

**Isaiah 54****9-21-05*****“The Family & The City of God!”*****1. Intro:**

- 1.1. Last week: The wonderful Suffering Savior!

**2. THE FAMILY & CITY OF GOD! (1-17)**

- 2.1. **THE FAMILY OF GOD!** (1-10)
- 2.2. Here we have the future **regathering** & **restoring** of Israel.
- 2.2.1. Oh the blessing when the trials & sufferings are **over!**
- 2.3. **Vance Havner** said, *“Life is like a bowl of spinach in front of you & clear down at the other end of the table is a chocolate cake.”*
- 2.3.1. It’s hard to eat the **spinach** when your eyes are on the **cake**.
- 2.3.2. If the Lord explained **ALL** about the choc cake, we’d have a rough time eating our **spinach!**
- 2.4. **Three stigmas on OT women:** Being **Barren**, a **Widow**, being **Deserted** by your husband.
- 2.4.1. **Barren** – Like Sarah & Hannah experienced.
- 2.4.2. **Widow** – Left w/o financial resources.
- 2.4.3. **Deserted** – Again, left w/o resources.
- 2.5. **The Barren Woman Sings!** (1-3)
- 2.6. (1a) **Sing?** - Doesn’t seem like too much to be singing about when you’re barren?
- 2.6.1. Singing often speaks to God at work, thus the Children of Israel **couldn’t sing** while in exile – Ps.137.
- 2.6.2. But when God says sing, **Sing!**
- 2.6.2.1. Sing in anticipation of the **glories to come!** (Can you?)
- 2.7. (1b) The previously childless woman has received the gift of children.
- 2.8. (2) She gives birth to so many children she must enlarge her tents.
- 2.9. (3) He loves to expand our borders & watch us grow!
- 2.10. **The Widow Remarries!** (4-6)
- 2.11. The **widow** loses her shame & is wed once again, this time to Jehovah
- 2.12. The women **deserted** is like Israel *temporarily* abandoned by God. (i.e. in Babylon)

- 2.13. **Look at all the reasons why we should not fear in 4-10.**  
 2.13.1. Forget the shame, not remember the reproach(4); God as your Husband, His Name is Lord of Hosts, your Redeemer, God of all the earth(5); called you(6); great mercies, will gather(7); everlasting kindness, mercy(8); he has sworn, not angry w/U, nor rebuke you(9); kindness not depart, cov of peace not removed(10).
- 2.14. **The Rainbow of Peace Shines Again!** (7-10)
- 2.15. The storm is over, & God gives **peace**.  
 2.15.1. **Q: Is there a storm starting to brew in your life? Brewing? Or just past?**  
 2.15.2. The covenant sign of the rainbow is in the sky!  
 2.15.3. Vs.10 is Israel "in the end!" - No more trials...it's over!
- 2.16. Chastening or suffering may seem **spiritually barren** to you, but God uses the, to **give birth to blessings**.<sup>1</sup>
- 2.17. **THE CITY OF GOD!** (11-17)
- 2.18. From the Tent in vs.2 to the City of Cities!
- 2.19. **See** Rev.21:9-12, 18-21.  
 2.19.1. We've all seen pictures of the moon - **Don't you think it's a bit different for those who have got to walk on it?**  
 2.19.1.1. Aren't you glad you can't reduce heaven to earthly terms???  
 2.19.2. Don't see a **city** & say "but I like the **country**"!  
 Don't see the **paved streets** & say I like **bare foot on the grass!**  
 Don't see enormous claustrophobic **walls** & long for **open space!**  
 2.19.3. **Heaven is: Colors** beyond your wild imagination; every **precious stone**, multifaceted, reflecting prisms of light in every direction(like a kaleidoscope); **fragrances** you've never smelled before; **music** so overwhelming it's next to impossible not to join in; **walking** w/Jesus; **talking** w/God; Understanding the **Trinity**; **Knowing Him** as He is; **walking** w/the giants of the faith,.....!  
 2.19.4. Paul calls this city our Mother!  
 2.19.5. Gal.4:26 "**but the Jerusalem above is free, which is the mother of us all**"  
 2.19.5.1. Not "*Mother earth*"! But **Mother Heaven!**
- 2.20. **The Beauty After the Storm** (11-15)
- 2.21. Storms can be frightening (the other night), but like stones that **toss & tumbled** in the surf, they **polish** & bring Him glory!

