

Reading Isaiah 5:1-11

It's been said that this is the Gospel according to Isaiah. What is remarkable is that Isaiah lived 700 years before the birth of Jesus Christ. Yet He prophesied so clearly of Christ. The scripture is divine and is God breathed. The bible calls The Word "My Word". Here is just one of the many pieces of evidence that scripture is divine. "Holy men of old wrote as they were moved by the Holy Ghost". We as man can only marvel and say surely this is the finger of God.

Here is the Gospel invitation.

Isaiah 55:1 Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat. Yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

This speaks of water, Wine, and Milk. The Cry goes out COME, it's the Gospel Cry. If you are thirsty COME. Does man, come to God, does man seek God, Is man not eager for God. No not at all, (*Romans 3:11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.*). But God is Eager for man, He comes to seek and to save that which is lost. The message rings out Ho, Ho, everyone who thirsts COME.

This word Come is found over 600 times in the bible. **Come unto me**, all *ye* that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. **Come to the Supper**, (we could say it's the supper of Bread and wine Christs body and blood that nourishes every believer forever more.) come to the living waters, (the Lord spoke symbolically, comparing his grace, and his Spirit, and the truth of his gospel- Jesus says if you knew the gift of God you would have asked me for a drink of water and I would have given you living water. He knew everything about his woman, He knew she had had 5 husbands, but here we see the grace of God that the Gospel is offered to even the sinful. "If she had asked, He would have given,"—He would have given the living water of grace, mercy, and peace.) Come all, come even the little children, Jesus says suffer the Little Children to come unto me.

Come In all sorrows, in all trials: in all nights of darkness, in all calamities, in every temptation, it rings out, "Come! And I Will!" It is the Lord who is giving this promise. No matter what you are facing, the answer is Come to the Waters. Waters which man cannot give but God gives.

Man may be a messenger But it is the LORD alone who promises. **"For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, and floods on the dry ground. I will pour My spirit on your seed, and My blessing on your offspring;"**

This is a flood of living water, no passing ox, or flock of sheep can drink up all this water! There is more than enough. Besides this is not natural water, but spiritual water that gives eternal life. The blessings that bring spiritual life are often represented as living water in the Bible.

"Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely"

Revelation 22:1 And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

All streams of earthly comfort, even great rivers or earthly comfort are muddy; and even if they appear to be clear there is some bacteria some gall that turns bitter as time goes by. What the world offers tastes good at first but soon turns sour. **But the river of life is pure and clear, and refreshing.** Partaking of living water gives life, and preserve life, to those who drink, shall be satisfied and thirst no more. It's a river of blessing that adds no sorrow. This heavenly water is so superior, so pure, so clear, a continuous flow from God, the Fountain of life, symbolizes eternal life, always fresh, from Him: life in fulness of joy.

What is the Qualification to have this life? Simply Thirst! Simply Come, simply believe.

This is water which if we drink it shall satisfy. John 4:13 *Jesus answered and said to her, Whoever drinks of this water shall thirst again. whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst, but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.*

THE GOSPEL CALL. Is seen here in the book of Isaiah So clearly So accurately. some 700 years before Christ came.

Isaiah said, Ho come everyone who thirsts. Then when Jesus walked the earth He echoed the message, *“whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst.”* It's the same Gospel **we preach and publish and share,** Come, Come and Drink. Water, Wine that makes the heart glad and full of Joyful expectation. Milk that will sustain and nourish your soul. We have such a rich message how can we be silent? Silent when there are so many thirsty and empty people, so many lost people! No we must clearly proclaim the Gospel, Come, believe, trust, *John 3:15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.* It's also a call to repentance as we shall clearly see later.

We cannot buy what the Gospel offers. The words from verse 1, buy wine and milk without money and without price. **Our buying without money suggests,** (1.) That what is offered to us is so valuable that no amount of money could buy this treasure. Besides what is offered is a free gift. What is offered is already fully bought and paid for by the blood of Christ. Surly people need to know the rich gift that has been provided, what's been purchased by the blood of Christ. **How shall they know without a preacher?** The Call must go forth.

