

We will begin the thirteenth lecture on Isaiah. / We will begin with Isaiah chapter 55. / The chapter's title is "Water and Wine." / The following are the main points.

First, those who are thirsty should buy wine and milk. / Verses 1-2. / Second, sending of Messiah to give salvation to all people./ Verses 3-5. / Third, seek the Lord while he may be found. / Verses 6-11. / Fourth, joy for those who return to the Lord./ Verses 12-13.

Read verse 1. / "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.

God said that those who are thirsty should come to him. / Here, "you who are thirsty" are those who eagerly desire salvation. / They are those who are thirsty in spirit. / We must be thirsty in spirit for salvation. / Matthew 5:3 / Matthew 5:6

People in the world live with thirstiness for something. / Some are thirsty for money,/ and others for the opposite gender, / and others for power and fame.

We must be thirsty in spirit, / and be thirsty in spirit for salvation. / John 4:14./ There was a Samaritan woman. / Then, Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give him will never thirst."

Jesus is the Giver of the water of life. / Here, "water" is the work of life. / It means that when Christ gives believers the water of life, lives would be revived and gain life. / Here "wine" symbolizes the grace of God.

It symbolizes the grace of redemption./ Here, "milk" symbolizes the word of God. / 1 Peter 2:2. / It also says, "buy wine and milk."/ It says "buy" without money. / The grace of salvation is given for free.

/However, to "buy" / means that efforts should be made to receive the grace. / It is the effort of going to church, / the effort to worship, / the effort to pray, and etc. / We must receive grace for

free through such efforts.

Verse 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 your soul will delight in the richest of fare.

Here, “silver” symbolizes human behavior, efforts, and labor. / We must work and make sacrifices for our spiritual food. / However, we must not give our materials for things that are not food.

We must sacrifice our possessions for the benefit of faith and benefit of spirit. / We must not waste our bodies, hearts, and belongings. / It means that we must not smoke. / Smoking does not make us full.

Here, it says, “listen to me.” / When we listen to God we can be fed with spiritual food. / We will receive nourishing food. / We will receive joy.

Verse 3./ Give ear and come to me; hear me, that your soul may live. I will make an [everlasting covenant](#) with you, my faithful love promised to David.

It says that we must give our ear to God. / We must work hard to receive God’s word. / Then God will keep his everlasting covenant. / It is the covenant that God made with David.

It is the promise to send Messiah. / It means that God would save his chosen people through the Messiah. / God’s promises are everlasting.

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

It means that God’s everlasting covenant would be fulfilled. / God would send Christ to fulfill his everlasting covenant. / Christ would come and faithfully fulfill all of God’s promises.

Then God would make Christ, King. / He would reign over all nations through Christ. / God will

build his kingdom.

Verse 5. / Surely you will summon nations you know not, and nations that do not know you will hasten to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has endowed you with splendor.”

Nations that do not know would return. / This means that Gentile nations would be saved through Christ. / God’s kingdom would be advanced. / The church would grow. / Then God would receive glory.

Verse 6. / Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

We must seek the Lord while he may be found. / When can we meet the Lord? / 2 Corinthians 6:2 / First, we can meet God in the New Testament times. / Jesus is with us in the New Testament times. / Jesus is Emmanuel.

/Second, we can meet God in times of hardships and difficulties. / We must seek God in times of hardships. / We must meet God. / We must be strengthened by the power of God. / These are the times when we can meet God.

/Then we will meet God and our problems will be resolved. / We must call on God while he is near. / Matthew 7:7

Verse 7. / Let the wicked forsake his [way](#) and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

It says we must return from the wicked ways. / We must forsake our evil thoughts so that God would not punish us. / When the people of Judah repented and returned to God, God would receive them. / He would have mercy on them. / He would forgive them.

Verses 8-9./ "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your [ways](#) my [ways](#)," declares

the LORD. "As the heavens are higher than the [earth](#), so are my [ways](#) higher than your [ways](#) and my thoughts than your thoughts.

This means that God would allow the people of Judah to return from exile. / As the heavens are higher than the earth, we cannot measure the works and thoughts of God. / God is supreme.

God is the creator. / He is infinite. / Romans 11:33 / God's thoughts are by far beyond the thoughts of humans. / Therefore we must forsake our thoughts and follow God's will.

Verse 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,

Rain and snow come down from [heaven](#) and they water the earth. / They make the earth bud. / They make it flourish. / Likewise, the words from God's mouth will not return to him empty. / What God says will be fulfilled. / God's word is the word of truth.

The promise that the people of Judah would return from captivity would be fulfilled. / God's promise of salvation for us will be fulfilled. / God's promise to protect us will be fulfilled.

