



Isaiah 54-56

In this unit we find the Messianic blessings upon God's people, those who believe and walk with Him.

Chapter 54

This chapter illustrates the glorious days ahead through the Messiah.

1. Great news for Zion (1-3)
 - the "barren one" (1) brings thought of Sarah and the child of promise
 - it is a time of expansion, growth and "spreading abroad"
2. Zion removed from shame (4-8)
 - notice the words: shame, humiliated, disgraced
 - fear not...you will not remember
 - your husband is the Lord, with great compassion I will gather you
 - Babylonian captivity is referred to as: for a brief moment I forsook you (7); for a moment I hid my face from you (8)
3. God has a covenant of peace (9-10)
 - a reminder that God keeps His promises
4. Zion will have protection (11-17)
 - the use of costly stones is a sign of great blessings and a picture of that Heavenly Jerusalem in Revelation (Rev 21:19)

We need to remind ourselves that we live in good times—
Salvation has come!
Luke 2:10

Chapter 55

This chapter shows the great invitation of God

This is similar to the Lord's great invitation (Mt 11:28-30)

1. Free for all (1-3)
 - Rev 7:16; 22:17
 - the welcoming call to "come" (1)
2. Offered to all (3-5)
3. Seek and return while you can (6-13)
 - a plea to change (seek, call, forsake, return)

It is here that we find that God sees and thinks differently than we do (8-9)

Chapter 56

This chapter contrasts the blessings for the faithful and the warnings toward the unfaithful

1. The faithful are blessed (1-8)
 - this includes the outcasts such as foreigners and eunuchs
 - Blessed: is a form of a beatitude
2. God's house is a place of prayer (6-8)
 - this is offered to all people
3. The leaders are rebuked for not being faithful (9-12)
 - They are: blind watchmen
Dogs that do not bark
Shepherds without sense
Lazy leaders

Dumb Dogs that Do Not Bark (10)

1. Some never bark
2. Some always bark
3. Some bark at the wrong time

