

The call to Israel to be “light to the nations” in Isaiah

42.6-7: THE CALL TO ISRAEL TO BE LIGHT TO THE NATIONS

I am YHWH, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; **I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind**, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

42.19-20: ISRAEL’S UNWILLINGNESS TO SEE AND HEAR YHWH’S VOICE

Who is blind but my servant, or deaf like my messenger whom I send? Who is blind like my dedicated one, or blind like the servant of YHWH? **He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear.**

49.5-6: A NEW “SERVANT” TO RESTORE ISRAEL AND BE LIGHT TO THE NATIONS

And now YHWH says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of YHWH, and my God has become my strength— he says, **"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."**