Verse 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.

When Israel returns, there would be joy and peace. / There would be happiness. / The mountains and hills will burst into song. / This means that joy and happiness will overflow. / Also, one will receive this kind of blessing when they receive Jesus.

Before one receives Jesus, he would be barren, just like the field of thorn bushes and briers. / However, after receiving Jesus, one would become beautiful like pine trees and myrtles. / There will be peace, joy, and blessings.

We will also be saved through our faith in Jesus. / Therefore, our barren lives will turn into lives of blessings. / We must be thankful for the grace of the Lord's redemption, and we must return to God, and give glory to God.

We will continue with Isaiah 56. / The title of this chapter is "Revealing of Righteousness." / Revealing of righteousness.

First, be just and righteous and keep the Sabbath. / Verses 1-2. / Second, even the eunuchs have hope. / Verses 3-5. / Third, even the Gentiles have hope. /Verses 6-8. / Fourth, the watchmen are blind and asleep / Verses 9-12.

Read, 56:1. / This is what the LORD says: "Maintain [justice](#) and do what is right, for my [salvation](#) is close at hand and my righteousness will soon be revealed.

Here "my [salvation](#) is close at hand" means that the time for the liberation of the people of Judah from exile in Babylon is very close. / Also, it means that salvation through Christ is near in the New Testament times. / Romans 13:11

56:2. / Blessed is the man who does this, the man who holds it fast, who keeps the Sabbath without desecrating it, and keeps his hand from doing any evil."

The Bible says to "remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy." / The law of the Sabbath is the fourth commandment. / This Sabbath day a Saturday, the seventh day in the Old Testament times. / However, in the New Testament times, Sundays must be kept as the first day of the week.

Jesus rose from the dead on a Sunday. / John the apostle also received the Revelations on a Sunday. / The early church kept Sundays as the Sabbath. / Therefore, we must keep Sundays holy. / We will discuss this further in chapter 58.

Verse 3./ Let no foreigner who has bound himself to the LORD say, "The LORD will surely exclude me from his people." And let not any eunuch complain, "I am only a dry tree."

There is hope for the foreigner who bound himself to the Lord. / Even eunuchs have hope. / In the Old Testament times, foreigners were looked down on. / However, in the New Testament period, foreigners, or Gentiles, are bound to Jesus through faith in Jesus Christ.

Foreigners became righteous through faith in Christ. / They can be bound to Christ. / They can be members of the church. / Therefore in the New Testament times, the Jews and the Gentiles can be united.

In the Old Testament times, foreigners and eunuchs were not allowed to enter the temple. / Deuteronomy 23:1-3 / “Eunuchs” are those who are sexually disabled. / They are like dry trees. / However, they would be blessed people through faith in Jesus Christ.

In verse 5 it says, “to them I will give within my temple and its walls a memorial and a name better than sons and daughters.” / Holy children would be given to them. / Paul did not get married. / However, Paul had many children of faith like Timothy.

There were fellow workers. / There were good people like Luke and Pricilla and Aquila. / Those who did not have hope will gain hope when they believe in Jesus. / Even if we do not have anyone to rely on or help us in the world, we must hope in God.

Verse 5./ to them I will give within my temple and its walls a memorial and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an [everlasting](#) name that will not be cut off.

We must keep the Sabbath day holy and hold fast to the covenant of God. / We must firmly hold onto the covenant of Christ. / Then, God will give us memorials that are better than sons and daughters.

God will give us spiritual children. / God will give us children of faith. / 1 Corinthians 4:15 / Philippians 2:22 / Next, God said that he would give “an everlasting name.” / Our names are recorded in heaven. / We will receive eternal life.

Verse 6. / And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD to serve him, to [love](#) the name of the LORD, and to worship him, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my [covenant](#) –

We must be bound to God with faith in Jesus. / We must keep the Sabbath day holy. / We must firmly hold on to the covenant of Christ.

Verse 7. / these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them [joy](#) in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my [altar](#); for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.”

The house of God is the house of prayer for all nations. / We must always live in prayer. / We must pray at church. / We must go into the small rooms to pray. / God’s holy temple is the place of prayer.

That is where we meet God. / Therefore, we must always communicate with God and have faith to meet the Lord. / Then, God will receive our worship.

Verse 8. / The Sovereign LORD declares-- he who gathers the exiles of Israel: "I will gather still others to them besides those already gathered.”

God promised that he would gather the people of Judah in exile in Babylon. / God would not only gather the people of Judah, but the foreigners as well. /Believers of Jesus would gather from all directions.

Verse 9. / Come, all you beasts of the field, come and devour, all you beasts of the forest!

