Isaiah 54-57

Lesson 22

Chapter 54

- Chapter 54 begins with the people being told to "sing," or "break forth into singing." Why?
 - Captivity had left them barren and desolate—without child, but now they would have MANY children. They're going to need a bigger tent. They would no longer experience the shame and disgrace of widowhood.
 - From whom would this increase ultimately come?

- 1. Who was Israel's "husband"? By what is He named and called?
 - 54:5.
 - Now that He has taken them back, look what He will do for them (54:6-12).

- 2. What shall children who are taught about the Lord have?
 - 54:13.
 - A prominent theme in Isaiah—word appears 34 times.

- 54:14-17 speaks of the Lord's protection for His people.
 - Some may gather against His people, but they will not be sent by Him.
 - Because He created both the one who makes the weapon and the one who uses it, He has control over how successful they are.

Chapter 55

- What invitation is extended at the beginning of this chapter?
 - What do the water, wine, and oil represent?
 - "Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life..." (John 6:27).
 - "The sure mercies of David" (55:3)—this passage is quoted in Acts 13:34 and applied to the resurrection of Jesus.

- 3. Upon whom will God have mercy and pardon?
 - 55:6-7.
 - "Abundantly pardon" (55:7)—He doesn't measure it out in teaspoons.

- 4. How much higher are God's thoughts than man's and His ways above ours?
 - 55:8-9**.**
 - Anything in the context that offers a contrast between God's ways and man's ways?

• The word that goes forth from God's mouth—what does the text say about it in the latter part of this chapter?

55:10-11.

Chapter 56

- 5. Why were they to keep judgment and do justice?
 - 56:1.
 - Note in 56:2-8 how the "outcasts of Israel" (56:8) will have the same opportunity for salvation ("son of the foreigner"; the "eunuch").

- 6. What was God's house to be called?
 - 56:7.
 - "A house of prayer for ALL nations."

• What charges are made against Israel's watchmen (rulers, leaders) in 56:9-12?

Chapter 57

- 7. When a righteous man dies, what should be considered?
 - 57:1–2, which continues the thought of 56:9–12.
 - Contrast with 57:21.

- 10. The Lord describes ways by which His people had become spiritually "sons of the sorceress, and the seed of the adulterer" in 57:3–10.
 - Inflaming themselves with what?
 - Slaying whom?
 - Offered drink and grain offerings to what?
 - Went up to offer sacrifice where?
 - Set up their remembrance where?

 And what will become of all these idols they worshipped, according to 57:10-14?

- 8. Who dwells with God in the high and holy place?
 - Full thought in 57:15–19.
 - Same principle in 66:1-2.

- 9. What are the wicked like?
 - 57:20.
 - "Raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever" (Jude 1:13).