

Isaiah 54

(Part #2)

Introduction:

1) We looked at verses 1-9 last weekend.

a. This was given when the church was started, so the chapter starts out in agreement with that.

**b. V. 1 - real spiritual reproduction hadn't taken place yet.
- but yet there is a posture and attitude of faith that we were to take right from the beginning.....**

V. 2-3 - continues on the posture or the way we are suppose to set our hearts and faith toward the future and what God is wanting to do.

It's an attitude that embraces growth and advancement.

c. V. 4-8 are talking about what a person is like in that dying / death process. They've messed up, gotten away from God in some area(s), and are needing to die to some things in their old nature before they can have God's kind of 'Life'.

++++ God's heart is revealed here. This is how he feels toward people that have messed up, gotten away from him, and now he's pulling them back.

- d. In a nutshell let me say > he's expressing his overwhelming Love and Compassion that is moving him to get involved with our life and do something about our mess.

2) Which brought us to v. 10:

III. Isaiah 54:10-17

Isaiah 54:10 (NIV)

[10] Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

A. So now we know for a fact that the name LORD is most likely Jehovah - the God of Covenant.

B. The question..... - what do I need to do to get in and establish this covenant that is being offered to me?

1. Last week I gave you 1/2 of it: Die to you old nature.

2. But I need to give you the other 1/2.

> Best way to do that is let you see the picture of how a covenant is formed in that culture.

> Handout on these steps with the scriptures showing them is online.

C. Steps to Covenant.

- 1. The two people making covenant ALWAYS KNEW EACH OTHER VERY WELL.**
- 2. They would meet in a public area like a field or courtyard. The purpose was so that THE COVENANT WOULD NOT BE A PRIVATE / SECRET MATTER. I usually included a GROUP OF WITNESSES.**
- 3. Then they would exchange robes. This signified an IDENTITY EXCHANGE. They were no longer their own person. They had lost their individual identity and had now taken on each other's identity.**
- 4. Next they would exchange what was called the girdle or the belt. (This was used to carry the weapons). This signified an EXCHANGE OF STRENGTHS.**
- 5. Then the weapons were exchanged. Signifying A COMMON UNITY AGAINST THE ENEMIES OF EITHER PARTY. It also signified that THE TWO WERE BECOME ONE IN PURPOSE FOR LIFE.**
- 6. Then an animal was killed and split in half. The pieces were arranged so the two people making covenant could walk around and between the pieces in a figure 8 fashion. This was called the walk of death. It signified that EACH PERSON WAS DYING TO WHAT THEY WERE - THEIR DESIRES, GOALS, AMBITIONS, AND ANYTHING ELSE THAT WOULD EVER CAUSE ANY TYPE OF CONFLICT BETWEEN THEM, or hinder**

them from walking in complete harmony and becoming one.

- 7. Then while standing between the pieces, each person would cut their wrist or hand and these would be joined in a symbol of mingling the blood with each other. This was the heart of establishing or cutting a blood covenant and it SYMBOLIZED BECOMING ONE.**
- 8. They would take ground / mud (sometimes gunpowder) and place it into the cut. This would cause a very definite scar. This was a LASTING SIGN OF THE COVENANT, AND AN OUTWARD EVIDENCE THAT THE PERSON WITH THE SCAR WAS IN COVENANT WITH SOMEONE.**
- 9. While standing in the dead pieces, BLESSINGS WOULD BE SPOKEN as a result of fulfilling the covenant. And CURSES WERE ALSO SPOKEN which would take affect if the covenant was every broken.**
- 10. Then they would exchange names. This further signified THE EXCHANGE OF IDENTITIES AND THE BECOMING ONE.**
- 11. A Covenant meal was eaten. This signified each person was TAKING THE OTHER INTO THEIR VERY BEING / LIFE. BECOMING ONE.**
- 12. From that point on they were know as FRIENDS. This term signified that a BLOOD COVENANT / RELATIONSHIP HAD BEEN FORMED.**

D. God is calling us into the Blood Covenant that was cut for us by Jesus.

- 1. To establish covenant as a living relationship you are involved with God in:**
 - a. You need to take on who he is and switch identities. (Christ living through us - Gal. 2:20)**
 - b. To do that we need to die to who we are in our flesh / old nature and who we are. (Romans 6-8)**

+++++ That's how you get an established covenant relationship between yourself and God.

+++++ That's what he's calling us to in this chapter.

Isaiah 54:10 (NIV)

[10] Though the mountains be shaken and the hills be removed, yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed," says the LORD, who has compassion on you.

A. "Mountains and Hills"

- 1. Literal mountains and hills.**

B. "Removed"

- 1. "Fail; move; slip"**

C. "Unfailing Love". (Kindness - KJV)

1. (H2617 - checed)

> Also translated 'Loving Kindness'

> It speaks of a Kindness that is moved / driven with an over-whelming feeling of love.