There is a small village in Bath where on a Sunday there is a man who goes to an old church tower with a bell. He unwinds the rope and then pulls hard on the rope the clear tone rings over the whole village. Come is the clear call that goes across the village, it is time for morning worship. The call goes out to everyone. The rich the poor, to whosoever will hear will come. He keeps on ringing and ringing, even until the first people begin to arrive. In the same way the Gospel bell calls, those in beautiful houses and those in palaces, and those in shacks in the slums, those in fine suits of clothing and those in rags, even dirty rags. We keep ringing, come there is living water pure and as clear as crystal, water enough. We don't just stop after one ring, no we

keep ‘ringing’ out the Gospel, not even until the house is full but until our dying day. *Revelation 7:9. After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, saying, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”*

Isaiah 55:2 Why do you weigh silver for what is not bread? and your labor for what never satisfies? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. It’s sad to see so many believers giving their money giving their time and effort for that which is not bread. Labouring for that which does not satisfy. Even thirsting for worldly things that are muddied and not pure and can never satisfy. Isaiah was right to say listen carefully to me eat what is good let your soul delight itself in fatness. God created the heart of this people to hunger for His word, and in His word they could alone find the “fatness of their soul.” Success and comfort can never satisfy the soul which God has created. Do not labour for what never satisfies.

Isaiah 55:3 Bow down (bend close your ear) your ear, and come to Me; hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.

Hearken your ear unto me, not only hearing what I say, but approve what I say, and apply it to your own life. hear with attention; hear, *and come unto me*; not only come, but comply with me, hear with willing acceptance and your soul shall live.

Will God enter into covenant with sinful men — with thirsty men — with hungry men — with needy men — with guilty men? Yes he did through the line of David, Jesus Christ was born. Seen so clearly in the next verse

Isaiah 55:4 Behold, **I have given Him** for a witness to the people, **a Leader and Commander of people**. A leader among us. A leader who will lead us back to peace with God, A leader who will give new life. A commander who is far above every power of darkness, a commander who is watching over us. To teach and testify his Father’s will and counsel. This refers to the resurrected Christ Jesus. The Risen and Exulted Christ who is our leader and commander. **The Sure mercies of David** fulfilled and Given in Christ. *Acts 13:34 And as concerning that he raised him up from the dead, now no more to return to corruption, he said on this wise, I will give you the sure mercies of David.*

Isaiah 55:5 Behold, You shall call a nation that You do not know; a nation that did not know You shall run to You because of Jehovah Your God, and for the Holy One of Israel; for He has glorified You.

In Isa 55:5 the Messiah is addressed, and there is a promise made to him. *Nations that knew not thee*, that had but little knowledge of God, and no knowledge of the Messiah, *shall run unto thee*;

upon thy call shall speedily and readily come to you, to receive instructions from you, and to follow you wherever you shall lead them.

The salvation brought by the Messiah will be offered to Gentile nations, not just Israel.

We don't see people running to our Lord right now. But know this, the gospel will triumph.

People from every tribe nation and tongue; they will come; for God has glorified his Son, the gospel will not fail; there is no question as to its success. There may be dark days right now, and our hearts may be discouraged as we look around; but the Father will keep his promise to the Son, and that encourages us to look up in the darkest hour. This fact, which is more than a promise, will never be altered, "He hath glorified thee."

I think of this verse. *John 12:32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.* This spoke of Christs crucifixion, His highest act of obedience to His Father, and because of that the Father exulted Him and gave Him a name which is above every name. For by the preaching of the cross and the Gospel, together with the convicting work of the Holy Spirit He will draw all multitudes of men and woman to Him, they shall embrace Him and believe Him who died and has risen again.

Isaiah 55:6 Seek Jehovah while He may be found; call on Him while He is near.

Psalms 32:6 For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: Surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him.

'Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.' For those who know the Lord, we could say NOW IS THE TIME to PREACH THE GOSPEL. For those who don't know the Lord we say, It's too late to seek the Lord when you have spent all your days on this earth. Too late when Judgement Day has come. Now is the Gospel age Now we can seek the Lord. Seek the Lord while He may be found.

I've sometimes told people, people who claim to be believers of someone I know passing away and their answer astounds me. We will pray for them that the lord will save them, or have mercy upon them. No, we can pray for the Living not the dead. The Lord must be sought while he can be found while He is near. *Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.*

Its more than just a call come receive Gods Gift. As one man said we want to make Jesus our saviour, but he must also be our LORD. Besides Salvation is a transfer out of darkness into His glorious light. The new creation in Christ wants to walk in the Light where He is in the Light. If someone wants to stay in darkness of sin one wonders have, they been born again at all. The Lord came not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance. Look how Isaiah puts it. How did he know 700 years in advance?

Isaiah 55:7 Let the **wicked** forsake his way, and **the unrighteous man** his thoughts; and let him return to Jehovah, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

Let the wicked forsake " Cleanse *your* hands, sinners; and purify your hearts;" "put away the evil of your doings;" so shall your "light break as the dawn" the Lord will return and "abundantly pardon." Why must we forsake our way? Because it's a wrong way and bad way a way that goes

down to destruction. Turn from that path it leads only to death, turn to Christ and He will abundantly pardon.

