CRAWFORD BIBLE COMMENTARY

BIBLE STUDY

Isaiah Chapter 55 — The Free Gift of God’s Salvation

A Verse-by-Verse Bible Study from the Crawford Standard Bible

Introduction

Isaiah Chapter 55 is one of Scripture’s great invitations.

The chapter begins with one word:

> **“Come.”**

Come:

Thirsty.

Come:

Without money.

Come:

Hungry.

Come:

Empty.

Come:

Listen.

Come:

Live.

After Isaiah 53 revealed:

The suffering Servant.

And Isaiah 54 revealed:

The covenant of peace.

Isaiah 55 opens the doors and announces:

The feast is ready.

The water is available.

The covenant is offered.

Mercy is near.

Pardon is abundant.

The chapter asks a searching question:

> **“Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy?”**

Humanity spends enormous:

Time.

Energy.

Money.

Attention.

Emotion.

Searching for what will:

Satisfy.

Yet much of what people chase cannot:

Feed the soul.

God does not merely condemn:

Thirst.

He says:

Come to:

The water.

He does not merely rebuke:

Hunger.

He says:

Eat what is:

Good.

He does not merely expose:

Emptiness.

He offers:

Abundance.

Then He connects the invitation to:

An everlasting covenant.

The faithful love promised to:

David.

The chapter expands again toward:

The nations.

The covenant promises connected with the Davidic king reach beyond:

Israel.

Nations will:

Come.

Then comes the urgent command:

“Seek the Lord while He may be found.”

Grace is free.

But grace should not be treated as:

Trivial.

God’s invitation demands:

Response.

The wicked must:

Forsake his way.

The unrighteous must:

Forsake his thoughts.

Then:

Turn.

And what happens when the sinner turns?

God:

Has mercy.

God:

Freely pardons.

The next verses are among the most quoted in Isaiah:

“My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways.”

These words certainly reveal:

God’s infinite wisdom.

But in context they are connected especially with:

Mercy.

Human beings may think:

That person has gone too far.

That sin cannot be forgiven.

That rebel does not deserve another chance.

God says:

My thoughts are:

Higher.

His higher ways are demonstrated in:

Abundant pardon.

Then Isaiah compares:

God’s Word.

To:

Rain.

Snow.

Water comes from heaven.

Soaks the earth.

Produces:

Seed.

Bread.

Life.

Then God says:

So is:

My Word.

It will accomplish:

My purpose.

God’s Word is not:

Empty sound.

It carries:

Divine intention.

Finally the chapter ends with:

Joy.

Peace.

Singing mountains.

Clapping trees.

Thorns replaced by:

Pine.

Briers replaced by:

Myrtle.

The effects of sin and curse give way to:

Restoration.

And all of it becomes:

“For the Lord’s renown.”

The chapter therefore moves from:

Thirst.

To:

Water.

Hunger.

To:

Food.

Poverty.

To:

Free grace.

Death.

To:

Life.

Wickedness.

To:

Pardon.

Human thoughts.

To:

God’s higher thoughts.

Dry ground.

To:

Rain.

Emptiness.

To:

Fruitfulness.

Sorrow.

To:

Joy.

Thorns.

To:

Beauty.

The central truth of Isaiah 55 is:

God freely invites spiritually thirsty and empty people to receive His salvation without price, calls sinners to seek Him and repent while mercy is near, promises abundant pardon according to His higher thoughts and ways, assures that His Word will accomplish His purpose, and leads the redeemed into joy, peace, fruitfulness, and restoration that display His everlasting glory.

I. COME TO THE WATERS

Isaiah 55:1 — Salvation Without Money

> **“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.”**

The invitation is addressed to:

The thirsty.

The poor.

The empty-handed.

Three times:

Come.

The price?

Nothing.

Cross References

John 7:37

Jesus stands and calls anyone who is thirsty to come to Him and drink.

Revelation 22:17

The Spirit and the bride invite the thirsty to come and freely receive the water of life.

Revelation 21:6

God promises to give the thirsty water freely from the spring of life.

Spiritual Principle

Salvation is:

Received.

Not purchased.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The qualification for coming is not wealth in your hand but thirst in your soul.

II. “YOU WHO HAVE NO MONEY”

God intentionally invites:

Those who cannot pay.

Spiritual Principle

Grace excludes:

Spiritual purchasing power.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

If salvation could be bought, the poor would be disadvantaged and the proud would boast; God makes it free so everyone must come the same way.

III. WATER, WINE, AND MILK

These images communicate:

Life.

Joy.

Nourishment.

Abundance.

Spiritual Principle

God’s salvation is not:

Bare survival.

It satisfies:

Deep need.

IV. WHY SPEND MONEY ON WHAT IS NOT BREAD?

Isaiah 55:2 — The Tragedy of False Satisfaction

> **“Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, and let your soul delight itself in abundance.”**

This question exposes:

Misplaced appetite.

People labor for:

What cannot satisfy.

Cross References

John 6:27

Jesus warns against laboring only for food that perishes and calls people to seek the food that endures to eternal life.

Jeremiah 2:13

God condemns His people for abandoning the fountain of living water and digging broken cisterns unable to hold water.

Matthew 4:4

Jesus teaches that human life cannot be sustained by bread alone but depends upon every word that comes from God.

Spiritual Principle

The soul can consume much and still remain:

Hungry.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Not everything you can afford is worth buying, and not everything you can chase is capable of feeding your soul.

V. LABOR THAT DOES NOT SATISFY

Money.

Success.

Pleasure.

Recognition.

Possessions.

Power.

None can take God’s place.

Spiritual Principle

Created things become disappointing when asked to do:

The Creator’s job.

VI. “LISTEN CAREFULLY”

The path toward satisfaction begins with:

Hearing God.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

A hungry soul does not need louder distractions; it needs to listen to the One who knows what truly nourishes.

VII. DELIGHT IN ABUNDANCE

God does not invite people into:

Spiritual starvation.

Spiritual Principle

God Himself is:

Satisfying.

VIII. LISTEN SO YOUR SOUL MAY LIVE

Isaiah 55:3 — The Everlasting Covenant

> **“Give ear and come to Me; listen, so that your soul may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, My faithful love promised to David.”**

Three movements:

Hear.