2. A reason I go with Jehovah in this chapter.

> Covenant Love does not fail.

D. "Shaken"

1. "Move, depart"

E. "Covenant"

1. Speaks of a literal Covenant

2. Another reason I go with Jehovah.

F. "Peace"

1. Shalom

> "Rest, Favor, Health, Welfare, Prosperity, Safety"

G. "Removed"

1. "Fail, move, slip"

2. Same word used in the beginning of the verse for the stability of the mountains and hills.

H. "Compassion"

1. (H7355)

a primitive root; to fondle; by implication, to love, especially to compassionate:--have compassion (on, upon), love, (find, have, obtain, shew) mercy(-iful, on, upon), (have) pity, Ruhamah, X surely.

[11] "O afflicted city, lashed by storms and not comforted, I will build you with stones of turquoise, your foundations with sapphires.

- A. "Afflicted City". (NIV). (KJV - "Oh Thou Afflicted")
(Amp - "Oh you afflicted [city])
>> "City" - a group of people together (Rhema - W/L)**

(H6714) - Zondervan's

"Needy, poor, afflicted, oppressed, often referring to a class of persons of low status and lacking resources"

- 1. Describes the people of v. 4-8.**
- 2. In the application to W/L, the resources that are typically low or lacking is: information. ('How To')**

B. "Lashed". (#6192)

- 1. "To grow stormier; rougher and rougher; swirl;"**

C. "Storms". (#6192)

- 1. "Violent, Turbulent, Whirlwind"
"To grow stormier; rougher and rougher, swirl"**

D. Not "Comforted". (#5714)

1. "To be comforted; consoled; to get relief"
"To relent, change one's mind;

E. "Build". (#8069)

1. "To be caused to be built or layer"
"To make lie down; cause to rest"

F. "Stones". (#74)

1. "Construction material; A stone"
2. The material used to build a church is: people.
> 1 Peter 2:4-5

G. "Turquoise". (NIV)

- > "Stones with fair colors" (KJV)
- > "Stones in fair colors" (Amp)

1. "Stones"

(H68) - Strong's

from the root of 1129 through the meaning to build; a stone:--+ carbuncle, + mason, + plummet, (chalk-, hail-, head-, sling-)stone(-ny), (divers) weight(-s).

Construction material; A stone"

2. "Fair Colors"

(H6320) - Strong's

from an unused root meaning to paint; dye (specifically, stibium for the eyes):--fair colours, glistening, paint(-ed) (-ing).

Young's

"Red Ore, Stibium, Ruby"

Brown-Driver-Briggs

"Dark cement setting off precious stones"

Dake's Reference Bible

"The reference seems to be to material that will be used as cement in laying the building stones."

3. Another reference said:

"Appoint, Make, Put, Set"

++++ This is talking about the material that takes the people who are described in v. 4-8 - and put them, set them, into their appointed place in what he is building.

People have literally been appointed, put in place, Set into this church - by Jehovah himself - like a mason.

("I will build you with stones" > people)

H. "Foundations" (#3569) >>> From the Bottom of the Building.

1. "To lay a foundation"

I. "Sapphires". (#6209)

1. The color of sapphire and the stone is usually referring to God and his position as ruler; and the nearness of his presence.

- a. Ex. 24:10 - When Moses and the elders saw God, he was standing on Sapphire.
- b. Ex. 28:18; 39:11 - one of the stones in the breast plate was Sapphire.
- c. Ezekiel 1:26; 10:1 - God's throne is made of Sapphire.
- d. Rev. 21:19 - Foundation of the New Jerusalem has Sapphire in it.

+++++ The foundations that W/L stands on and is being built out of -- is people who understand and have engaged with almighty God's Rulership and his Presence depicted in his throne scene. (The color sapphire)

Again the Picture is Covenant:

- > God's Presence: Our taking on His Identity.
- > God's Rulership: Our dying to the old nature/flesh.

[12] I will make your battlements of rubies, (KJV - "windows of agates") your gates of sparkling jewels, and all your walls of precious stones.

A. "Battlements" (NIV). "Windows". (KJV)

>>> Now we're looking at the Top of the Building.

(#9087 - 'Battlements') - Zondervan's

1. "Sun, sunset, sunrise, battlements, in broad daylight"

(H8121 - 'Windows') - Strong's

from an unused root meaning to be brilliant; the sun; by implication, the east; figuratively, a ray, i.e. (arch.) a notched battlement:---+ east side(-ward), sun ((rising)), + west(-ward), window. See also 1053.

2. "Windows" - "Battlements" are places of exposure.
> Describe what they look like on a fort.

3. It speaks of:

: those who are in the light, easily seen.

