

Treasure Hunt

- What is similar between how a blacksmith makes a weapon and how God makes the blacksmith?
- What two words does Isaiah use to summarize God's blessings on his servants?
- Can you give a definition of each of these two words?

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
Back-ground	49:13 for the LORD ... will have mercy upon his afflicted . עני = "poor"	Jon 1:4 there was a mighty tempest ... 11 the sea ... was tempestuous 12 ... for my sake this great tempest is upon you 13 ... the sea ... was tempestuous	49:13 for the LORD hath comforted his people, ... 40:1-2 Comfort ye, comfort ye my people,... 2 ... her warfare is accomplished,
Detail	11b-14 precious stones	15 Zion the reluctant missionary	16-17a God owns the armorer

A Causal Chain, 54:16

יהוה

Isa 54:16 Behold, I
have created ...

... the smith that bloweth the coals
in the fire, and that bringeth forth ...



http://redgage-photos.s3.amazonaws.com/dgrwriting/dsc_0281.jpg

... an instrument ...



<http://totallyhistory.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Iron-Swords.jpg>

... for **its** work



http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/72/Jerusalem_ruins_from_Davids.jpg

Crime and Punishment

	10:5-6, Sin → Defeat	54:17, Righteousness → Victory	cf. 54:14
Result: War	O Assyrian, the rod of mine anger, and the staff in their hand is mine indignation.	No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper;	Thou shalt establish thyself
Reason: Sin	I will send him against an hypocritical nation , and against the people of my wrath will I give him a charge,	and every tongue <i>that</i> shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn.	In righteousness

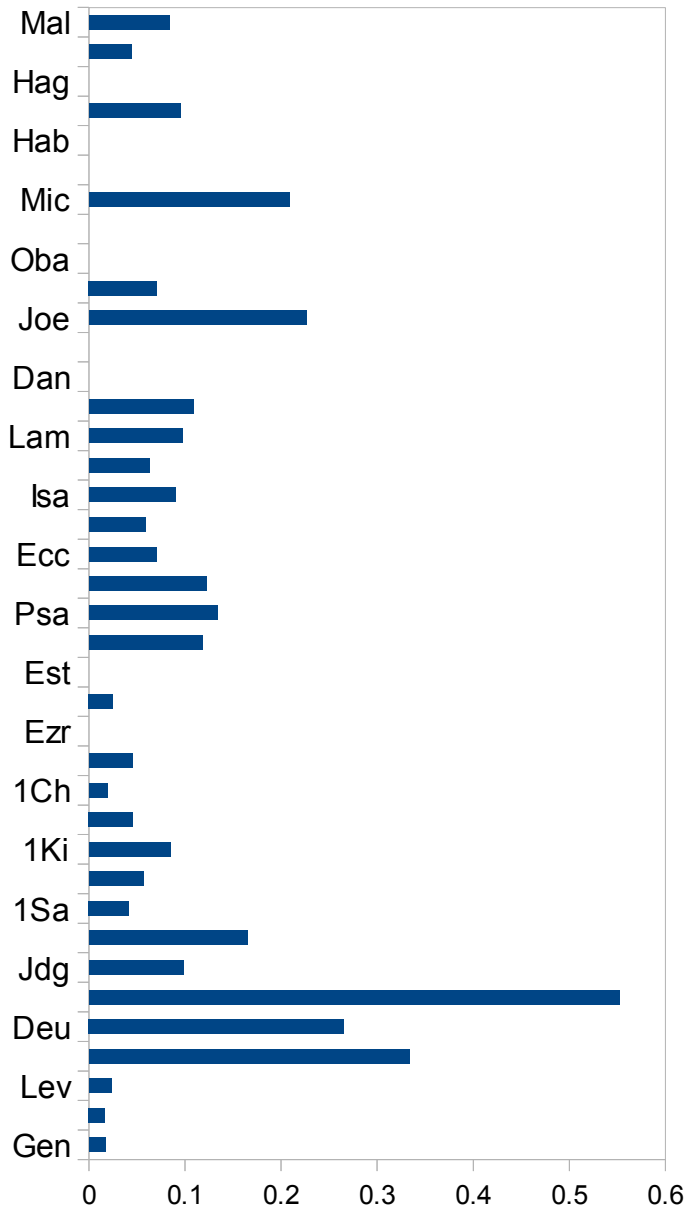
54:17 “Saith the Lord” נאם יהוה

Not the same as “Thus saith the Lord” כה אמר יהוה

Thus saith the Lord כה אמר יהוה	Saith the Lord נאם יהוה
66/293 before writing prophets (22%)	8/267 before writing prophets (3%)
Comes before the text that it qualifies	Almost always (99%) follows the text that it qualifies
Associated text can be very long	Associated text is very short
Marks a break in the discourse	Marks a summary of what goes before or what follows