Come.

Live.

Then:

Covenant.

Cross References

Acts 13:34

Paul connects the sure covenant blessings promised to David with the resurrection and messianic fulfillment in Christ.

John 5:25

Jesus says the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live.

Jeremiah 32:40

God promises an everlasting covenant in which He remains faithfully committed to His people.

Spiritual Principle

God’s invitation is:

Life-giving.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The voice of God does not merely inform the soul; when received in faith, it calls the soul into life.

IX. THE FAITHFUL LOVE PROMISED TO DAVID

The covenant reaches back toward:

David.

Kingship.

Messianic hope.

Spiritual Principle

God’s promises do not:

Expire.

X. EVERLASTING COVENANT

Not:

Temporary arrangement.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God does not offer a trial-version covenant.

XI. A WITNESS TO THE PEOPLES

Isaiah 55:4 — Leader and Commander

> **“See, I have made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander of nations.”**

The Davidic figure is presented as:

Witness.

Leader.

Commander.

His influence reaches:

Peoples.

Nations.

Cross References

Revelation 1:5

Jesus Christ is called the faithful witness and ruler of the kings of the earth.

John 18:37

Jesus says He came into the world to testify to the truth.

Psalm 18:43

The king is given authority over peoples and nations beyond his immediate kingdom.

Spiritual Principle

The Davidic promise reaches toward:

Worldwide kingship.

XII. THE COVENANT IS NOT NARROW

The promise moves:

From David.

To:

Nations.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s covenant faithfulness to David ultimately opens outward toward peoples David never knew.

XIII. NATIONS WILL HASTEN

Isaiah 55:5 — The Holy One Has Glorified You

> **“Surely you will summon nations you do not know, 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 glorified you.”**

The movement is:

Missionary.

Nations come because of:

The Lord.

Cross References

Romans 15:9

Paul describes the nations glorifying God for His mercy.

Isaiah 11:10

The Root of Jesse becomes a banner for the peoples, and nations seek Him.

Psalm 22:27

All the ends of the earth are called to remember the Lord and turn to Him.

Spiritual Principle

God’s glory attracts:

The nations.

XIV. SEEK THE LORD

Isaiah 55:6 — The Urgency of Grace

> **“Seek the Lord while He may be found; call on Him while He is near.”**

Grace is:

Available.

But the call is:

Urgent.

Cross References

2 Corinthians 6:2

Paul declares that now is the favorable time and now is the day of salvation.

Psalm 32:6

The faithful are urged to pray to God while He may be found.

Matthew 7:7

Jesus says to ask, seek, and knock with confidence in the Father’s response.

Spiritual Principle

The proper response to grace is:

Now.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Do not turn “someday” into a hiding place from the God who says “seek Me now.”

XV. “WHILE HE MAY BE FOUND”

This does not mean God is:

Lost.

It emphasizes:

Opportunity.

Spiritual Principle

Spiritual opportunity should never be:

Presumed upon.

XVI. CALL ON HIM WHILE HE IS NEAR

God’s nearness is an:

Invitation.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When God draws near in conviction and grace, do not answer Him with delay.

XVII. THE WICKED MUST FORSAKE HIS WAY

Isaiah 55:7 — Repentance and Abundant Pardon

> **“Let the wicked forsake their ways, and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and He will have mercy, and to our God, for He will freely pardon.”**

Repentance includes:

Ways.

Thoughts.

Turning.

Cross References

Ezekiel 18:27

When the wicked person turns from wickedness and does what is just and right, he turns away from destruction.

1 John 1:9

God is faithful and just to forgive confessed sins and cleanse His people from unrighteousness.

Proverbs 28:13

The person who hides sin does not prosper, but the one who confesses and forsakes it finds mercy.

Spiritual Principle

Biblical repentance involves:

Change of direction.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Grace does not say, “Stay where you are and call it repentance.” Grace says, “Turn—and mercy is waiting.”

XVIII. FORSAKE THE WAY

Behavior.

Spiritual Principle

Repentance affects:

Conduct.

XIX. FORSAKE THE THOUGHTS

Inner life.

Spiritual Principle

Repentance reaches:

Mind.

Motives.

Desires.

XX. RETURN TO THE LORD

Repentance is not merely:

Turning from sin.

It is:

Turning to God.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

True repentance is not merely leaving the wrong road; it is returning to the right Person.

XXI. HE WILL HAVE MERCY

Not:

Reluctantly tolerate.

Mercy.

Spiritual Principle

God welcomes:

Repentant sinners.

XXII. HE WILL FREELY PARDON

The language emphasizes:

Abundance.

Generosity.

Full forgiveness.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God does not forgive with a clenched fist.

He pardons freely.

XXIII. GOD’S THOUGHTS ARE HIGHER

Isaiah 55:8 — Divine Wisdom Beyond Human Wisdom

> **“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways,’ declares the Lord.”**

This verse is often used generally.

And rightly so.

God’s wisdom exceeds:

Ours.

But the immediate context concerns:

Mercy.

Repentance.

Pardon.

Humans may think:

Too guilty.

Too far gone.

Too late.

God says:

My thoughts are:

Higher.

Cross References

Romans 11:33

Paul marvels at the depth of God’s wisdom and knowledge, whose judgments and ways surpass human tracing.

Job 11:7

Human beings cannot fully search out or comprehend the infinite depths of God.

Psalm 92:5

God’s works are great and His thoughts exceedingly deep.

Spiritual Principle

God’s wisdom is:

Beyond ours.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Sometimes God’s higher thoughts are seen most clearly in how much more willing He is to pardon than we expected.

XXIV. HUMAN THINKING LIMITS GRACE

We say:

Impossible.

Unforgivable.

Unrecoverable.

God says:

Return.

Spiritual Principle

Never let human estimates of guilt become greater than:

God’s announced mercy.

XXV. HIGHER THAN THE EARTH

Isaiah 55:9 — The Distance Between Divine and Human Wisdom

> **“For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts higher than your thoughts.”**

The comparison is:

Vast.

Heaven above:

Earth.

God’s wisdom above:

Human reasoning.

