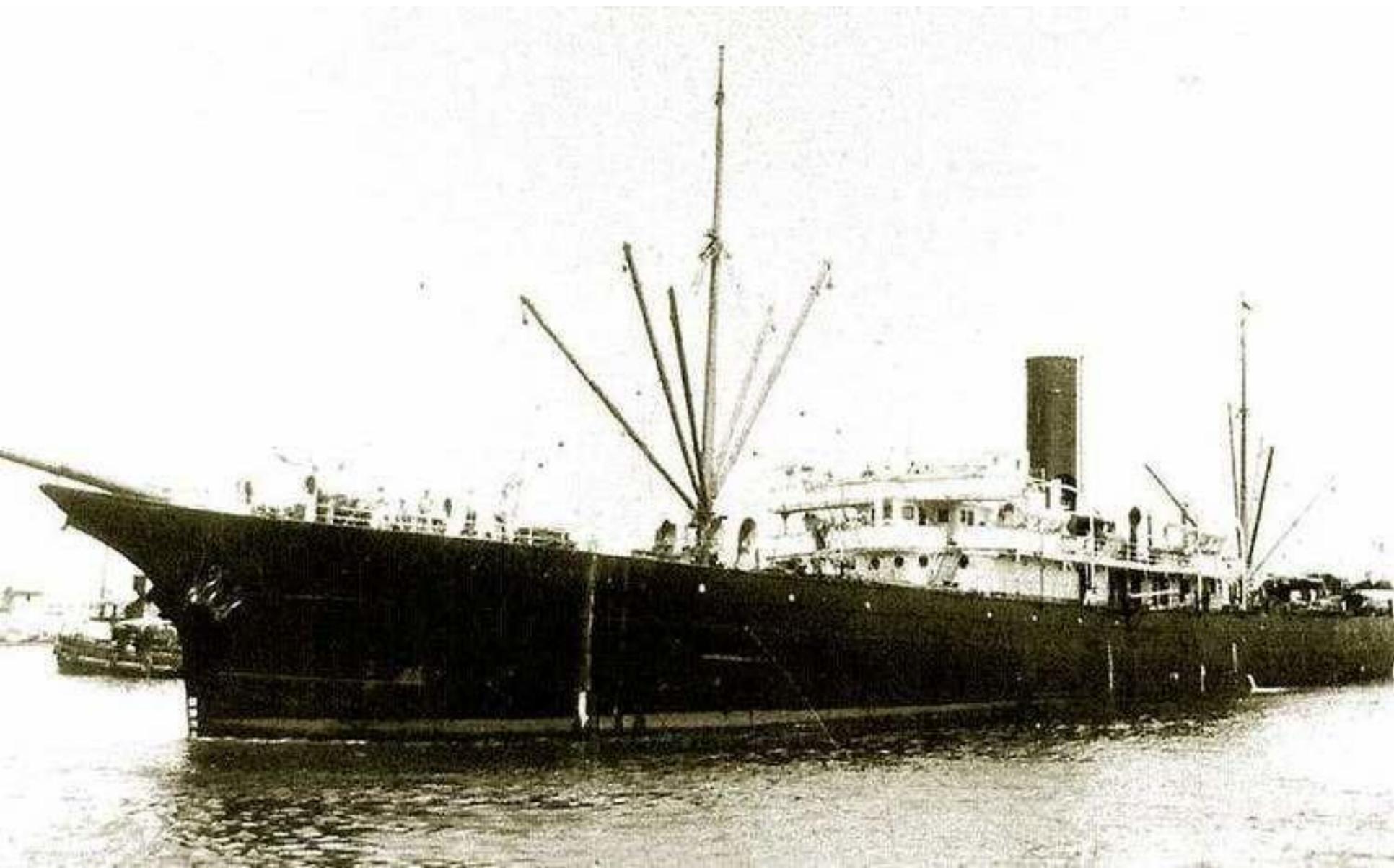


Horatio Spafford



Anna Spafford







QUEEN OF LOCH EARN

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No. *34*

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*Saved alone what shall I
do. Mrs Goodwin Children
willie Cclvet lost go with
Lorriarex until answer reply
Porclain 64 Rue Aboukir Paris*

Mafford

29

It is well with my soul - Its Well
Trinity Hymnal No.:580

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

It is well with my soul;
It is well, it is well with my soul.

