

Isaiah

“The Evangelical Prophet”

VII. Isaiah’s *Discourse* on the Servant of God, the **Messiah** (49:1-57:21)

- A. The *Calling* of God’s Servant (49:1-12)
- B. The *Consolation* of Zion (49:13-26)
- C. The *Conditioning* of God’s Servant (50:1-11)
- D. The *Comforting* of the Righteous Remnant
(51:1-52:12)
- E. The *Chastening* of **God’s Servant** (52:13-53:12)

F. The *Confirming* of **God’s Future Promises** to Israel (54:1-17)

1. The *Promise* of an **Abundant Progeny** (54:1-3)

54 “Shout for joy, O barren one, you who have borne *no child*; break forth into joyful shouting and cry aloud, you who have *not travailed*; for the sons of the *desolate one* will be more numerous than the sons of the married woman,” says the LORD.

²“Enlarge the place of your tent; stretch out the curtains of your dwellings, spare not; lengthen your cords and strengthen your pegs.

³“For you will spread abroad to the right and to the left. and your descendants will possess nations and will resettle the *desolate* cities.

2. The *Promise* of a **Restored Relationship** with Her “**Husband**”—the Lord (54:4-8)

⁴“Fear not, for you will *not* be put to shame; and do *not* feel humiliated, for you will *not* be disgraced;

but you will forget the shame of your youth, and the reproach of your widowhood you will remember no more.

⁵“For your husband is your Maker, whose name is the LORD of hosts; and your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel, who is called the God of all the earth.

⁶“For the LORD has *called you*,
like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit,
even like a wife of *one’s youth* when she is *rejected*,”
says your God.

⁷“For a *brief* moment I *forsook you*,
but with *great compassion* I will *gather you*.

⁸“In an *outburst of anger* I hid My face from you for a *moment*,
but with *everlasting lovingkindness* I will have *compassion* on you,”
says the LORD your Redeemer.

3. The *Promise* of an **Eternal Covenant** of Lovingkindness and Peace (54:9-10)

⁹“For this is like the *days of Noah to Me*,
when I *swore* that the *waters of Noah* would *not flood* the earth again;
so I *have sworn* that I will *not be angry* with you nor will I *rebuke you*.

¹⁰“For the *mountains* may be *removed* and the *hills* may *shake*,
but My lovingkindness will *not* be removed from you,
and My covenant of *peace* will *not* be shaken,”
says the LORD who has *compassion* on you.

4. The *Promise* of a “**Beautified**” Jerusalem (54:11-12)

¹¹“O afflicted one, storm-tossed, *and not comforted*,
behold, I will set your *stones* in *antimony*,
and your *foundations* I will lay in *sapphires*.

¹²“Moreover, I will make your *battlements* of *rubies*,
and your *gates* of *crystal*, and your entire *wall* of *precious stones*.

5. The *Promise* of a **Rule** of Righteousness with no Fear (54:13-14)

¹³“All your *sons* will be taught of the LORD;
and the *well-being* of your *sons* will be *great*.

¹⁴“In righteousness you will be *established*;
you will be *far* from *oppression*, for you will *not fear*;
and from *terror*, for it will *not* come near you.

6. The *Promise* of God’s **Sovereign Protection** (54:15-17)

¹⁵“If anyone fiercely *assails you* it will *not* be from Me.
Whoever *assails you* will *fall* because of you.

¹⁶“Behold, I **Myself** have created the *smith* who blows the fire of *coals*

and brings out a **weapon** for **its work**;
and I have created the **destroyer** to ruin.

¹⁷“**No weapon** that is **formed against you** will prosper;
and **every tongue** that **accuses you** in judgment you will **condemn**.”

This is the **heritage** of the **servants of the LORD**,
and their **vindication** is **from Me**,” declares **the LORD**.

Personal Application

1. **Isaiah** exhorted a “**barren**” **Jerusalem** to **shout for joy**. For though the **city** had been left as “**desolate**,” (many having been **exiled to Babylon**), **God promised** that her “**sons**” would become **more numerous** than even **before** the **exile**. In the **future**, the once **barren Jerusalem** will have to greatly “**enlarge her tent**” to accommodate the **abundance** of her **descendants** from both **Israel**, and the **Gentile nations** that she will **possess** (54:1-3).

