

INITIATION INTO ISAIAH

by

J. Vernon McGee, Th.D., LL.D.

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CHAPTER FIFTY-FOUR

THEME:

The song that accompanies salvation and the future glories of Israel.

REMARKS:

After the sacrificial sufferings of the Servant in chapter 53, it is appropriate that the next chapter opens with the imperative, "Sing."

Only the redeemed have a song.

The world sings the blues
The redeemed sing of blessings

The world has its rock 'n roll
The redeemed sing of redemption

The world plays jazz
The redeemed have the reality of joy.

The redeemed will sing the song of redemption whether on earth or in heaven.

And they sung a new song, saying Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation: and hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth (Revelation 5:9-10).

In this chapter we see the application of Christ's redemption to Israel and the earth.

The church is not in view here, as the church is defined as a "**chaste virgin**"—not a restored wife. People of all dispensations—past, present or future—are saved by the redemption Christ wrought on the cross.

Let the church not rob Israel of the glorious benefits of Christ's redemption portrayed here.

OUTLINE:

1. **REGATHERING and RESTORATION of Israel as the Desolate Wife of the Lord.**

Verses 1-10

2. **REJOICING and RIGHTEOUSNESS of Israel as the Restored Wife of the Lord.** Verses 11-17

COMMENT:

Verse 1—**Sing, O barren, thou that didst not bear; break forth into singing, and cry aloud, thou that didst not travail with child: for more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married wife, saith the Lord.**

The first word after the crucifixion in Isaiah 53 is “**Sing.**” It is a call to Israel to sing. In the past Israel has been a barren wife.

Isaiah has already commented that the travailing of the past only produced wind, her future is more glorious, as there will be many children.

Verse 2—**Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thine habitations: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes;**

The nation Israel has never occupied the entire land given to them by the Lord.

From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast (Joshua 1:4). During the Millennium they will occupy the total borders. Also the city of Jerusalem will push out into the suburban areas.

Verse 3—**For thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles, and make the desolate cities to be inhabited.**

The Gentiles have occupied most of the Land of Promise. They will have to withdraw to their own borders.

Verse 4—**Fear not; for thou shalt not be ashamed: neither be thou confounded; for thou shalt not be put to shame: for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood any more.**

Their past is a cause for shame and deep humiliation, but at the same time, it will be all under the blood, and they will pass over into the Kingdom.

Verse 5—**For thy Maker is thine husband; the Lord of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called.**

God will own them then as His redeemed.

Verse 6—For the Lord hath called thee as a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, and a wife of youth, when thou wast refused, saith thy God.

Israel is today like a wife that has been divorced for adultery.

Verse 7—For a small moment have I forsaken thee; but with great mercies will I gather thee.

The past is forgotten. Although the long centuries slipped by slowly, it will seem to be only a brief moment in comparison to the great blessings of the future. The Church has a similar promise.

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal (II Corinthians 4:17-18).

Verse 8—In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment; but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee, saith the Lord thy Redeemer.

The wrath of God was small in comparison to His great mercy.

Verse 9—For this is as the waters of Noah unto me: for as I have sworn that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth; so have I sworn that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee.

God promised Noah never to destroy the earth again with a flood. God has made this promise good. Just so will He make His promise good to Israel.

Verse 10—For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed, but my kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of my peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee.

This is a glorious promise. Read it again and again until the meaning breaks upon your heart. Then rejoice and be exceedingly glad for Israel.

Verse 11—O thou afflicted, tossed with tempest, and not comforted, behold, I will lay thy stones with fair colours, and lay thy foundations with sapphires.

Now God begins to comfort Israel that she might rejoice.

Verse 12—And I will make thy windows of agates, and thy gates of carbuncles, and all thy borders of pleasant stones.

Compare these descriptions to the New Jerusalem in Revelation 21:9-27. God is, a God of beauty. Sin is ugly.

Verse 13—**And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children.**

This is the day when the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth. This brings peace.

Verse 14—**In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear; and from terror; for it shall not come near thee.**

Peace brings righteousness. They belong together. Then comes freedom from fear.

Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other (Psalm 85:10).

Verse 15—**Behold, they shall surely gather together, but not by me: whosoever shall gather together against thee shall fall for thy sake.**

No enemy will ever attack them again.

Verse 16—**Behold, I have created the smith that bloweth the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work ; and I have created the waster to destroy.**

God sent the enemies in the past, but He will never permit another to come against them.

Verse 17—**No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of me, saith the Lord.**

Even in the past and present, God has been opposed to anti-Semitism, no enemy of God's chosen nation has ever prospered. The witnesses to this truth are Pharaoh, Haman, Herod, and Hitler.

~ end of chapter 54 ~

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