Cross References

Psalm 103:11

God’s steadfast love is pictured as high as the heavens above the earth.

Romans 11:34

No one has fully known the mind of the Lord or served as His counselor.

Job 38:33

God’s governance of the heavens reveals knowledge and authority beyond human ability.

Spiritual Principle

Trust is necessary because:

God sees what we cannot.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

If God’s thoughts are higher, faith should not demand that His plan fit inside the limits of ours.

XXVI. GOD’S HIGHER WAYS ARE NOT RANDOM WAYS

Higher does not mean:

Irrational.

It means:

Superior.

Spiritual Principle

God’s wisdom is beyond:

Comprehension.

But never below:

Goodness.

XXVII. RAIN COMES DOWN FROM HEAVEN

Isaiah 55:10 — God’s Word Compared to Rain

> **“As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,”**

Rain:

Falls.

Waters.

Produces.

Multiplies.

Feeds.

Cross References

Hebrews 6:7

Land that receives rain and produces useful crops receives blessing from God.

John 4:14

Jesus describes the life He gives as living water springing up into eternal life.

Deuteronomy 32:2

God’s teaching is compared to rain and dew falling upon growing vegetation.

Spiritual Principle

God’s Word brings:

Life.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Rain does not have to shout at the ground to change it.

It falls, enters, and produces life.

XXVIII. RAIN MAKES THE EARTH BUD

The effect may begin:

Hidden.

Spiritual Principle

God’s Word can work beneath the surface before:

Visible fruit appears.

XXIX. SEED FOR THE SOWER

The rain provides:

Future potential.

Spiritual Principle

God’s Word produces:

More than immediate benefit.

XXX. BREAD FOR THE EATER

The same rain gives:

Seed.

Food.

Future.

Present.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s Word provides something to plant and something to live on.

XXXI. GOD’S WORD WILL NOT RETURN EMPTY

Isaiah 55:11 — The Word Accomplishes Its Purpose

> **“So is My word that goes out from My mouth: It will not return to Me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.”**

God’s Word is:

Purposeful.

Effective.

Productive.

Cross References

Hebrews 4:12

God’s Word is living, active, penetrating, and discerning.

Jeremiah 23:29

God compares His Word to fire and to a hammer that breaks rock.

Matthew 24:35

Jesus says heaven and earth will pass away, but His words will never pass away.

Spiritual Principle

God’s Word never:

Fails its divine assignment.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Word may not always produce the result we expected, but it always accomplishes the purpose God intended.

XXXII. “WHAT I DESIRE”

The standard is:

God’s purpose.

Not:

Our preferred outcome.

Spiritual Principle

The success of Scripture should be measured by:

God’s intention.

XXXIII. “FOR WHICH I SENT IT”

God’s Word is:

Sent.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Every Word from God carries a destination and an assignment.

XXXIV. YOU WILL GO OUT IN JOY

Isaiah 55:12 — Creation Joins the Celebration

> **“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.”**

What a picture.

Joy.

Peace.

Mountains singing.

Trees clapping.

Creation celebrates:

Redemption.

Cross References

Psalm 98:8

The rivers clap their hands and the mountains sing together before the Lord.

Isaiah 44:23

Heavens, earth, mountains, forests, and trees rejoice because God has redeemed His people.

Psalm 96:12

The fields and trees rejoice before the Lord who comes to judge in righteousness.

Spiritual Principle

Redemption creates:

Joy.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When God restores His people, Isaiah cannot find enough human voices, so he makes the mountains sing and the trees clap.

XXXV. LED FORTH IN PEACE

Not merely:

Released.

Led.

Spiritual Principle

God’s salvation includes:

Guidance.

XXXVI. JOY AND PEACE TOGETHER

Joy without peace becomes:

Excitement.

Peace without joy can become:

Coldness.

God gives:

Both.

XXXVII. THORNS ARE REPLACED

Isaiah 55:13 — Creation Transformed

> **“Instead of the thornbush will grow the pine tree, and instead of briers the myrtle will grow. This will be for the Lord’s renown, for an everlasting sign, that will never be cut off.”**

Thorns and briers recall:

Curse.

Barrenness.

Hardship.

God replaces them with:

Useful.

Beautiful.

Living growth.

Cross References

Isaiah 35:1

The wilderness is promised blossoming and joy under divine restoration.

Romans 8:21

Creation itself will ultimately be liberated from bondage to decay into glorious freedom.

Isaiah 41:19

God promises to plant trees in the wilderness as a visible sign of His transforming power.

Spiritual Principle

God’s restoration reverses:

Curse-like conditions.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Grace does not merely trim the thorns; it can change what grows in the field.

XXXVIII. “INSTEAD OF”

One of the great words of:

Redemption.

Instead of:

Thorns.

Trees.

Instead of:

Briers.

Myrtle.

Spiritual Principle

God can create:

Holy replacement.

XXXIX. FOR THE LORD’S RENOWN

Restoration has a purpose:

God’s glory.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The transformed life becomes a sign pointing beyond itself to the One who transformed it.

XL. AN EVERLASTING SIGN

The work becomes:

Testimony.

Spiritual Principle

God’s restoration leaves:

Evidence.

XLI. THE GREAT INVITATION OF ISAIAH 55

Come.

Listen.

Seek.

Call.

Forsake.

Turn.

Receive.

Key Truth

The chapter is filled with divine invitation and human response.

XLII. WHAT ISAIAH 55 TEACHES ABOUT GRACE

No money.

No cost.

Come.

Spiritual Principle

Grace is:

Free to the recipient.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Grace costs the sinner nothing because the Servant has already borne the cost.

XLIII. ISAIAH 53 AND ISAIAH 55

Isaiah 53

The Servant pays through:

Suffering.

Isaiah 55

The thirsty receive:

Without price.

Key Truth

The free invitation of Isaiah 55 rests naturally after the costly sacrifice revealed in Isaiah 53.

XLIV. WHAT ISAIAH 55 TEACHES ABOUT SPIRITUAL THIRST

Thirst is:

Real.

God does not mock:

It.

He directs it.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The problem is not that people thirst; the problem is where they try to drink.

XLV. WHAT ISAIAH 55 TEACHES ABOUT SATISFACTION

False bread:

Fails.