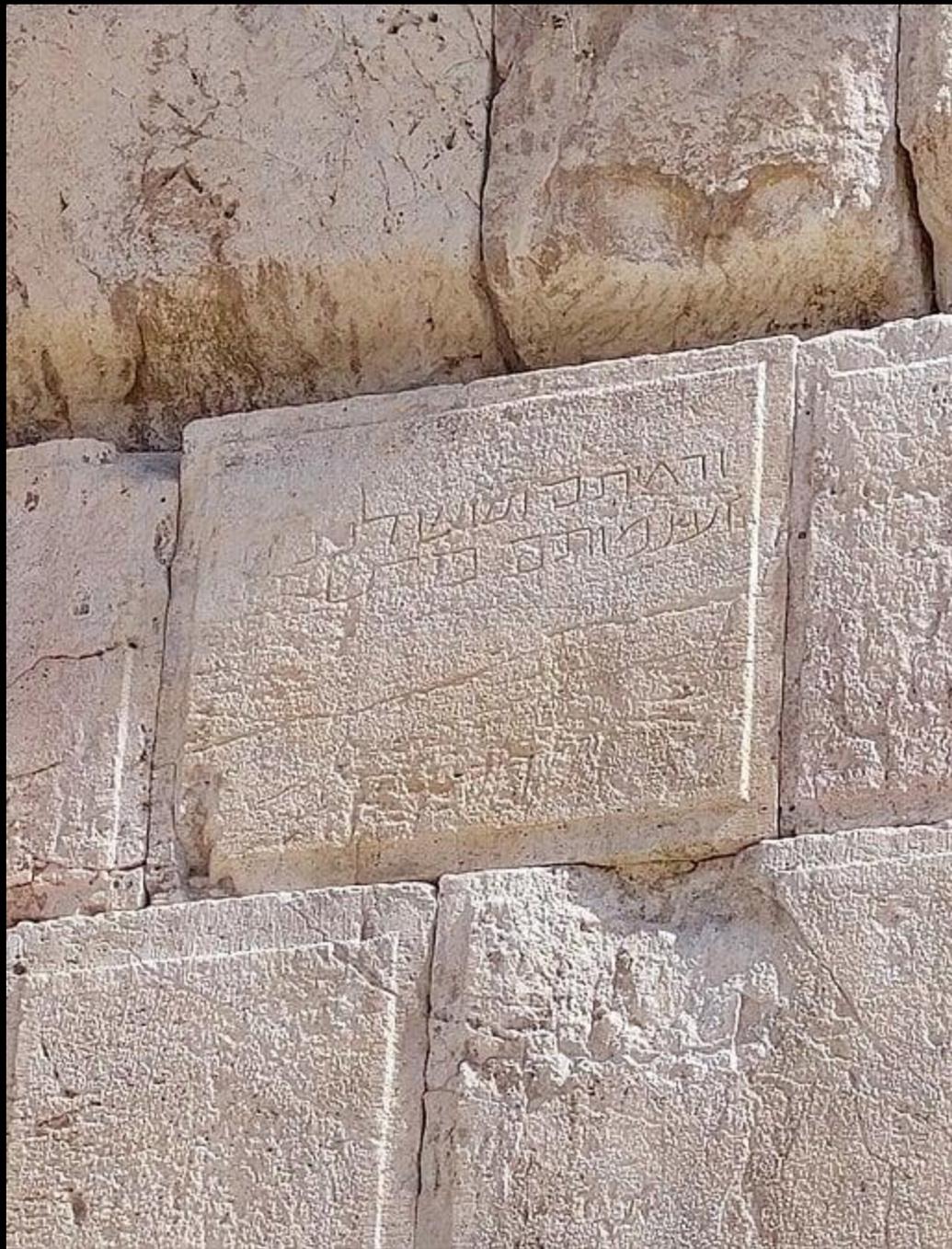
Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And has shed his own blood for my soul.

My sin-O the bliss of this glorious thought!-
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!

O Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend;
"Even so"-it is well with my soul.

- Now read v. 12
- Now read v. 14

וְדַעְתָּ כִּי וְשׁוֹלֵל
זַעֲמוֹתַי כִּי לֹא







- **Isaiah Inscription**

- ***“And when ye see this, your heart shall rejoice, and your bones shall flourish like an herb”*** *This verse from Isaiah 66:14 was carved on a stone block in the western wall of the Temple Mount.”*

- **Isaiah Inscription** on the Western Wall
- *“There are a number of theories as to the dating of this inscription. It was first thought to have been carved by a Jewish pilgrim who came to Jerusalem during the rule of the Emperor Julian (361-363), when he granted permission to the Jews to rebuild the Temple. to the Jews, and even permitted them to visit Jerusalem.”*

- **Isaiah Inscription** on the Western Wall
- *“It would seem that the writer worked under pressure, because he did not succeed in completing the biblical verse.”*

Dan Bahat. *The Illustrated Atlas of Jerusalem*. The Israel Map and Publishing Company LTD, Israel, 1996. p. 75.