: those people who help protect and take care of the area's where we as a church can be open to or exposed to attack.

:the ones who from a higher position defend us from an attack.

+++++ What are these people to be like? We don't just allow anyone to be in these positions.

B. "Rubies" (NIV). "Agates". (KJV)
"Sparkling Agates or Rubies". (Amp)

1. (H3539 - Agate) - Strong's

"from the same as 3537 in the sense of striking fire from a metal forged [*sparks are emitted*]; a sparkling gem, probably the ruby:--agate."

(3905 - Rubies) - Zondervan's

"Ruby (exact identification unknown)"

(Agate) - Dake's Bible

"a class of solicitous, pellucid gems of many varieties, consisting of Quartz-crystal, flint, chalcedony, amethyst, jasper, and cornelian, variegated with dots, zones, filaments, and various figures. They are esteemed the least valuable of all the precious stones"

(Agate) - Wikipedia

"Agate /'æɡət/ is a cryptocrystalline variety of silica, chiefly chalcedony, characterised by its fineness of grain and brightness of color. Although agates may be found in various kinds of rock, they are classically associated with volcanic rocks and can be common in certain metamorphic rocks."

2. Do you see it?

- a. Agates, or flint create sparks. They can light fires.**
- b. They are Pellucid. (One definition: Semi-Pellucid)**

'Pellucid'. (Webster)

- 1: admitting maximum passage of light without diffusion or distortion <a pellucid stream>**
- 2: reflecting light evenly from all surfaces**
- 3: easy to understand**

- c. They have no light in themselves.
They do not distort the light passing through them.
They reflect and enhance the light that passes....
They become very bright in color if the light**

**passing through them is strong.
They reflect light evenly. Not drawing attention to
one area more than another.
They are esteemed the least valuable of all the
precious stones. (Dake)**

- 3. The verse goes on to say:
>"Your gates of sparkling jewels"**

C. "Gates" (#9133) - Zondervan's

- 1. "Entrance to the city; key point for the cities defense;
a place for public hearings and decisions"**
- 2. Other reference material: "Gate; Remain; Be Left;
Remnant"**
- 3. The people who 'Remain' with us. 'Remnant'. They are
the Gates. They are also a key component for the
churches defense because they are out in the public
hearing and seeing decisions that are being made.**
- 4. What are these people like:**

D. "Sparkling Jewels".

- 1. KJV & Amp. >. 'Carbuncles'**
- 2. 'Carbuncle'**
 - a. A Stone of Brightness.**

b. Webster:

- "A little coal, gem > 'Carbo' - Coal"
- "Any of certain deep red gems"
(Yet very brilliant)

c. Webster: (Coal)

- "A black combustible mineral solid resulting from a partial decomposition of vegetable matter away from the air and under varying degrees of increased temperature and pressure"
- Coal is made primarily of Carbon.

d. Webster: (Diamond)

- a very hard usually colorless stone that is a form of carbon and is used especially in jewelry

Wikipedia:

Most natural diamonds are formed at high temperature and pressure at depths of 140 to 190 kilometers (87 to 118 mi) in the Earth's mantle. Carbon-containing minerals provide the carbon source, and the growth occurs over periods from 1 billion to 3.3 billion years (25% to 75% of the age of the Earth).

- +++++ They are the ones who have been formed by and endured a lot of heat and pressure in their lives.**
 - > It has changed them.**
 - > They are no longer the dirty, grimy, chunk of coal**
 - They have become diamonds.**

E. "Walls" (#1473). - Zondervan's

>>> Everyone in the Building from the walls outward.

- 1. "Territory, border, boundary, land, area, region, rim, limits"**

F. "Precious". (#2914) - Zondervan's

- 1. 'Delightful, Willing, Desireous, Pleasure'.**

> These are people who want to get involved.

> They are Desireous > you don't always have to convince them to do what's right, to get involved, and reward.....

> They are a Pleasure to work with.

G. "Stones" (H68) - Strong's

**from the root of 1129 through the meaning to build; a stone:--+ carbuncle, + mason, + plummet, (chalk-, hail-, head-, sling-)stone(-ny), (divers) weight(-s).
Construction material; A stone"**

- 2. The material used to build a church is: people.**

> 1 Peter 2:4-5

(PROJECTOR)

[13] All your sons will be taught by the LORD, and great will be your children's peace.

A. "Sons". (#1201)

- 1. "Child of either gender; descendent; offspring; children"**

B. "Taught". (#4341)

1. "A disciple; one who is taught; a follower; accustomed to; instructed; taught"

C. "Lord".

1. "Yahweh or Jehovah"

D. "Great"

1. "Abundant; much"

E. "Children's". (#1201 - same as above)

1. "Child of either gender, descendent, offspring; children"

F. "Peace"

1. Shalom

> "Rest, Favor, Health, Welfare, Prosperity, Safety"

[14] In righteousness you will be established: Tyranny will be far from you; you will have nothing to fear. Terror will be far removed; it will not come near you.