God’s provision:

Satisfies.

Spiritual Principle

The soul has appetites only God can:

Fill.

XLVI. WHAT ISAIAH 55 TEACHES ABOUT LISTENING

Verse 2:

Listen carefully.

Verse 3:

Give ear.

Listen.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The chapter begins with hunger but repeatedly points to the ear, because spiritual life is fed by receiving God’s Word.

XLVII. WHAT ISAIAH 55 TEACHES ABOUT THE DAVIDIC COVENANT

God’s faithful promises to:

David.

Reach:

Forward.

Spiritual Principle

Messianic hope stands behind:

The invitation.

XLVIII. WHAT ISAIAH 55 TEACHES ABOUT THE NATIONS

Nations:

Hasten.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s covenant grace refuses to stay confined within one ethnicity or border.

XLIX. WHAT ISAIAH 55 TEACHES ABOUT URGENCY

Seek:

Now.

Call:

Now.

Spiritual Principle

Grace should produce:

Response.

Not:

Presumption.

L. WHAT ISAIAH 55 TEACHES ABOUT REPENTANCE

Forsake:

Way.

Thought.

Turn:

To God.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Repentance is not regret without movement.

LI. WHAT ISAIAH 55 TEACHES ABOUT MERCY

God:

Has mercy.

Spiritual Principle

Repentance does not encounter:

Coldness.

LII. WHAT ISAIAH 55 TEACHES ABOUT PARDON

Freely.

Abundantly.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The repentant sinner discovers that God’s capacity to pardon is greater than the sinner’s expectation.

LIII. WHAT ISAIAH 55 TEACHES ABOUT GOD’S HIGHER WAYS

God thinks beyond:

Us.

Spiritual Principle

Human understanding is:

Finite.

LIV. WHAT ISAIAH 55 TEACHES ABOUT GOD’S WORD

Rain-like.

Life-giving.

Effective.

Purposeful.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s Word never returns home unemployed.

LV. WHAT ISAIAH 55 TEACHES ABOUT JOY

The redeemed:

Go out.

In:

Joy.

Spiritual Principle

Salvation changes:

Atmosphere.

LVI. WHAT ISAIAH 55 TEACHES ABOUT PEACE

The redeemed are:

Led.

In:

Peace.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s salvation gives both a destination and a manner of travel.

LVII. WHAT ISAIAH 55 TEACHES ABOUT CREATION

Mountains sing.

Trees clap.

Thorns replaced.

Spiritual Principle

God’s saving purpose ultimately has:

Creation-wide dimensions.

LVIII. WHAT ISAIAH 55 TEACHES ABOUT GLORY

Everything becomes:

For the Lord’s renown.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The goal of restoration is not merely our comfort but God’s glory through our transformation.

LIX. COME

The first word is:

Invitation.

Spiritual Principle

God initiates:

Grace.

LX. THIRSTY PEOPLE

Need is:

Acknowledged.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Thirst is not a disqualification; it is exactly what the invitation addresses.

LXI. COME TO WATER

God gives:

The right source.

Spiritual Principle

Spiritual life depends on:

Divine supply.

LXII. NO MONEY

No spiritual bank account:

Required.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Empty pockets are not a problem at the table of grace.

LXIII. BUY WITHOUT COST

Paradox.

Receive what has:

Value.

Without:

Payment.

Spiritual Principle

Grace is:

Gift.

LXIV. WINE AND MILK

Abundance.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s salvation does not offer only enough to keep the soul alive; it offers nourishment and delight.

LXV. WHY SPEND MONEY?

God questions:

Waste.

Spiritual Principle

Idolatry is expensive.

LXVI. WHAT IS NOT BREAD

Looks:

Useful.

Cannot:

Feed.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Counterfeit satisfaction often has a price tag but no nourishment.

LXVII. LABOR WITHOUT SATISFACTION

Exhaustion.

Spiritual Principle

Sinful striving creates:

Weariness.

LXVIII. EAT WHAT IS GOOD

God offers:

True nourishment.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God does not merely take false food away; He puts something better on the table.

LXIX. SOUL DELIGHT

Not merely:

Duty.

Spiritual Principle

God intends:

Joy.

LXX. GIVE EAR

Spiritual posture:

Attention.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

A distracted heart can stand beside the banquet and still remain hungry.

LXXI. COME TO ME

The invitation is ultimately:

Personal.

Spiritual Principle

God gives not merely:

Benefits.

But:

Himself.

LXXII. YOUR SOUL MAY LIVE

Life is the:

Result.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The invitation is not religious decoration; it is a matter of life.

LXXIII. EVERLASTING COVENANT

Security.

Spiritual Principle

The gift has:

Durability.

LXXIV. DAVIDIC LOVE

Historical promise.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s old promises become part of the foundation of new hope.

LXXV. WITNESS TO PEOPLES

Truth must be:

Declared.

Spiritual Principle

Messianic kingship includes:

Witness.

LXXVI. LEADER OF NATIONS

Authority extends:

Wide.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Davidic King does not remain a merely local figure.

LXXVII. NATIONS YOU DO NOT KNOW

Unexpected reach.

Spiritual Principle

God’s mission outruns:

Human familiarity.

LXXVIII. THEY WILL HASTEN

Attraction produced by:

God’s glory.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God can draw people you never expected into the reach of His covenant grace.

LXXIX. SEEK THE LORD

Active response.

Spiritual Principle

Grace does not create:

Passivity.

LXXX. CALL ON HIM

Prayer.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The God who invites sinners also invites them to speak.

LXXXI. WICKED WAY FORSAKEN

Behavior changed.

Spiritual Principle

Repentance has:

Feet.

LXXXII. UNRIGHTEOUS THOUGHTS FORSAKEN

Mind changed.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God does not only want a new path under your feet; He wants a new pattern in your mind.

LXXXIII. RETURN

Homeward movement.

Spiritual Principle

Repentance is:

Relational restoration.

LXXXIV. MERCY

God’s response.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The returning sinner does not find a locked door.

LXXXV. FREE PARDON

Generous forgiveness.

Spiritual Principle

God’s grace is:

Abundant.

