

The Book of Isaiah

Trusting God More #32

Memory Verse: Isaiah 40:1 KJV, Comfort ye, Comfort ye my people, saith the Lord."

Review: Isaiah chapter 54. What do you remember?

Opening Discussion: In 2004, Max Lucado wrote a book titled, *Come Thirsty*. Without having read the book, what does come thirsty say to you? Max Lucado invites you to go to the W-E-L-L of God's provision to refresh your thirsting heart. He reassures the reader your soul will find living water. What comes to your mind?

What promises did Jesus make the woman at the well regarding "living water" in John 4:20? How thirsty are you?

Chapter 55

The works of the suffering Servant in chapter 53 makes possible the offer of salvation in chapter 55.

- In chapter 54, the invitation was confined to Israel only.
- In chapters 54 and 55, we have the results of the redemption wrought in chapter 53.

The Bible says the gospel went first to Israel and then, to the Gentiles.

Read Romans 1:16.

Do you think this verse is yet to find complete fulfillment in Israel? God's salvation is to be proclaimed to every creature, yet everyone is not going to respond. Salvation rests on the **free will** of every hearer. Everyone is urged to seek the Lord.

Discussion: Free will of every believer....

Read 55:11

"HO!" is a heart-cry to everyone to pause and consider his or her salvation. Though the invitation is open to everyone, it is limited to those who are thirsty. Those who are thirsty are invited to come and drink from the water of life freely.

Listen to the three-fold invitation expressed three times by the repeated "come."

1. First, "Waters." Notice the plural form is used. Could it be the waters are too wonderful to be expressed in plural form? Waters speak of quality as well as quantity. Water is essential to life and it represents the work of the Holy Spirit. See John 3:5. Water must be received. The invitation is to come and drink.

2. "Wine" is the second type of drink offered. This speaks of the drink for the soul. Read Proverbs 31:6.
3. "Milk" is the third type of drink offered. Milk is also essential for growth and development. Read 1 Peter 2:2.

Do you think the Word of God is sufficient for newborn babies (in context)?

Read verse 55:2. Why do you think the pleasures of this world will never satisfy?
There is a bread that satisfies John 6:35.

Read verse 3. What does "incline your ear" say to you?

Read verses 4-8. Jesus is called a "witness" in verse 4. The way of man and the way of God are in contrast in verse 6. God is seeking man! He calls His sheep to hear His voice. What are the results of man's way in verse 7?

In verse 9, it is confirmed the Gospel comes by invitation.

In verse 10, note:

- In these closing verses, prominence is given to the Word of God.
- Why would this change our lives today?

Salvation is a revelation of God. The Word of God is likened unto the rain that comes down from heaven. Man does not work his way up to God. Instead, he receives his revelation from God. The rain falls to the earth to become fruitful. The seed germinates and bring forth abundantly.

In verse 11, God's word is rain and seed. The rain falls on the dry and desert souls of men

- The Word will generate in the heart of many.
- The Word will accomplish God's purpose (See Matthew 13:3-23).
- The Word goes forth without returning.

In verse 12, describe what the rain causes.

In verse 13, how does this relate to the millennium? The curse of sin is expressed by the thorn and the briar in Genesis 3:18.

Take home?