→ As **believers**, this passage **speaks to us**, because we are to be **counted** as **among** those who are “**spiritual**” **descendants** from **Israel**.

And if you **belong** to **Messiah**, then **you** are **Abraham’s descendants**,
heirs according to **promise**. (Galatians 3:29)

Though we may **not inhabit** the **earthly Jerusalem**, we will be among the **throngs** of **those** who will **inhabit** the “**heavenly Jerusalem**” along with the **redeemed** of the **ages**.

But **you** have come to **Mount Zion** and to the **city** of the **living God**,
the **heavenly Jerusalem**, and to **myriads of angels**,

to the **general assembly** and **church** of the **firstborn** who are **enrolled**
in heaven, and to **God**, the **Judge of all**,
and to the **spirits of the righteous** made **perfect**,
and to **Jesus**, the **mediator** of a **new covenant**,...(Hebrews 12:22-24a)

2. **Israel** is **declared** by **Isaiah**, and in other **scriptures** as the “**wife**” of **Yahweh** (54:5-6).
Because of her **exile** in **Babylon**, **Israel** was described as a **wife** that was briefly
“**forsaken**” and “**rejected**.” However, after **His** momentary **anger**, **God** declared that
with “**everlasting lovingkindness**” **He** would have **compassion** on **her** (54:6-10).

→ As **believers** we also embrace the **Lord** as **our Maker**, and **our** “**Redeemer** is the
Holy One of **Israel** (54:5).” Though we are **not** the **wife of Yahweh**, for that is
Israel’s designation, **we** (the **church** – the **body** of **believers**) are the **bride** of
Messiah, and **His love** for **us** is **sacrificial**, **inseparable** and **unconditional**.

For the **husband** is the **head** of the **wife**, as **Messiah** also is the **head** of the **church**, **He Himself** *being* the **Savior** of the **body**...

Husbands, love your wives, just as **Messiah** also **loved** the **church** and **gave Himself up** for her,..

So **husbands** ought also to **love their own wives** as their **own bodies**. **He** who **loves** his **own wife** **loves himself**; for no one ever **hated** his **own flesh**, but **nourishes** and **cherishes** it, just as **Messiah** also *does* the **church**, because **we** are **members** of **His body**.

FOR THIS REASON A **MAN** SHALL LEAVE **HIS FATHER** AND **MOTHER** AND SHALL **BE JOINED** TO **HIS WIFE**, AND THE **TWO** SHALL BECOME **ONE FLESH**.

This **mystery** is **great**;
but I am speaking with reference to **Messiah** and the **church** (**His bride**).
(Ephesians 5:23, 25, 28-30)

For I am **convinced** that neither **death**, nor **life**, nor **angels**, nor **principalities**, nor things **present**, nor things **to come**, nor **powers**, nor **height**, nor **depth**, nor any other **created thing**, will be able to **separate us** from the **love of God**, which is in **Messiah Jesus** our **Lord**. (Romans 8:38-39)

3. **Isaiah** describes how that the **afflicted, storm-tossed, uncomforted** city of **Jerusalem**, will one day be **built** with **beautiful gems** and **precious stones** (54:11-12). **He** also declared that **her sons** will be **taught of God**, and that their **well-being** will be **great**. **Jerusalem** will be established in **righteousness**, and **no longer fear oppression** and **terror**. For **she** will be **protected** by a **sovereign** and **powerful God** (54:11-17).

→As **believers**, **we too** will someday **dwell** in the **multi-gemmed, beautiful, heavenly city** of **new Jerusalem**. **We too** will live in a **city** established by **righteousness** and **peace**. It will be a place where we will **no longer fear oppression** and **terror**:

And I saw the **holy city, new Jerusalem**,
coming down out of **heaven from God**,
made ready as a **bride** adorned for **her husband**.

And I heard a **loud voice** from the **throne**, saying,
“Behold, the **tabernacle of God** is among **men**, and **He** will **dwell** among them,..
and **He** will **wipe away** every **tear** from **their eyes**;
and there will **no longer be any death**;
there will **no longer be any mourning**,
or **crying**, or **pain**; the **first things** have **passed away**.”
(Revelation 21: 2-4)

Closing Comments