

Israel's Everlasting Blessings

Dr. Ronnie Wolfe – Isaiah #23
Isaiah 54 – January 25, 2017 – Wednesday

I. THE BARREN WILL BE INHABITED, 54:1-4

- A. Israel has been in bondage for 70 years, and God is encouraging them on their way back to the promised land.
- B. They are barren, meaning that their blessings from God have been cut off.
- C. Now in their minds they are to enlarge their tents: think big. God is about to show them mercy and give them great blessings.
- D. Verse 3 explains how God will let them break forth on the left and right hands and even inherit the Gentiles.
 - 1. Acts 9:31 *Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.*
 - 2. Acts 11:21 *And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.*
 - 3. Romans 15:19 *Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.*
- E. Verse 4: Israel was like a widow, but the reproach of her widowhood will not be remembered. Her widowhood indicates the time when God put Israel into the bonds of Babylon and did not act as a husband
- F. She (Israel) will forget the shame of her youth, when God was not promoting them in the world but seemed as though God has forsaken Israel.

II. ISRAEL'S HUSBAND, 54:5-6

- A. God had purchased Israel at great cost, 5
 - 1. Psalms 78:54 *And he brought them to the border of his sanctuary, even to this mountain, which his right hand had purchased.*
 - 2. 2 Peter 2:1 *But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.*
 - 3. Israel's husband was their Maker,
 - 4. The Lord of hosts is his name.
 - 5. He is the Redeemer and the Holy One of Israel.
- B. God called them as a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, 6
 - 1. Israel was as a wife of youth, the wife that God had known forever.
 - 2. Isaiah 62:4 *Thou shalt no more be termed Forsaken; neither shall thy land any more be termed Desolate: but thou shalt be called Hephzibah, and thy land Beulah: for the LORD delighteth in thee, and thy land shall be married.*

III. GOD'S PROMISE OF MERCY, 54:7-12

- A. Verse 7: God had forsaken them, that is, from great blessings as they had with God before they went into captivity.
- B. Now he will have mercy and will gather them together to go back into their own land, 7
- C. Verse 8: God hid his face from Israel for a moment, but with everlasting kindness he will have mercy, because he is their Redeemer.
- D. Verse 9: He uses an illustration of Noah and the flood. This deliverance of Israel from Babylon is like the flood. It will never happen again.
 - 1. Psalms 89:3 *I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant,*
- E. Verse 10: Even if the mountains were to depart and the hills are removed, God's kindness will not depart from them, and God's promise will not be removed.
- F. Verse 11: Israel is called "afflicted, tossed with tempest, and not comforted."
- G. But God will lay the stones with fair colors and lay their foundations with sapphires.
 - 1. This means that the new way that God will work with Israel will be much more productive and fruitful than in the past under the strict economy of the law.
 - 2. Their will be spiritual blessings as well as physical ones.
- H. Verse 12: All their borders will be of pleasant stones.
 - 1. Isaiah 60:11 *Therefore thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; that men may bring unto thee the forces of the Gentiles, and that their kings may be brought.*

IV. GOD'S SPIRITUAL BLESSINGS, 54:13-17

- A. Verse 13: The children, those who are born in the coming years as well as the little ones who are living at this time, will be taught of the LORD.
 - 1. John 6:45 *It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me.*
- B. The children will have great peace because of the Prince of Peace, Jesus.
- C. Verse 14: They will be established in righteousness, the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.
 - 1. We should not be afraid of oppression or terror. The terror of eternal damnation will not come near these ones who believe in the Messiah.
- D. Verse 15: Some will be gathered together, but it will not be a gathering prompted by or sanctioned by the Lord. It will be the enemy coming against Israel, or believers. They will fall for the sake of God's people.
- E. Verse 16: This is an interesting verse, because it teaches that God actually gives tools to the enemies of his kingdom. He gave Pharaoh the attitude and the people to restrain the Hebrews in Egypt,
 - 1. In doing this, God created "the waster to destroy."
- F. Verse 17: But the things God allowed him to have were not enough to keep God from doing his will with his own people.
 - 1. The weapons will not prosper, though sometimes it seems they will.
 - a. Romans 8:33 *Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that*

justifieth.

2. Believers will be able to condemn all the words that come from the enemies' tongue.
- G. Verse 17: This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD. These words mean that this story connects to true believers in Christ and to our own time.
- H. Verse 17: "Their righteous is of me, saith the LORD.
 1. Our righteousness is God's righteousness, not our own.
 2. Titus 3:5 *Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;*
 3. Psalms 22:31 *They shall come, and shall declare his righteousness unto a people that shall be born, that he hath done this.*
 4. Psalms 97:6 *The heavens declare his righteousness, and all the people see his glory.*
 5. Psalms 111:3 *His work is honourable and glorious: and his righteousness endureth for ever.*