Here, “all you beasts of the field” and “all you beasts of the forest” symbolize the foreign nations. / When the people of Judah committed sins, God punished them through the fierce foreign nations.

From verse 10, the prophets are called blind and deaf. / Therefore, God would punish Judah with scary foreign nations.

Verse 10. / Israel's watchmen are blind, they all lack knowledge; they are all mute dogs, they cannot bark; they lie around and [dream](#), they love to sleep.

The watchmen symbolize the servants of God. / We must be awake as servants of God. / However, the false prophets were blind. / They were deaf. / They dreamed. / They loved to sleep.

“Blind” means that they could not see the spiritual world. / They did not know heaven. / Therefore, they had no spiritual wisdom. / They were deaf. / When heresies enter the church we must not be mute dogs.

When lies and false things enter the church, we must bark. / We must warn people. / We must properly teach believers. / However, they became deaf and did not give warnings. / They also dreamed. / They were into the worthless things of the world.

They leaned towards the world. / They fell deep into the world. / They loved to sleep. / They fell to complacency. / Their faith fell asleep. / The blind lead the blind. / Matthew 15:14 / Matthew 23:16

Today, there are many pastors who are like this. / We must open our spiritual eyes. / We must stand firm on the truth. / Then we must discern and defend the invasive work of Satan in the church that is like yeast. / We must be awake in our faith.

Verse 11. / They are dogs with mighty appetites; they never have enough. They are shepherds who lack understanding; they all turn to their own [way](#), each seeks his own gain.

False prophets work with greed. / They pursue money. / They follow their sinful desires. / We must get rid of greed. / We must be content with what God gave us.

These people are the shepherds who lack understanding. / They cannot understand. / Psalm 49:20 / Proverbs 29:1 / Hosea 4 :14 / We must repent immediately when God disciplines us. / We must return.

Verse 12. / "Come," each one cries, "let me get [wine](#)! Let us drink our fill of beer! And [tomorrow](#) will be like today, or even far better."

False prophets live in indulgence. / They live deep in this world. / Matthew 24:48-51 / Even today there are people who actually drink like this. / In Proverbs chapter 23, we are told not to even gaze at wine. / Ephesians 5:18.

It says that we must not drink. / However, false prophets live in debauchery today and tomorrow. / Today, we must be awake as true servants.

As we learned in verse 7, the house of God is the house of prayer for all nations. / We must always be awake in prayer. / We must be alert knowing that Jesus the bridegroom would come any time soon.

We will continue with Isaiah chapter 57. / The title of this chapter is "The Death of the Righteous."

First, the death of the righteous is their escape. / Verses 1-2. / Secondly, Israel rebuked for serving idols and leaving their God. / Verses 3-10. / Third, the idolaters are ruined, and those who rely on God inherit the land. / Verses 11-13.

Fourth, the Lord is with those who repent and are humble. / Verse 14-15. / Fifth, the wrath of the Lord will not be for long, and he will again give peace. / Verses 16-19. / Sixth, no peace for the wicked. / Verses 20-21.

Read 57:1. / The righteous perish, and no one ponders it in his heart; devout men are taken away,

and no one understands that the righteous are taken away to be spared from evil.

Here “the righteous” are believers who believe in Christ. / Believers would receive persecutions and die from their sufferings. / God would take them to the the place of refuge in heaven.

God would take them before the coming of the great tribulation in the world. / He would take them to heaven early. / Therefore, the believers’ deaths and leaving the world will be for refuge.

57:2. / Those who walk uprightly enter into peace; they find [rest](#) as they lie in death.

We enter heaven through belief in Jesus. / To enter heaven is to enter rest. / Revelation 14:13. / Therefore those who die in the Lord are blessed. / Also, they would be rewarded in heaven according to their faith in the world. / Luke 16:22-25

Then, they would live in heaven with everlasting rest. / There are no tears in heaven. / There is no pain. / There are no diseases. / There is no death. / There is only life, joy, and happiness in Jesus.

Verses 3-4. / "But you--come here, you sons of a sorceress, you offspring of adulterers and prostitutes! Whom are you [mocking](#)? At whom do you sneer and stick out your tongue? Are you not a brood of rebels, the offspring of liars?

The people of Israel left God and served idols, and thus, they became sons of a sorceress. / They became like the offspring of adulterers.

Today, those who befriends this world are like the adulterers. / James 4:4./ It says, “Whom are you mocking?” / To serve idols is to mock the Lord.

Verse 5./ You burn with lust among the oaks and under every spreading tree; you sacrifice your children in the ravines and under the overhanging crags.

