

Isaiah 43:22-44:2 + 6

As a farewell to Jacob, who is about to die in the Torah reading Genesis 49, and in a contrast to his faith, this passage from Isaiah focuses on the names of “Jacob my servant; and Israel, whom I have chosen,” and rebukes the backsliding people for abandoning the Lord.

Also, compare the **Psalm 40:6** - “Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire” - with God’s charge in **Isaiah 43** that “You did not bring Me the lambs of your burnt offerings, nor did you honor Me with your sacrifices.”

And, a reference fitting perfectly with Yom Kippur:

Isaiah 43:25 - “I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.”

The final verse of comfort and awe:

Alpha and Omega!

Isaiah 44:6 - “So said the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer the Lord of Hosts, “I am first and I am last, and besides Me there is no God.”

Revelation 22:13-14 - “I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by its gates”