

The Saviour's Great Invitation to the World

Isaiah 55: 06–13

The invitation to seek the LORD

a. The danger:

Waiting too late

b. The person invited:

The wicked, evil person

1) He must repent

- Forsake his evil way
- Turn to the LORD

2) He will receive mercy
and forgiveness — freely

c. The urgent need to seek

1) God's thoughts and ways
are perfect, far beyond
our understanding

2) God's thoughts and ways are
righteous, far higher than ours:
Ours are imperfect and wicked

6 Seek the LORD while he may be found;
call on him while he is near.

7 Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the unrighteous their thoughts.
Let them turn to the LORD,
and he will have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

8 “For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways,”
declares the LORD.

9 “As the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

d. The way God calls the wicked:
By His Word Mt. 13:1-9, 18-33

1) His Word is as powerful as rain
and snow that water the earth
and cause the grain to grow

2) His Word will not return
empty: It will bear fruit,
accomplish God's purpose

e. The results of seeking
the LORD

1) The repentant sinner
will live in joy and peace

2) The earth will be transformed

- All nature will rejoice

- All thorns will be removed
and all vegetation
will become fruitful

3) The transformation will be
for the purpose of honouring
the LORD: Be a sign
of His love and power

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

11 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.

12 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.

13 Instead of the thorn-bush will grow the juniper,
and instead of briars the myrtle will grow.
This will be for the LORD's renown,
for an everlasting sign,
that will endure forever."