

# Structure of Isa 54

## 1-17 The Lord comforts his Bride

### 1-4 Change in her attitude

1 **Sing**, **for** thou shalt have many children

2-3 **Enlarge**, **for** thou shalt inherit the Gentiles

4 **Fear not**, **for** thou shalt not be ashamed

Three  
Motivated  
Promises

### 5-10 Change in the Lord's attitude

5-6 God is thy husband and redeemer, **saith** thy God

7-8 God's wrath turns to mercy, **saith** the Lord thy Redeemer

9-10 The Lord promises peace, **saith** the Lord that hath mercy

Three  
Encouraging  
Quotations

### 11-17a Prosperity and Victory

11-14 **Behold**, prosperity and peace

15 **Behold**, adversaries turn to her

16-17a **Behold**, God owns the armorer

Three Joyful  
Observations

### 17b Summary

This is the heritage of the Servants of the Lord  
And their righteousness is of me

# 54:11a as Summary

Summary	11a O thou afflicted	Tossed with tempest	Not Comforted
<b>Back-ground</b>	49:13 for the LORD ... will have mercy upon his afflicted. עני = "poor"	Jon 1:4 there was a mighty <b>tempest</b> ... 11 the sea ... was <b>tempestuous</b> 12 ... for my sake this great <b>tempest</b> is upon you 13 ... the sea ... was <b>tempestuous</b>	49:13 for the LORD hath <b>comforted</b> his people, ... 40:1-2 <b>Comfort</b> ye, <b>comfort</b> ye my people,... 2 ... her <b>warfare</b> is accomplished,
<b>Detail</b>	11b-14 precious stones	15 Zion the reluctant missionary	16-17a God owns the armorer

# 54:14a In righteousness shalt thou be established

“Establish” יָסַד: make firm or solid

Num 21:27 let the city of Sihon be **built** and **prepared** [established]:

2Sa 7:13 He shall **build** an house for my name, and I will **stablish** the throne of his kingdom for ever.

“Be established”: literally, “establish thyself”

“In righteousness”: with “establish,” the preposition is instrumental

Pro 16:12 *It is* an abomination to kings to commit wickedness: for the throne is **established by righteousness**.

Pro 24:3 Through wisdom is an house builded; and **by understanding** it is established:

Hab 2:12 Woe to him that buildeth a town with blood, and **stablisheth** a city **by iniquity!**