LXXXVI. HIGHER THOUGHTS

Infinite wisdom.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Do not insist that God think like you before you agree to trust Him.

LXXXVII. HIGHER WAYS

Superior purposes.

Spiritual Principle

Faith accepts:

Perspective limits.

LXXXVIII. HEAVENS ABOVE EARTH

Visual illustration.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The distance between heaven and earth is still only an illustration of how far divine wisdom exceeds ours.

LXXXIX. RAIN FROM HEAVEN

Gift from:

Above.

Spiritual Principle

Fruitfulness begins with:

Provision.

XC. SNOW FROM HEAVEN

Slow-release:

Moisture.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Some of God’s work soaks in quickly; some melts slowly—but both can nourish the ground.

XCI. WATERING EARTH

Preparation.

Spiritual Principle

God’s Word softens:

Soil.

XCII. BUD AND FLOURISH

Growth.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Word that enters properly prepared soil tends toward life.

XCIII. SEED AND BREAD

Future and present.

Spiritual Principle

God supplies:

Continuation.

Sustenance.

XCIV. WORD FROM GOD’S MOUTH

Divine source.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The power of Scripture rests ultimately in the God who speaks it.

XCV. NOT RETURN EMPTY

Guaranteed purpose.

Spiritual Principle

No divine word is:

Meaningless.

XCVI. ACCOMPLISH WHAT GOD DESIRES

God defines:

Success.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Word succeeds by accomplishing God’s purpose, not by conforming to our preferred timetable.

XCVII. GO OUT IN JOY

Departure becomes:

Celebration.

Spiritual Principle

God’s salvation moves people:

Forward.

XCVIII. LED IN PEACE

The Shepherding theme remains.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s guidance does not end when the prison door opens.

XCIX. MOUNTAINS SING

Creation:

Responds.

Spiritual Principle

Redemption is:

Cosmic in scope.

C. TREES CLAP

Poetic praise.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When grace transforms the landscape, creation becomes Isaiah’s congregation.

CI. THORNS REPLACED

Curse imagery:

Reversed.

Spiritual Principle

God transforms:

The fruit of brokenness.

CII. MYRTLE INSTEAD OF BRIER

Beauty replaces:

Pain.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s restoration is not merely subtraction; it is holy replacement.

CIII. FOR GOD’S RENOWN

Glory.

Spiritual Principle

The transformed field becomes:

Testimony.

CIV. EVERLASTING SIGN

Visible evidence of:

Divine faithfulness.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s restoration becomes a signpost pointing future generations back to Him.

CV. ISAIAH 54 AND ISAIAH 55

Isaiah 54

God promises:

A covenant of peace.

Isaiah 55

God invites people to:

Enter covenant blessing.

Key Truth

Isaiah 54 announces the covenant; Isaiah 55 opens the invitation.

CVI. ISAIAH 53–55

Isaiah 53

The Servant:

Pays.

Isaiah 54

Peace:

Promised.

Isaiah 55

Salvation:

Offered freely.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The gospel movement is visible: sacrifice accomplished, peace secured, invitation extended.

CVII. ISAIAH 55 AND JOHN 7

Isaiah:

> **“Come, all you who are thirsty.”**

Jesus:

> **“If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink.”**

Key Truth

Jesus places Himself at the center of Isaiah’s invitation to the thirsty.

CVIII. ISAIAH 55 AND REVELATION 22

Isaiah begins:

> **“Come.”**

Revelation ends:

> **“Come.”**

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Bible’s final invitation echoes the prophetic invitation: thirsty people are still welcome to receive living water freely.

CIX. ISAIAH 55 AND ACTS 13

The faithful mercies promised to:

David.

Are connected by Paul with:

Christ’s resurrection.

Spiritual Principle

The covenant reaches its messianic fulfillment in:

Jesus.

CX. ISAIAH 55 AND EVANGELISM

Come.

Seek.

Call.

Turn.

These are:

Evangelistic words.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s grace is free, but the invitation still calls for personal response.

CXI. ISAIAH 55 AND REPENTANCE

Repentance involves:

Way.

Thought.

Direction.

Key Truth

Biblical repentance is comprehensive: the sinner turns from false conduct and false thinking toward the merciful Lord.

CXII. ISAIAH 55 AND FORGIVENESS

The context of verses 8–9 matters.

God’s higher ways include:

His remarkable willingness to pardon.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Do not quote “My ways are higher” only when life is confusing; remember that in Isaiah 55 God’s higher way is also astonishing mercy toward repentant sinners.

CXIII. ISAIAH 55 AND THE WORD OF GOD

Rain:

Falls.

Produces.

Returns only after:

Purpose.

God’s Word:

Goes out.

Accomplishes.

Succeeds.

Spiritual Principle

Scripture is:

Effective.

CXIV. ISAIAH 55 AND CREATION

Rain.

Snow.

Earth.

Seed.

Bread.

Mountains.

Hills.

Trees.

Thorns.

Myrtle.

The whole chapter is full of:

Creation imagery.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Isaiah uses creation to show that grace is life-giving, fruitful, joyful, and transformative.

CXV. TEN GREAT CONTRASTS IN ISAIAH 55

1. Thirst → Living Water

2. No Money → Free Grace

3. False Bread → True Satisfaction

4. Death → Life

5. Distance → Seeking the Near Lord

6. Wickedness → Mercy

7. Sin → Abundant Pardon

8. Human Thoughts → God’s Higher Thoughts

9. Dry Earth → Fruitful Rain

10. Thorns → Beautiful Growth

Key Truth

Isaiah 55 presents salvation as God’s answer to every form of spiritual emptiness: thirst, hunger, guilt, confusion, barrenness, and curse are answered by grace, pardon, revelation, fruitfulness, peace, and joy.

CXVI. TWELVE GREAT LESSONS FROM ISAIAH 55

1. Salvation Is Free

Principle:

The thirsty are invited without money and without price.

2. False Satisfaction Is Costly

Principle:

People spend heavily on things that cannot feed the soul.

3. Listening Leads to Life

Principle:

God’s voice brings true nourishment.

4. God’s Covenant Is Everlasting

Principle:

His faithful promise to David reaches forward into messianic salvation.