The people of Israel made idols under the oaks and under every spreading tree, and they served

the idols. / Serving idols is like committing adultery. / They also sacrificed their children under the overhanging crags.

In those days, when they served an idol called Molech, they sacrificed they children. / 2 Kings 16:3 / 21:6 / In this way, those who serve idols are cruel. / Therefore, God is angry with those who serve idols.

Verse 6. / The idols among the smooth stones of the ravines are your portion; they, they are your lot. Yes, to them you have poured out [drink offerings](#) and offered [grain](#) offerings. In the light of these things, should I relent?

The people of Judah made sacrifices to idols. / The people of Judah offered sacrifices to idols. / Therefore, God could not accept the people of Judah. / They built idols high up in the mountains.

Then, in verses 7 and 8, they remembered the idols./ Deuteronomy 6:8-9 / They remember their idols. / Then they prepared well the place where they served the idols. / The people of Judah served idols with their hearts.

This caused wrath from God. / Today, do we not have idols? / Today, idols are anything we love more than God. / They are anything we depend on more than God.

Money is an idol, / children are idols, / and the self is an idol. / We must serve God as first.

Verse 9./ You went to Molech with olive oil and increased your perfumes. You sent your ambassadors far away; you descended to the grave itself!

“Molech” was an idol worshipped by the Ammonites. / 1 Kings 11:5-7

Verse 10./ You were wearied by all your [ways](#), but you would not say, 'It is hopeless.' You found renewal of your strength, and so you did not faint.

The people of Judah were not tired when they served idols. / They were not tired of seeking help from other nations. / The people of Judah were diligent in serving idols.

Verse 11./ "Whom have you so dreaded and feared that you have been false to me, and have neither remembered me nor pondered this in your hearts? Is it not because I have long been silent that you do not fear me?"

The people of Judah were not afraid of God, but earnestly served their idols. / However, God was patient for long time. / Still, they did not repent, but continued to serve idols. /

Verse 12./ I will expose your righteousness and your works, and they will not benefit you.

The people of Judah were to see if they had any righteousness. / There was no righteousness in the people of Judah.

Verse 13. / When you cry out for help, let your [collection](#) of idols save you! The [wind](#) will carry all of them off, a mere breath will blow them away. But the man who makes me his refuge will inherit the land and possess my holy mountain."

Even though the people of Judah cried out to idols in their afflictions, they could not be saved.

Verse 14./ And it will be said: "Build up, build up, prepare the road! Remove the obstacles out of the [way](#) of my people."

The people of Judah who were in exile would return. / God would remove their obstacles. / God would make a good way so that they would return to God.

Verse 15./ For this is what the high and lofty One says-- he who lives forever, whose name is holy: "I live in a high and holy place, but also with him who is contrite and lowly in [spirit](#), to revive the [spirit](#) of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite.

With whom God is present? / He is with those who are contrite and lowly in spirit. / He revives the spirit of the lowly. / Therefore we must come near to God with humble faith and repentance.

Verse 16. / I will not accuse forever, nor will I always be angry, for then the [spirit](#) of man would grow faint before me-- the breath of man that I have created.

When God disciplines believers, he does so temporarily. / Psalm 30:5. /God knows the weaknesses of humans. / When God disciplines us, he disciplines us an appropriate amount, and then forgives us. / God has compassion on us even in times of suffering.

Verse 17. / I was enraged by his [sinful greed](#); I punished him, and hid my face in anger, yet he kept on in his willful ways.

The people of Judah continued to walk in their willful ways to pursue their greed, even when they were punished. / However, God would comfort them. / In verse 18, God comforts them.

Verse 19. / creating praise on the lips of the mourners in Israel. Peace, peace, to those far and near," says the LORD. "And I will heal them."

God would give peace for the people of Judah. / They would return from captivity. / God would give them salvation from their sins. / Even the Gentiles would be saved.

Those who are near are the people of Judah. / Those who are far refer to the Gentiles. / Ephesians 2:17-18./ In this way, God would save all the people of Judah and the Gentiles.

Verses 20-21. / But the wicked are like the tossing sea, which cannot rest, whose waves cast up mire and [mud](#). "There is no peace," says my God, "for the wicked."

The wicked are always in mire and mud. / There are no clean things. / There is no peace for the wicked. / There is no comfort for them. / Isaiah 48:22 / In this way, the wicked are always tossed in the waves and there is no stability.

The wicked always wander and roam about. / There is no peace for the wicked. / However, there is peace in Jesus. / Therefore, we must repent of our sins.

We must pray to God. / We must rely on God. / Then, we can enjoy true peace in the Lord.

We will conclude the thirteenth lecture on Isaiah. / Thank you.