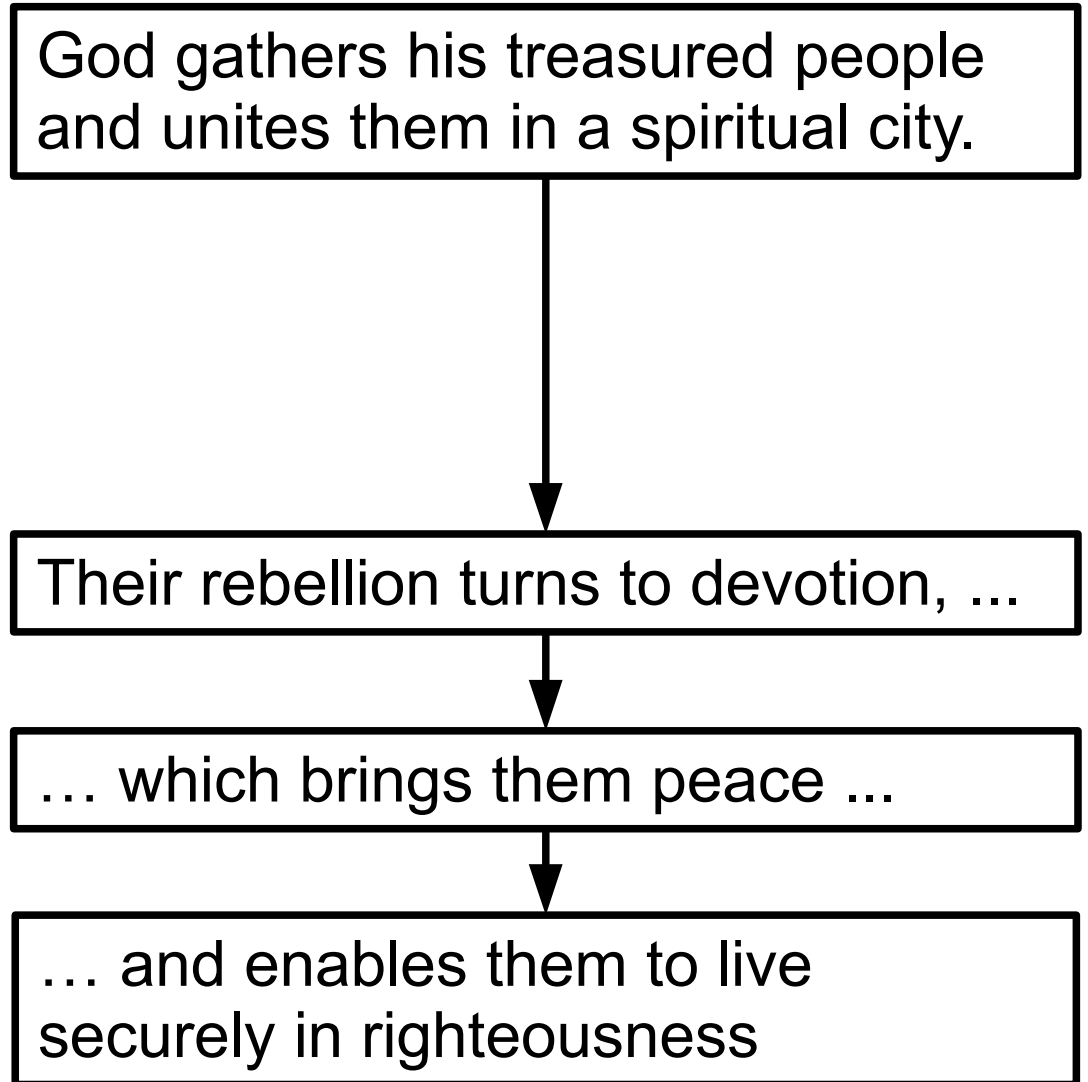
# Putting the Pieces Together

Isa 54:11-14 I will **lay thy stones** with fair colours, and **lay thy foundations** with sapphires. 12 And I will make thy **windows** of agates, and thy **gates** of carbuncles, and all thy **borders** of pleasant stones.

13 And all thy children *shall* be the LORD's disciples;

and great *shall* be the peace of thy children.

14 In righteousness shalt thou establish thyself:



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# Jonah and “Tempest-Tossed” Israel

	Jonah	Israel
Sent to Gentiles	1:2 sent to Nineveh	Deu 20:10-15 to offer peace and God’s rule to Gentile nations
Rebelled	1:3 Jonah fled “unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD,”	Judges-Kings, repeated disobedience
Tempest	1:4, 11, 12, 13, great tempest	Isa 54:11 O thou ... tossed with tempest
Captive	1:17 Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.	Captivity to (Assyria and) Babylon
Restored	2:10 And the LORD spake unto the fish, and it vomited out Jonah upon the dry <i>land</i> .	Ezra 1 Cyrus sends the Jews back
Mission Completed	Jon 3:3 So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD.	Isa 54:15 (and many other passages)

# A Revised Translation of 54:15

<b>AV</b>	<b>Suggested</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Behold, <b>they</b> shall surely gather together,	Behold, <b>one</b> shall surely gather together,	Verbs are singular
<i>but not</i>	<b>in vain</b>	Massoretic accentuation
<b>by me:</b>	<b>at my sign</b>	מֵאוֹתֵי vs. מֵאֲתִי (cf. v. 17)
whosoever shall gather together <b>against</b> thee	whosoever shall gather together <b>with</b> thee	Most literal sense of preposition אֶת
shall fall <b>for thy</b> <b>sake.</b>	shall fall <b>to</b> <b>thee.</b>	Cf. 1 Chr 12:19, 20; Jer 21:9; 37:14; 39:9

# “They shall surely gather together”

“Gather together” = “live as an alien.” Can be hostile:

Ps 56:6 They **gather** themselves together, they hide themselves, they mark my steps, when they wait for my soul.

Psa 59:3 For, lo, they lie in wait for my soul: the mighty are **gathered** against me;.



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# “Not by me”?

Aliens come to Israel for two reasons, always at the Lord’s call:

- To attack:

10:5-6 O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation. **6 I will send him** against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge,

47:5-6 ... O daughter of the Chaldeans: ... **6 I was wroth with my people, I have** polluted mine inheritance, and **given them** into thine hand:

- To submit:

11:10 And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for **an ensign** of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek:

49:22 Thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I will lift up mine hand to the Gentiles, and set up **my standard** to the people: and they shall bring thy sons in their arms, and thy daughters shall be carried upon their shoulders.

Better:

- Take “not” as adverbial accusative “in vain”
- Render **מֵאוֹתֵי** literally, “at my sign”

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# Whosoever shall gather together with thee shall fall to thee

1Ch 12:18-20 Then the spirit came upon Amasai, *who was* chief of the captains, *and he said*, Thine *are we*, David, and on thy side, thou son of Jesse: peace, peace *be* unto thee, and peace *be* to thine helpers; for thy God helpeth thee. Then David received them, and made them captains of the band. 19 And **there fell some of Manasseh to David**, when he came with the Philistines against Saul to battle: .... 20 As he went to Ziklag, **there fell to him of Manasseh**, Adnah, and Jozabad, and Jediael, and Michael, and Jozabad, and Elihu, and Zilthai, captains of the thousands that *were* of Manasseh.

Compare:

v.3 thy seed shall **inherit the Gentiles**,

v.5 and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; **The God of the whole earth** shall he be called.

Isa 60:3 And **the Gentiles shall come to thy light**, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

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# Crime and Punishment

	<b>10:5-6, Sin → Defeat</b>	<b>54:17, Righteousness → Victory</b>
Weapon	O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and <b>the staff in their hand</b> is mine indignation.	<b>No weapon</b> that is formed against thee <b>shall prosper;</b>
Sin	I will send him against <b>an hypocritical nation</b> , and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge,	and every tongue <i>that</i> shall rise against thee in <b>judgment thou shalt condemn.</b>

Cf. 54:14, “thou shalt establish thyself in righteousness”