



Isaiah 55 contains beautiful pictures of God's grace.

55:1 For what do people "thirst"? (Matthew 5:6)

How can people "buy and eat" without money?

55:2 What things do we buy that do not satisfy?

55:3 What (who) specifically is the "love promised to David"?

In what ways are 55:8-11 a comfort when things happen in life that do not make sense to us?

55:12-13 is a picture of the exiles returning in joy. 56:1-2 turns to how God's people are to act. What is the relationship between the salvation of God and the way His people are to live?

According to Deuteronomy 23:1-3, foreigners and eunuchs were not allowed to enter the court of Israelites in the Temple. Why not? What was the purpose of this "discrimination"? Why might people be made eunuchs?) 56:3-7

How would this word of God be received by those who had been excluded?

How / who might Christians today exclude?

How do these verses inform Christians today about our exclusions?

56:9-57:2 turns to a picture of Israel's leaders. How have they failed and what is the result?

56:10-12 describes "shepherds" (pastors) who are only concerned for themselves. How can God's people help prevent this?

57:3-13 turns to idol worshipers. How do people today "stick out their tongues" (like a child to their parents)?

Idol worship of that day included outdoor "Worship of orgies and child sacrifice. How do people today continue the spirit of these practices?

57:14-21 is a promise of forgiveness and peace. Who receives this forgiveness (and who does not)? 57:15, 17

Why is there "no peace for the wicked"? 57:21
(Where does peace come from?)

58:1 Isaiah is told to "shout aloud" the rebellion of Israel. What rebellion might need to be shouted aloud in the lives of our congregation?

How can we support God's Word of Law when it is proclaimed among us?

58:9 What is God's promise even as His Law is proclaimed?

58:13-14 What does God's Word have to say to those who decide it is good enough to "worship God in nature, on the golf course, or in a fishing boat"?

What does 59:1 Say about those times we fear God cannot help?

What does 59:2 say about the affect of sin? (Is there a difference between hidden sin and confessed sin? Why?)

Believers are often shocked when they have as many (or more) problems than "evil" people. Why does this seem to be? What are we to do?

How does God step in? 59:16-20

How can we be sure of the promise of 59:21? (Romans 8:12, I Corinthians 12:3, Acts 2:38)

Chapter 60 contains pictures of Israel's return from exile, Christ's coming, and Christ's return. What pictures refer to one or the other? How does 60:1-3 depict all of these?

A portion of this picture is the coming of all different kinds of people. What different "kinds" of people may God bring into our congregation? How might we help those who are uncomfortable with God's work in this way?