A. "Righteousness". (#7407)

1. "Acting according to a proper (God's) standard; doing what is right; innocence; justice; prosperity; vindication; honesty; integrity."

B. "Established". (#3922)

1. "Be established; be steadfast, be firm; be prepared; set in place; make secure; formed; set in order"

+++++ To be established in this church - God is going to push on you to stop living a sloppy, that's good enough type of Christian life >> and start doing it the Right Way.

+++++ There are rewards for that:

C. "Tyranny". (#6945 - Once in O.T.)

1. "Oppression; extortion; tyranny"

D. "Terror". (#4745)

1. "Ruin; undoing; terror; horror".
2. "Dissolution; destruction; dismaying". (Strong's)

E. "Removed". (Not in Hebrew)

"It shall not come near you / thee". (Amp & KJV)

[15] If anyone does attack you, it will not be my doing; whoever attacks you will surrender to you.

A. "Attack". "Attacks". (#1592)

1. "Attack; conspire; stir up"

B. "Surrender". (#5877)

1. "Fall; fail; cast down; fall down; bow down;"

+++++ Divine Protection.

[16] "See, it is I who created the blacksmith who fans the coals into flame and forges a weapon fit for its work. And it is I who have created the destroyer to work havoc;

A. "Created". (#1343 - both times in this scripture)

1. "Creator; refers to creating from nothing as well as reforming existing materials"

B. "Blacksmith". (#3093)

1. "Blacksmith; carpenter; stone-mason; gem-cutter; craftsmen"

C. "Coals". (#7073)

1. "Coal; charcoal"

D. "Flame". (#836)

1. "Fire; lightning; burn; burned up; burned to death"

E. "Forges". (#3655)

1. "To go out; come out; bring out; lead forth; produce; came out; went out; go out; marched out; escape;

go free; led out; sent out; burst out; led on military campaigns; move out; carry out; crawling out; departs; fight; flashed out; etc., etc."

F. "Weapon". (#3998)

- 1. "A general term that can be used of any object; Utensil; article; furnishings; weapons; instruments; armor; equipment; vessels"**

G. "Fit For". (#4200)

- 1. "To; toward; in; through; before; at; with; temporarily; until; when; logically; so that; in order to; by means of"**

H. "Work". (#5126)

- 1. "Work; Labor; Deed; Something made; something done; achievement"**

+++++ That's us!!! The stones, people, tools in the church.

I. "Created" - (same as above)

J. "Destroyer". (#5422)

- 1. "Destroyer; one who destroys; destruction; corruption"**

K. "Work havoc". (#2472)

- 1. "To act wickedly; to offend; to destroy; ruin; work havoc"**

+++++ Who.....? Ultimately Satan. God didn't create his sin,

but he created him.

- +++++ And the point we're suppose to get out of it is:
- > If we are under attack, it is not God's doing. (v. 15)
 - > There are 2 possible forces at work. (v. 16)
 - > God will protect us and deliver us from the evil force if we are in covenant with him. (v. 17)

[17] no weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and this is their vindication from me," declares the LORD.

A. "Weapon". (#3998)

1. Same as in verse 16 - above.

B. "Forged". (#3670)

1. "Formed; fashioned; shaped; created; usually from existing material"
 - > Same concept as the 'wolf' in the N.T.

C. "Against". (H6743 - Strong's)

or tsaleach {tsaw-lay'-akh}; a primitive root; to push forward, in various senses (literal or figurative, transitive or intransitive):--break out, come (mightily), go over, be good, be meet, be profitable, (cause to, effect, make to, send) prosper(-ity, -ous, - ously).

C. "Prevail". (#7503)

1. **"To prosper; avail; succeed; make success; thrive; achieve purpose"**

D. "Refute". (#8399)

1. **"To declare guilty; condemn; inflict punishment"**

E. "Accuses".

1. **"Rise in judgment"**

F. "Heritage". (#5709)

1. **"Inheritance; property; ancestral property"**

G. "Servants". (#5650 - Strong's)

1. **"Servants; worshippers of God". (BDBriggs)**

2. **Worship is the posture of Covenant.**

> We're talking of those sold out in Covenant.

H. "Vindication". (#7407) --- from God.

1. **"Righteousness; acting according to a proper (God's) standard; doing what is right; being in the right; justice; innocence; prosperity; vindication"**

I. "Lord"

1. **'Jehovah'. (The God of Covenant)**

"The Self-Existing or Eternal One who keeps Covenant and Fulfills Promises. A God Merciful and Gracious, Slow to Anger, and Abundant in Loving-Kindness and Truth."