5. God’s Salvation Reaches the Nations

Principle:

Covenant grace expands beyond Israel.

6. Seek God While Opportunity Is Present

Principle:

Grace must not be answered with endless delay.

7. Repentance Involves Ways and Thoughts

Principle:

God calls for outward and inward turning.

8. God Pardons Freely

Principle:

Mercy is more abundant than repentant sinners expect.

9. God’s Wisdom Is Higher

Principle:

Trust Him beyond the limits of human understanding.

10. God’s Word Always Accomplishes Its Purpose

Principle:

Divine speech is never empty.

11. Salvation Produces Joy and Peace

Principle:

The redeemed are led forward in celebration.

12. God Transforms the Landscape of Life

Principle:

Thorns can give way to fruitful beauty for His glory.

CXVII. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR PERSONAL STUDY

Question 1

Who is invited in verse 1?

Everyone who is thirsty.

Question 2

What do they need to bring?

No money.

Question 3

What does this teach about salvation?

It is received as a gift, not purchased.

Question 4

What does God ask in verse 2?

Why people spend money and labor on what does not satisfy.

Question 5

What should people do instead?

Listen carefully to God and receive what truly nourishes.

Question 6

What happens when people listen and come?

Their souls live.

Question 7

What covenant does God promise?

An everlasting covenant connected with His faithful love promised to David.

Question 8

How far does the covenant blessing extend?

To nations and peoples.

Question 9

When should people seek the Lord?

While He may be found.

Question 10

What should the wicked forsake?

Their ways.

Question 11

What should the unrighteous forsake?

Their thoughts.

Question 12

Where should they turn?

To the Lord.

Question 13

What will God show them?

Mercy.

Question 14

What will He do with their sin?

Freely pardon.

Question 15

How do God’s thoughts compare with ours?

They are higher.

Question 16

How do God’s ways compare with ours?

They are higher.

Question 17

What natural image illustrates God’s Word?

Rain and snow watering the earth.

Question 18

What does rain produce?

Growth, seed, and bread.

Question 19

What does God say His Word will never do?

Return empty.

Question 20

What will His Word accomplish?

The purpose for which He sends it.

Question 21

How will the redeemed go out?

In joy.

Question 22

How will they be led?

In peace.

Question 23

How does creation respond?

Mountains and hills sing, and trees clap their hands.

Question 24

What replaces thorns?

The pine tree.

Question 25

What replaces briers?

The myrtle.

Question 26

What is the purpose of this transformation?

The Lord’s renown and an everlasting sign.

Question 27

How does Isaiah 55 connect with Isaiah 53?

The salvation offered freely in Isaiah 55 rests naturally after the costly work of the suffering Servant.

Question 28

What is one of the strongest gospel themes in the chapter?

Salvation is freely offered to the spiritually thirsty.

CXVIII. PERSONAL APPLICATION

Isaiah 55 asks several searching questions.

What Am I Thirsty For?

Approval?

Money?

Success?

Pleasure?

Control?

God?

Where Am I Trying to Drink?

Broken cisterns?

Or:

Living water?

What Am I Spending My Life On?

Is it:

Bread?

Or:

Something that cannot satisfy?

What consumes:

My time?

My labor?

My attention?

My money?

My thoughts?

Am I listening carefully to:

God?

Have I received salvation as:

Gift?

Or am I still trying to:

Earn it?

Am I resting in the everlasting covenant fulfilled through:

Christ?

Do I care about:

The nations?

Am I responding to God:

Now?

Or continually saying:

Later?

Is there a wicked way I need to:

Forsake?

Is there an unrighteous thought pattern I need to:

Reject?

Have I truly:

Turned to the Lord?

Do I believe God is willing to:

Pardon me?

Freely?

Have I made my understanding:

The standard God must meet?

Can I trust His:

Higher ways?

Do I believe Scripture will accomplish:

God’s purpose?

Even when I do not immediately see:

Results?

Am I allowing God’s Word to:

Water.

Grow.

Produce.

In me?

Is my salvation producing:

Joy?

Peace?

What thorny area of my life needs:

Transformation?

Is my life becoming a sign of:

God’s renown?

CXIX. A CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“Stop Paying for What Cannot Feed You When God Is Offering What Satisfies for Free”

Humanity often:

Pays dearly.

For emptiness.

God offers:

Life.

Without price.

Principle:

Sin is expensive and unsatisfying; grace is free and life-giving.

CXX. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“The Qualification for Living Water Is Thirst, Not Wealth”

You do not need:

Money.

Status.

Achievement.

Religious merit.

Principle:

The empty-handed sinner is exactly the person grace invites to come.

CXXI. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“God’s Higher Ways Include Higher Mercy”

The sinner says:

I cannot be forgiven.

Others say:

That person should never be forgiven.

God says:

Return.

I will:

Pardon.

Principle:

Never use human limits on mercy to define the heart of the God who says His thoughts are higher.

CXXII. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“The Word Does Not Return Empty”

Preach it.

Teach it.

Read it.

Believe it.

Live it.

Principle:

We are responsible to faithfully release God’s Word; God remains responsible for accomplishing His purpose through it.

CXXIII. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“Grace Does Not Merely Remove Thorns—It Plants Something Better”

God replaces:

Thorn.

With:

Tree.

Brier.

With:

Myrtle.

Principle:

Redemption is not only the removal of what destroys; it is the creation of what gives life and brings glory to God.

CXXIV. THE FREE INVITATION

Come.

Spiritual Principle

God is:

Welcoming.

CXXV. THE THIRSTY

Need recognized.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

You do not have to pretend you are full before coming to the One who offers water.

CXXVI. NO MONEY

Human inability:

Acknowledged.

Spiritual Principle

Grace begins where:

Self-payment ends.

CXXVII. FREE WINE AND MILK

Rich supply.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God does not invite starving souls to an empty table.

CXXVIII. FALSE BREAD

Looks nourishing.

Fails.

Spiritual Principle

Counterfeits exist because:

Real hunger exists.

CXXIX. WASTED LABOR

Striving.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Some exhaustion comes not from doing too much, but from chasing what can never satisfy.

CXXX. SOUL ABUNDANCE

True fullness.

