

The Compassion of the LORD

- 55** "Come, everyone who thirsts,
 come to the waters;
 and he who has no money,
 come, buy and eat!
 Come, buy wine and milk
 without money and without price.
- 2** Why do you spend your money for that which is not
 bread,
 and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
 Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,
 and delight yourselves in rich food.
- 3** Incline your ear, and come to me;
 hear, that your soul may live;
 and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
 my steadfast, sure love for David.
- 4** Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,
 a leader and commander for the peoples.
- 5** Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not
 know,
 and a nation that did not know you shall run
 to you,
 because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One
 of Israel,
 for he has glorified you.
- 6** "Seek the LORD while he may be found;
 call upon him while he is near;
- 7** let the wicked forsake his way,
 and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

- ① Here deliverance is offered. Much like Mt 11.28-30 it is offered to the poor, weary, heaven laden. This thirst is symbolic of spiritual need for salvation. It is something we cannot afford but for which we thirst. Here it is being provided to all who will come or respond to the call. Not only will the basic need of water or salvation be given but luxury items like milk and wine are also offered. This is the abundance of Christ providing in Eph 3.20 & John 10.10. Here is the call of Christ to receive what we do not deserve & cannot afford.
- ② Bread is life but people spend their money on sinful pleasures that do not satisfy. They work or strive after life w/out any hope of ever having true happiness. Here the call is to change how you are living (repent), and listen to the call of one who can provide what can satisfy. The rich food is the gospel of truth.
- ③ First the verse again calls the people to listen and respond to the call of God. It is not a command but a choice w/ consequences or rewards. Second this contract or covenant is one that is everlasting or eternal. Though physical needs are mentioned in verse one this is clearly a spiritual opportunity if the person so chooses. Jesus spoke of the New Covenant in His blood (Lk 22.20). Jesus This is linked to David as an example of the type of relationship this will entail. David had the heart of God as he led the people (Acts 13.22). The next 2 verses build on this Kingdom principal.
- ④ The leader of this new Covenant Kingdom will be one chosen by God as their leader and Commander. His witness will be of truth to the people of God's will. Jesus is this Kingdom leader who calls all to follow Him. He is the Lord or commander of the Kingdom of God/Heaven.
- ⑤ Here this coming Kingdom can only be visualized by an image comparing it to David's Kingdom and His love for God. This new name will be church which is the Nation of God w/in and beyond all other nations. This is God's nation that will bring to Him glory. Its purpose is to serve and obey.
- ⑥ This is a universal call of response to God. The call is not limitless but must be responded to while it can. Heb. 9.27 death ends the opportunity and closes the door to the free water, milk, and wine of God.
- ⑦ Here is a deliberate call to repent, to change direction. Here both deeds and thoughts are subject to God's approval.

let him return to the LORD, that he may have
compassion on him,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways, declares the
LORD.

9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

10 "For as the rain and the snow come down from
heaven (1st Heaven)
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

12 "For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their
hands.

13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

Salvation & its benefits

(b) It is not enough to ask forgiveness. It must be followed with
a new lifestyle. Returning to God means leaving a sinful life behind and
accepting God's forgiveness as the person henceforward rejects sin.

(8) The Reason a person must have new thoughts and a new way
of life are evident. vs. 7 man's thoughts and ways are to be left
behind. vs. 8 God's thoughts and ways are different and should replace
our own.

(9) God has a much different perspective from heaven. He are challenged
to see that we cannot comprehend but should accept God's guidance
and directions. For lack of a better way of putting it, God is always
smarter and God is always right, so why are you not listening 2 Him

(10-11) These two verse are linked 10 is the example or illustration
vs. 11 is God making his point.

(10) The rain falls to fulfill a purpose. It is part of God's plan.
This causes crops to grow, which are harvested, which is
processed and turned into food.

(11) The word of God is like SPIRITUAL RAIN FOR THE SOUL and
growth of man. This growth leads to SPIRITUAL MATURITY AND
SUCCESS in ministry and life. God's purpose is tied to God's
word in the life of a believer. 2 Tim 3.16 shows how the words
will search and correct the life choices so they can properly
serve Him.

(12) Here those who respond to the come of God's call in vs. 1 discover
that everything has changed. As they seek God (vs. 6) their lives are
transformed, and by listening to the word of God (vs. 11) they
are rewarded w/new life filled w/joy and peace. Everything
in their lives is transformed. Life can not be a dry vein
when God is guiding the person from on high (vs. 9). This is
not a glass half full or half empty point of view. This is
a full glass of water or milk or wine being provided by God
for those who have repented and are following Him (vs. 1)

(13) Here the quick growing thorns & briars are replaced with the long
growing and useful cypress and sweet smelling myrtle. Life develops
lasting & long term purpose. Here the very name of God is seen as a
SIGN OF HIS NEW COVENANT WITH MAN. Everlasting to Everlasting.