

Isaiah 56
God's Open Door

Keeping the Sabbath (1-8) – entering into His rest (Matthew 11:28-30)

Our rest is found in Jesus

Revealing His righteousness (1-2)

A righteousness from God by faith!

Salvation is near (Romans 13:11-14) – ***wake up, we are getting closer.***

Sabbath must be held fast (Hebrews 4:1-10) – ***not the 7th day or the promised land, but having faith in Jesus.***

Remain true to His covenant (3-5) – for all (Romans 10:13/Colossians 2:13/I John 2:2)

Jesus has done it all, we must trust Him for everything.

Complaining about your circumstances (I Corinthians 10:10/Philippians 2:14-15)

Choosing what pleases the LORD (Ephesians 5:10) – ***thankfully following Him.***

Changed by His power – given a place and an everlasting name (Jn 14:3/Rv 2:17)

New creatures with a new home given a new name (His name, Eph 3:14)

Ready to receive ALL people (Acts 11:17-18)

Including the Gentiles, including the rejected, and including me.

Bound to loving and serving the LORD (Exodus 21:5-6/Romans 1:1) - ***slaves***

Brought to His holy mountain (Isaiah 2:3) – ***before His presence***

Burnt offerings upon His altar (A house of prayer for all nations) – (Mt. 21:13)

For us, living sacrifices – those seeking to give not gain.

Knowledge is lacking among the watchmen (9-12)

How can you sound the warning when you don't know what you are warning against?

Devoured by beast – no alarm given (Revelation 19:10)

The beast of this world will devour those who ignore prophecy.

Dreamers – watchmen without knowledge (Jeremiah 23:28/Hosea 4:5-6)

Driven by their own imaginations and desires.

Blind leading the blind (Matthew 15:14) - ***those who can't see (II Cor. 4:4)***

Bark is broken – no warning of coming judgment (Lamentations 2:14)

Our message must turn others away from sin. (Acts 26:20)

Dogs with mighty appetites

Those seeking to satisfy their own fleshly desires.

Satisfaction never comes (Ecclesiastes 5:10) – ***only Jesus can satisfy!***

Shepherds without understanding (Ezekiel 34:1-10) – ***leaders who do not understand their role.***

Drink and be merry – tomorrow will be even better (Micah 2:11 / I Corinthians 15:32-33)

If this world is all we have, this would be hopeful counsel. But Jesus offer us so much more. (John 10:10)

Discussion questions for Isaiah 56

What is required for a New Testament believer to stay true to the Sabbath? (Luke 6:2-5 / Romans 14:5-8 / Colossians 2:16-17 / Hebrews 4:1-10 / Hebrews 10:24-25)

Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath! He is the fulfillment of what the Sabbath represented. Each person must be convinced of what he believes about certain Days being more holy than others, and that person must follow his conscience. However, Hebrews chapter four tells of a greater Sabbath than the 7th day or the promised land. This Sabbath is for every day, giving our lives to Jesus and entering into His rest. We must remember, however, that we are not to give up the habit of gathering together as His church.

What evidence would indicate that someone is remaining true to the covenant they have entered with the Lord Jesus Christ. (John 13:14-17; 34-35; 14:15 / II Corinthians 11:2-4 / I Thessalonians 1:9-10; 2:13) ***They would be characterized by their servant attitude and be filled with genuine love for others. They would desire to obey the teachings of Jesus because of their love for Him. They would remain true to God's word, not turning to a different Jesus, a different gospel, or a different Spirit. They would turn their hearts toward God and thus rid their lives of idols. They would look and long for the blessed hope of His return. And they would accept His word as the rule and guide by which they would live their lives.***

What are the signs of a false teachers? (Matthew 23:4-5, 11-12, 23-24, 28 / Acts 20:29-30 / II Corinthians 2:17; 4:2 / I Thessalonians 2:3-6 / II Timothy 4:3-4 / II Peter 2:1, 3, 10, 15, 18-19 / Jude 4, 8, 16, 19) ***They seek to be exalted rather than to serve others. They can be zealous for religious activities while missing the more important aspects of caring for and loving others. They can look good on the outside, but what is truly in their hearts comes through (Mt. 12:33-35). They seek others to follow themselves rather than point people to follow Jesus. They distort the truth. They seek personal gain from the gospel. They practice deception, following secret and shameful ways. They are looking for praise from men (Gal. 1:10) spreading error because their motives are not pure. They turn from the truth of God's word and instead teach the ideas that men will find appealing. They introduce heretical ideas even to the point of denying the Sovereign Lord. They exploit other by making up stories. They are led by their sinful nature and despise authority (they must be in charge). They promise freedom, encouraging other to follow their sinful desires which only leads to slavery. They are critical of others, grumbling and finding fault in them in order to flatter themselves.***

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