Spiritual Principle

God feeds the:

Inner person.

CXXXI. LISTEN AND LIVE

Hearing connects with:

Life.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Sometimes spiritual death continues because people keep speaking to themselves instead of listening to God.

CXXXII. DAVIDIC COVENANT

Promise carries:

History.

Spiritual Principle

The gospel rests on:

God’s faithfulness.

CXXXIII. WITNESS TO PEOPLES

The king testifies:

Truth.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Messiah rules and reveals.

CXXXIV. COMMANDER OF NATIONS

Royal authority.

Spiritual Principle

The covenant King possesses:

Global reach.

CXXXV. NATIONS HASTEN

God glorifies:

His chosen one.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God can turn strangers into seekers.

CXXXVI. SEEK WHILE FOUND

Opportunity:

Present.

Spiritual Principle

Do not waste:

Grace.

CXXXVII. CALL WHILE NEAR

Response:

Urgent.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Conviction should become prayer before it becomes another forgotten moment.

CXXXVIII. FORSAKE WICKED WAYS

Turn from:

Behavior.

Spiritual Principle

Repentance is:

Visible.

CXXXIX. FORSAKE UNRIGHTEOUS THOUGHTS

Turn from:

Mental rebellion.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God wants more than cleaner actions; He wants renewed thinking.

CXL. TURN TO THE LORD

Destination:

God.

Spiritual Principle

Repentance ends at:

Relationship.

CXLI. MERCY WAITS

God receives:

Returners.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The road of repentance does not end at humiliation; it ends at mercy.

CXLII. FREE PARDON

No stinginess.

Spiritual Principle

God forgives:

Generously.

CXLIII. THOUGHTS HIGHER

Infinite mind.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God does not need our advice before He can govern wisely.

CXLIV. WAYS HIGHER

Infinite wisdom.

Spiritual Principle

Trust goes where understanding:

Stops.

CXLV. RAIN AND SNOW

Heaven-sent provision.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God sends what the earth cannot manufacture for itself.

CXLVI. WATERING

Quiet work.

Spiritual Principle

Transformation may be:

Gradual.

CXLVII. BUDDING

Early evidence.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Do not despise the first green shoot produced by God’s Word.

CXLVIII. FLOURISHING

Maturity.

Spiritual Principle

The Word aims at:

Fruit.

CXLIX. SEED

Future.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

What God grows today can become what someone plants tomorrow.

CL. BREAD

Present sustenance.

Spiritual Principle

The Word feeds:

Now.

CLI. WORD GOES OUT

Movement.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s Word is never passive when He sends it.

CLII. WORD RETURNS

Mission completed.

Spiritual Principle

God’s speech is:

Effective.

CLIII. ACCOMPLISHES DESIRE

God’s will:

Done.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

No human resistance can force God’s Word to fail its divine purpose.

CLIV. JOYFUL DEPARTURE

Captivity ends:

Joyfully.

Spiritual Principle

Grace changes the:

Exit.

CLV. PEACEFUL LEADING

No panic.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Shepherd does not merely open the gate; He leads the flock out.

CLVI. MOUNTAINS SING

Creation joins:

Praise.

Spiritual Principle

Salvation affects more than:

Individuals.

CLVII. TREES CLAP

Poetry celebrates:

Restoration.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Isaiah makes creation worship because ordinary language is not enough for the joy of redemption.

CLVIII. THORNBUSH REPLACED

Curse imagery:

Removed.

Spiritual Principle

Grace changes what grows.

CLIX. MYRTLE GROWS

Beauty emerges.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God can grow something beautiful where pain had rooted itself.

CLX. LORD’S RENOWN

Final purpose:

Glory.

Spiritual Principle

Restoration points upward.

CLXI. ISAIAH 55 AS A GOSPEL CHAPTER

Come.

Water.

No money.

Listen.

Live.

Seek.

Turn.

Mercy.

Pardon.

Key Truth

Isaiah 55 presents salvation as a free divine invitation received through responsive faith and repentance.

CLXII. ISAIAH 55 AS A REPENTANCE CHAPTER

Forsake.

Turn.

Seek.

Call.

Spiritual Principle

Grace and repentance are not:

Enemies.

Grace creates the possibility and invitation to:

Return.

CLXIII. ISAIAH 55 AS A WORD-OF-GOD CHAPTER

God speaks.

People listen.

Rain illustrates.

Word accomplishes.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The chapter begins with an invitation from God’s mouth and ends with creation transformed by the effect of God’s purpose.

CLXIV. ISAIAH 55 AS A MISSIONARY CHAPTER

Peoples.

Nations.

Unknown nations.

Worldwide movement.

Spiritual Principle

The gospel invitation is:

Expansive.

CLXV. ISAIAH 55 AS A CREATION-RESTORATION CHAPTER

Water.

Earth.

Rain.

Snow.

Seed.

Bread.

Mountains.

Trees.

Thorns.

Myrtle.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Creator who saves souls also promises transformation so extensive that the landscape itself becomes part of the testimony.

CLXVI. TEN GREAT MOVEMENTS IN ISAIAH 55

1. The Thirsty Are Invited

Salvation is offered freely.

2. False Satisfaction Is Exposed

Human labor cannot feed the soul.

3. The Everlasting Covenant Is Announced

God’s faithful Davidic promise stands.

4. The Nations Are Summoned

The covenant reaches beyond Israel.

5. Sinners Are Urged to Seek God

Grace has urgency.

6. The Wicked Are Called to Repent

Ways and thoughts must change.

7. God Promises Abundant Pardon

Mercy greets the returning sinner.

8. God’s Higher Wisdom Is Declared

His thoughts and ways exceed ours.

9. God’s Effective Word Is Celebrated

It accomplishes every purpose for which He sends it.

10. Redemption Ends in Joyful Restoration

Creation sings as thorns give way to beauty.

Key Truth

Isaiah 55 moves from thirst to satisfaction, guilt to pardon, human limitation to divine wisdom, dry ground to fruitful rain, and thorn-covered barrenness to joyful restoration through the free grace, faithful covenant, and unfailing Word of God.

CLXVII. FINAL APPLICATION

Isaiah 55 begins with:

> **“Come.”**

Not:

Clean yourself up first.

