

Study 96: Isaiah, Part 52

Isaiah 54 (cont.)

¹⁰ Though the mountains be shaken
and the hills be removed,
yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken
nor my **covenant of peace** be removed,”
says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

[What covenant brought peace to Israel? The Mosaic covenant brought only death (separation from God) – see **1 Cor 15:56-57**. True peace would only be brought to Israel when their sins were completely forgiven in the sacrifice of Christ. Peace = Salvation.]

¹¹ “Afflicted city, lashed by storms and not comforted,
I will rebuild you with stones of turquoise [the meaning of the Hebrew for this word is uncertain. It is only used 4 times in the O.T. It conveys the meaning of *colorful, painted, or shining*],
your foundations with lapis lazuli [*saphires*].

¹² I will make your battlements of rubies [or *agates*],
your gates of sparkling jewels,
and all your walls of precious stones.

[See: **Rev 21:9-27**. The New Jerusalem = the Church—“only those whose names are written in the Lamb’s book of life.”]

¹³ **All your children will be taught by the Lord,
and great will be their peace.**

[**Heb 8:7-13** For if there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another. ⁸ But God found fault with the people and said:

“The days are coming, declares the Lord,
when I will make a new covenant
with the people of Israel
and with the people of Judah.

⁹ It will not be like the covenant
I made with their ancestors
when I took them by the hand
to lead them out of Egypt,
because they did not remain faithful to my covenant,
and I turned away from them,
declares the Lord.

¹⁰ This is the covenant I will establish with the people of Israel
after that time, declares the Lord.
I will put my laws in their minds
and write them on their hearts.
I will be their God,
and they will be my people.

¹¹ **No longer will they teach their neighbor,
or say to one another, ‘Know the Lord,’
because they will all know me,
from the least of them to the greatest.**

¹² **For I will forgive their wickedness
and will remember their sins no more.” (Jer. 31:31-34)**

¹³ By calling this covenant “new,” he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and outdated will soon disappear.]

14 In righteousness you will be established:

Tyranny will be far from you;
you will have nothing to fear.

Terror will be far removed;
it will not come near you.

15 If anyone does attack you, it will not be my doing;
whoever attacks you will surrender to you.

[Translations of this verse vary widely. The LXX says, “Lo, proselytes shall come to thee through me, and they shall sojourn with thee, and fly to thee.” The Chaldean renders it, “Lo, the captivity of your people shall be surely gathered unto you, and in the end the kings of the people which were assembled to afflict you, O Jerusalem, shall fall in the midst of you.”]

16 “See, it is I who created the blacksmith
who fans the coals into flame
and forges a weapon fit for its work.

And it is I who have created the destroyer to wreak havoc;

17 no weapon forged against you will prevail,
and you will refute every tongue that accuses you.

[Cp: **Rom 8:33-34** Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.]

[See also: **Matt 16:18** – “I will build My church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”]

This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord,
and this is their vindication from me,”
declares the Lord.

Isaiah 55

“Come, all you who are thirsty,
come to the waters;
and you who have no money,
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without cost.

2 Why spend money on what is not bread,
and your labor on what does not satisfy?

Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good,
and you will delight in the richest of fare.

3 Give ear and come to me;
listen, that you may live.

I will make an **everlasting covenant** with you,
my faithful love promised to David.

4 See, I have made him a witness to the peoples,
a ruler and commander of the peoples.

5 Surely you will summon nations you know not,
and nations you do not know will come running to you,
because of the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel,
for he has endowed you with splendor.”

[Note that the new covenant God makes with His people is an *everlasting* one. Therefore, it can have no *last days*.]

⁶ Seek the Lord while he may be found;
call on him while he is near.

⁷ Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the unrighteous their thoughts.
Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

⁸ “For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways,”
declares the Lord.

⁹ “As the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰ As the rain and the snow
come down from heaven,
and do not return to it
without watering the earth
and making it bud and flourish,
so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,
¹¹ so is my word that goes out from my mouth:
It will not return to me empty,
but will accomplish what I desire
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

¹² You will go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and hills
will burst into song before you,
and all the trees of the field
will clap their hands.

¹³ Instead of the thornbush will grow the juniper,
and instead of briars the myrtle will grow.
This will be for the Lord’s renown,
for an everlasting sign,
that will endure forever.”