- 2.22. (13) **What do you have to say about this Scripture parents?**
- 2.22.1. **Q: Do we just wait** for that day? Or, do we **make this a prayer**, for the Lord to “teach our children” **through us** today?
- 2.22.2. **Q: What is the result?** (**peace, Great Peace!**)
- 2.22.3. **Q: Pray this peace** over your children!
- 2.23. **Bullet Proof Believers!** (16-17)
- 2.24. There is no promise of immunity from attack, but the final triumph of the truth is assured!
- 2.25. It’s painful to go through the **furnace**, but God uses the experience to make you a **stronger & better tool!**
- 2.25.1. **Q: Are you being forged in God’s furnaces?**
- 2.25.1.1. Reminder, not only is the **fire & its temperature** in God’s hand, but even the **Blacksmith** is under His control!
- 2.25.1.2. That means the **amount** of blows, how **frequent** they come, & the muscle of their **impact**...are all tempered by Him.
- 2.25.1.3. **He does have the last word!**
- 2.25.2. **Q: Do you realize what type of Weapon** you’d amount to with very little forging?
- 2.25.2.1. Ever try to eat hard ice cream w/a soft spoon? (bends)
- 2.25.2.2. A sword that isn’t tempered steel? (won’t last)
- 2.25.2.3. **Hardening steel by heat treatment** consists of heating the metal to a temp about 1,400° to 1,600° F & then **cooling** it **rapidly** in water or oil.
- 2.25.2.4. Now they have “**Deep cryogenic treatment**” which is a dry process and requires temperatures -300° F degrees or lower. (Slow - 1 degree a minute)
- 2.25.3. **You** without trials...will **never** last in life’s battles!
- 2.25.3.1. Yes, **you tempered**, by the hand of God, will help in the fact that “No weapon that comes flailing your way will prosper!”
- 2.25.3.2. *“Take the helmet of salvation and **the sword** of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”*
- 2.26. **Read** 2 Cor.10:3-6.
- 2.27. **Vance Havner** said, *“Life is like a bowl of spinach in front of you & clear down at the other end of the table is a chocolate cake.”*
- 2.27.1. If the Lord explained **ALL** about the choc cake, we’d have a rough time eating our **spinach!**

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<sup>1</sup> Warren Wiersbe; pg.485

- 2.28. FREE BEAUTIFUL HOMES to be GIVEN AWAY in a PERFECT CITY! with:  
 100% Pure Water - Free - No Light Bills - Perpetual Lighting - Permanent  
 Pavement - Nothing Undesirable - Everything New - Perfect Health - Immunity  
 from Accidents - The Best of Society - Beautiful Music - Free Transportation -  
**SECURE A CONTRACT TODAY - FOR THE NEW JERUSALEM.**  
 [The Bible Friend]

Many years ago when D. L. Moody was still busy in this country, there was an industrial exposition in Chicago. There was in the exposition ground a fountain which became the rendezvous for folk who arranged to meet each other. One would say to another, "Will you meet me at the fountain?" The answer was, "All right, I will meet you at the fountain."

P. P. Bliss, the gospel song writer, was allured with this meeting place. He wrote the gospel song based on it, lifting the thought from the meeting place in the exposition ground to that higher meeting place, and he wrote this:

Will you meet me at the fountain,  
 When I reach the glory-land?  
 When you meet me at the fountain,  
 Shall I clasp your friendly hand?  
 Other friends will give you welcome;  
 Other loving voices cheer;  
 There'll be music at the fountain—  
 Will you, will you meet me there?