The “**wicked**” sins are the more visible and blatant sin, the “unrighteous” refers to the more subtle workings of sin in the “**thoughts.**” both are equally bad, yet many think that they are safe, because they are not openly walking “wicked in ways”. But both **wicked sins** and **unrighteous behaviour** has the terrible consequence of separation and death. Do you have abundant sin? Are you weighed down by the crushing guilt of sin. I’ve God good news for you In Jesus Christ is abundant pardon. Understand we Acknowledge we are lost before we can be found. Jesus came for the Lost. He came for those in abundant sin, He came bringing abundant grace. "Where sin abounded, grace did **much more abound.**" Note the word—Divine Grace not only abounded but it did "*much more* abound."

Isaiah 55:8 For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor your ways My ways, says Jehovah. **Isaiah 55:9** For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.

You may think it impossible, that such terrible sinners as you and I that sinners who have walked in wickedness year after year, could ever be received to mercy. **But this is your thoughts?** Gods’ thoughts are Far above our thoughts, nor can we measure His mercies by your own thinking. His mercy is always higher than we think possible. We forgive and cannot forget; but, when God forgives sin, he remembers it no more. His ways much higher than ours. Bring broken and bleeding hearts to my mercy seat, and God will not think of their faults. Rather I will think of all the sufferings of His Son, all the promises in His book, all the comforts of His Spirit, all the pleasures of His kingdom, That will be our Gods thoughts towards a lost sinner who comes seeking forgiveness. Mercy and cleansing from every sin. Cleansed and made clean made righteous in Christ. Adopted as sons and daughters, given and eternal inheritance. Oh, His thoughts are Higher than our thoughts. His ways are Higher Mercy Grace and truth that never fail.

Refreshing from His word

Isaiah 55:10 For as the rain comes down, and the snow from the heavens, and does not return there, but waters the earth, and makes it bring out and bud, and give seed to the sower and bread to the eater;

Isaiah 55:11 so shall My Word be, which goes out of My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall certainly do what I sent it to do.

What assurance we have living in an uncertain world, a world with so much error and so many untruths and so many blatant lies. We have the truth that is firm and unchangeable something

we can depend upon. The reliable Truth. SGods Word more sure than the heavens an the earth which will pass away, but Gods word shall never pass away.

Whenever we need refreshing, whenever things seem overwhelming and there are great storms buffeting us what do we do we open the pages of Gods word. We eat and partake of the BREAD of life.

We are like ships on a rough stormy sea on the way to heaven. We cast our hope upon Jesus Christ Hope himself. He is our anchor when we are near dangerous rocks. We cast the anchor out onto the ground and foundation of hope itself. Being cast aright it will keep my soul steady and immovable. Hope in Christ, hope in the promises of God, is the rope. An anchor without a rope is not very usefull at all. But our hope is secure sure and steadfast in Christ who says, he will never leave us nor forsake us. God's promise is firm and unbreakable, because it is strengthened by God's oath, which will hold out in every storm. Sailors throw their anchors downwards; we throw ours upwards. Their anchor goes deep into the waters into the depths of the sea; ours goes into the heights of heaven, where Jesus sits at the right hand of God. *Hebrews 6:19 which we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and stedfast and entering into that which is within the veil;*

But also it is a picture of new life in Conversion. It shall bring forth the bud of the new creation. It shall accomplish what I please, to Gather His chosen to Himself, to save the Lost who call upon Him. Are you thirsty? Hurry to the Fountains of Living water.

Here is something so rich for every believer For every Lost soul. Come drink that living water.

Isaiah 55:12 For you shall **go out with joy and be led out with peace**; the mountains and the hills shall break out before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

Isaiah 55:13 Instead of the thorn, the fir tree shall come up; and instead of the brier, the myrtle tree shall come up; and it shall be to Jehovah for a name, for an everlasting sign which shall not be cut off.

Wherever Gods word is received there are transformations, Conversion is the greatest proof of God's Word, and Spirit changing a life. Thorns are turned into fir trees. Just men shall arise, instead of sinners. They shall be kept as an everlasting sign they shall not be cut off.

The believers or the churches enemies are like thorns and briers, but, instead of them, God will raise up friends to be her protection and beauty.

the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep *you* from evil.

He is able to keep you from falling, and to present *you* faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy.

The trust worthy word of God, the word that sustains us, The word that can be depended upon. Im so thankful for the Word of God. Thy word have I hid in mine heart. thy word hath quickened me. The Word that upholds me, The Word that orders my steps that is a lamp unto

my feet and a light unto my path. Let it be it unto me according to thy word. So I close – all those who thirst thirst not after that which cant satisfy.

John 4:13 Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again:
14 But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.