→ 54:17b is a summary of the chapter

Inherit נחל
Inalienable



Heritage

Heritage = what you own and nobody can take from you

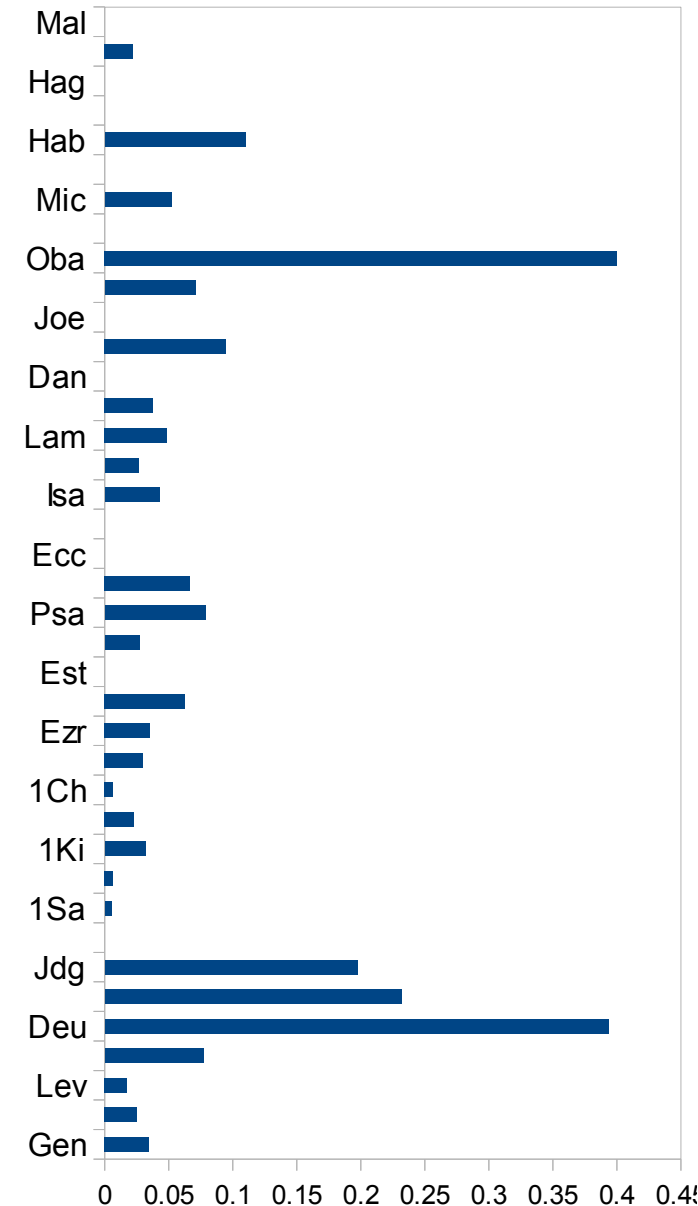
57:13 but he that putteth his trust in me shall **possess נחל** the land, and shall **inherit ירש** my holy mountain;

54:17 This is the **heritage נחלה** of the servants of the Lord

54:3 Thy seed shall **inherit ירש** the Gentiles



Possess ירש
Take ownership



The Lesson of God's Heritage

1Co 3:21-23 For **all things are yours**; 22 Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; 23 And ye are Christ's; and Christ is God's.

1Ti 6:17 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, **who giveth us richly all things to enjoy**;

The fundamental sin:

Rom 1:21 when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, **neither were thankful**.

Our Instinct for Righteousness

Righteousness = Conformity to a Standard

Everybody knows the standard exists:

Rom 2:1 Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, **whosoever thou art that judgest**: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.

Rom 2:14-15 For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: 15 Which shew **the work of the law written in their hearts**, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;

How do we Respond to this Instinct?

Rebellion:

Rom 1:32 Who **knowing the judgment of God**, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but **have pleasure in them that do them**.

Replacement:

Rom 10:3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to **establish their own righteousness**, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.

Longing:

Mat 5:6 Blessed *are* they which do **hunger and thirst after righteousness**: for they shall be filled.

Righteousness in Isaiah

(3 of every 1000 words)

The Servant's Words:

51:1-8 Hearken to me, ye that follow after **righteousness**, ye that seek the LORD: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged. 2 Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah that bare you: ... 5 My **righteousness** is near; my salvation is gone forth, and mine arms shall judge the people; 6 Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look upon the earth beneath: for the heavens shall vanish away like smoke, and the earth shall wax old like a garment, and they that dwell therein shall die in like manner: but my salvation shall be for ever, and my **righteousness** shall not be abolished. 7 Hearken unto me, ye that know **righteousness**, the people in whose heart is my law; fear ye not the reproach of men, neither be ye afraid of their revilings. 8 For the moth shall eat them up like a garment, and the worm shall eat them like wool: but my **righteousness** shall be for ever, and my salvation from generation to generation.

The Servant's Work:

53:11 He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant **justify** [declare **righteous**] for the many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

54:14 In **righteousness** shalt thou establish thyself

Summarizing Isa 54

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

17b Summary

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

Zion's attitude: her fear should turn to joy at the children God is giving her.

God's Attitude: God solemnly promises that his chastisement is over and he will bless her.

Coming blessings: God will reverse her poverty, lack of witness, and military defeat.

Summary: God both enriches her and enables her to satisfy him.

Overall Summary

Section Summaries	Overall Summary
Zion's attitude: her fear should turn to joy at the children God is giving her.	God promises to enrich barren Zion by restoring and enlarging her family, and to end her chastisement by making her righteous.
God's Attitude: God solemnly promises that his chastisement is over and he will bless her.	
Coming blessings: God will reverse her poverty, lack of witness, and military defeat.	
Summary: God both enriches her and enables her to satisfy him.	