Not:

Earn enough.

Not:

Pay enough.

Not:

Become worthy.

Come.

Who?

The:

Thirsty.

The one without:

Money.

The hungry.

The empty.

That means spiritual poverty is not:

A barrier to grace.

Pride is a greater barrier than:

Poverty.

Then God asks:

“Why spend money on what is not bread?”

That question reaches into:

Modern life.

How much do people spend:

Trying to feel whole?

How many hours are invested in:

Things that disappear?

How much emotional energy goes into:

Approval?

Success?

Pleasure?

Possessions?

Status?

Recognition?

And after all of it:

Still thirsty.

Still hungry.

Still empty.

God says:

Listen to:

Me.

Then:

“Your soul may live.”

God does not merely offer:

Religion.

He offers:

Life.

Then He speaks of:

An everlasting covenant.

The promise to David.

A King.

A Witness.

A Leader.

A Commander.

And nations begin:

Coming.

The invitation keeps:

Expanding.

Then:

“Seek the Lord while He may be found.”

Do not postpone:

Grace.

Do not assume:

Tomorrow.

If God is:

Calling.

Convicting.

Drawing.

Respond:

Now.

Then comes:

Repentance.

Forsake:

The way.

Forsake:

The thought.

Return to:

The Lord.

And what will you find?

Not:

A reluctant God.

Not:

A closed door.

Not:

A small amount of mercy.

But:

“He will freely pardon.”

Then God says:

“My thoughts are not your thoughts.”

Sometimes we use this verse only when:

Something bad happens.

We say:

God’s ways are higher.

True.

But look at the context.

The sinner turns.

God:

Pardons.

Maybe God’s thoughts are higher partly because:

His mercy is greater than ours.

You may say:

I cannot forgive myself.

God says:

Return.

You may say:

I am too far gone.

God says:

Return.

You may say:

Too much sin.

God says:

I freely pardon.

Then God compares His Word with:

Rain.

Rain does not fall for:

Nothing.

It waters:

Earth.

Produces:

Seed.

Produces:

Bread.

So God’s Word:

Works.

Maybe you have:

Preached it.

Taught it.

Shared it.

Prayed it.

Read it.

And wondered:

Is anything happening?

God says:

My Word does not return:

Empty.

It will accomplish:

My purpose.

Then the chapter ends with:

Joy.

Peace.

Mountains:

Singing.

Trees:

Clapping.

Thorns:

Gone.

Myrtle:

Growing.

What a movement.

The thirsty become:

Satisfied.

The wicked become:

Pardoned.

The dry earth becomes:

Fruitful.

The captive becomes:

Joyful.

The thorny field becomes:

Beautiful.

That is:

Grace.

And all of it becomes:

“For the Lord’s renown.”

So when your soul is thirsty:

Come.

When false bread disappoints:

Come.

When you have nothing to pay:

Come.

When guilt says stay away:

Seek.

When sin has taken you down the wrong road:

Turn.

When you think forgiveness cannot reach you:

Remember God’s thoughts are higher.

When Scripture seems to produce no immediate result:

Remember the rain.

When the field looks covered in thorns:

Remember what God can plant instead.

And above everything:

Stop spending your life trying to purchase what God offers:

Freely.

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for Your invitation:

> **“Come.”**

Thank You that You invite:

The thirsty.

The hungry.

The empty.

The poor.

Those who cannot:

Pay.

Father, forgive us for spending:

Time.

Energy.

Money.

Attention.

Emotion.

On things that cannot satisfy.

Turn us away from:

Broken cisterns.

False bread.

Empty promises.

Bring us again to:

Living water.

Feed our souls with:

What is good.

Teach us to delight in:

You.

Father, thank You for Your:

Everlasting covenant.

Thank You for Your faithfulness to:

David.

Thank You for the King who fulfills Your saving promises:

Jesus Christ.

Thank You that Your salvation reaches:

The nations.

Father, help us seek You:

Now.

Call on You:

Now.

Repent:

Now.

Do not let us hide behind:

Tomorrow.

Show us every wicked:

Way.

Every unrighteous:

Thought.

Give us grace to:

Forsake.

Turn.

Return.

Thank You that You have:

Mercy.

Thank You that You:

Freely pardon.

Father, when we cannot understand:

Your ways—

Help us trust:

Your wisdom.

When we question:

Your mercy—

Remind us Your thoughts are:

Higher.

When we see only:

Dry ground—

Send Your Word like:

Rain.

Let Your truth:

Water.

Grow.

Produce.

Feed.

Father, give us confidence that Your Word never returns:

Empty.

Help us preach it:

Faithfully.

Teach it:

Carefully.

Read it:

Hungrily.

Believe it:

Deeply.

Live it:

Consistently.

Father, lead us forth in:

Joy.

Lead us in:

Peace.

Replace:

Thorns.

Briers.

Barrenness.

With:

Life.

Beauty.

Fruitfulness.

Let every transformed place become:

A testimony.

For:

Your renown.

And may our lives become an everlasting sign that:

Your grace satisfies.

Your mercy pardons.

Your Word succeeds.

Your salvation restores.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Key Verse

> **"Seek the Lord while He may be found; call on Him while He is near." — Isaiah 55:6**

Central Truth

The Lord freely invites every spiritually thirsty and empty person to come without money and receive life, extends His everlasting covenant through the Davidic promise to the nations, calls sinners to seek Him and turn from wicked ways and thoughts, promises abundant mercy and pardon, reveals that His wisdom is infinitely higher than human understanding, guarantees that His Word will accomplish its purpose, and transforms the redeemed into people of joy, peace, fruitfulness, and testimony for His glory.

Isaiah 55 in One Sentence

Isaiah invites the thirsty and empty to receive God's salvation freely without price, exposes the futility of seeking satisfaction apart from Him, announces an everlasting covenant rooted in God's faithful promise to David and extended to the nations, calls sinners urgently to seek the Lord and repent with the assurance of abundant pardon, declares God's thoughts and ways infinitely higher than ours, compares His effective Word to life-giving rain, and concludes with redeemed people going out in joy and peace as creation itself is transformed for the everlasting renown of the Lord.