

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 fall

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

54:7-8, God's Limiting Mercy

vv. 7-8	
7 For a small moment	8a In a little wrath I hid my face from thee
have I forsaken thee;	for a moment ;
but with great mercies	but with everlasting kindness
will I gather thee.	will I have mercy on thee,
saith the LORD thy Redeemer.	

God's **mercy** leads him to limit his **wrath** to a brief **moment**

Hebrew Words for “Mercy”

Exo 34:6 And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful **חנן** and gracious **רחם**, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness **חסד** and truth

(This formula is quoted in Num 14:18; Neh 9:17; Ps 86:15; 103:8; 145:8; Joel 2:13; Jon 4:2)

חסד occurs 249x: covenant love (vv. 8, 10 “kindness”)

חנן occurs 75x: grace, favor from superior to inferior

רחם occurs 42x: “womb, bowels” → compassion

Gen 43:30 And Joseph made haste; for his **bowels** did yearn upon his brother: and he sought *where* to weep; and he entered into *his* chamber, and wept there.

“Small Moment” of Forsaking → “Everlasting Kindness”

When is the “gathering” of v. 7?

- Zerubbabel, Ezra, Nehemiah?
 - Only 50k returned; many (Esther) remained abroad
 - Later history (Antiochus, Romans, Hitler)
- AD 1947?
 - Fewer than half of the world’s Jews (6M/13M) live in Israel
 - Jerusalem will fall immediately before Messiah’s return in glory (Zech 14:1-4)
- Future return of Christ

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54:5-10, The Lord Repeats Himself

vv. 9-10	
9a For this is as the waters of Noah unto me:	
9b for as I have sworn	9c so have I sworn
that the waters of Noah should no more go over the earth;	that I would not be wroth with thee, nor rebuke thee.
10a For the mountains	10b and the hills
shall depart,	be removed;
10c but my kindness	10c the covenant of my peace
shall not depart from thee,	neither shall ... be removed,
saith the LORD that hath mercy on thee.	

54:9, The Example of Noah

For this *is as* the waters of Noah unto me:

for **as I have sworn** that
the waters of Noah should
no more go over **the earth**

so have I sworn that
I would **not be wroth** with **thee**,
nor rebuke thee

Gen 9:11-15 And I will establish my covenant with you;
neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood; neither shall there any more be a flood to destroy the earth. ... 15 And I will remember my covenant, which *is* between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and **the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh....**

A History of God's Wrath and Rebuke

Isa 54:9 so have I sworn that I would not **be wroth** with thee, nor **rebuke** thee.

	OT	NT	Millennium
Wrath	<p>47:6 I was wroth with my people, I have polluted mine inheritance, and given them into thine hand:</p> <p>54:8 In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment;</p>	<p>Joh 3:36 he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.</p> <p>1Th 1:9-10 ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; 10 And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, <i>even</i> Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.</p>	<p>Isa 25:8 He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken <i>it</i>.</p>
Rebuke	<p>51:20 Thy sons have fainted, they lie at the head of all the streets, as a wild bull in a net: they are full of the fury of the LORD, the rebuke of thy God.</p>	<p>2Ti 4:2-3 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.</p> <p>3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;</p>	

54:10 For the **mountains** shall depart, and the **hills** be removed

An emblem of permanence and immutability:

[Jacob] Gen 49:26 The blessings of thy father have prevailed above the blessings of my progenitors unto the utmost bound of **the everlasting hills**: they shall be on the head of Joseph, and on the crown of the head of him that was separate from his brethren.

[Moses] Deu 33:13-15 And of Joseph he said, Blessed of the LORD *be* his land, for the precious things of heaven, for the dew, and for the deep that coucheth beneath, ... 15 And for the chief things of **the ancient mountains**, and for the precious things of **the lasting hills**,

Movement = great disruption (Moabite-Ammonite Invasion? Sennacherib?):

Psa 46:2 Therefore will not we fear, though the earth be removed, and **though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea**;

54:10 the covenant of my peace

Secular meaning: “covenant” ~ “peace”

Jos 9:15 And Joshua made **peace** with [the Gibeonites], and made a **league** with them, to let them **live**:

Psa 55:20 He [Ahithophel?] hath put forth his hands against such as be at **peace** with him: he hath broken his **covenant**.

“Covenant of peace” = “assurance of security”

Num 25:10 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, 11 Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, hath turned my wrath away from the children of Israel, while he was zealous for my sake among them, that I consumed not the children of Israel in my jealousy. 12 Wherefore say, Behold, I give unto him **my covenant of peace**: [protection from Zimri’s blood-redeemer]

Ezek 34:25 And I will make with them a **covenant of peace**, and will cause the evil beasts to cease out of the land: and they shall dwell safely in the wilderness, and sleep in the woods.

“My peace:” security from God’s “wrath,” vv. 7-9.

“God’s peace” in Eph 2:11-19

Physical Alienation and Peace	Spiritual Enmity and Peace
<p>11 Wherefore remember, that ye <i>being</i> in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;</p>	<p>12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:</p>
<p>13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. 14 For he is our peace, (Mic 5:5 And this <i>man</i> shall be the peace)</p>	
<p>who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition 15 in his flesh</p>	<p>Having abolished... the enmity, <i>even</i> the law of commandments <i>contained</i> in ordinances;</p>
<p>for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;</p>	<p>16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:</p>
<p>17 And coming, he preached peace</p>	
<p>to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh. (Isa 57:19 Peace, peace to <i>him that is</i> far off, and to <i>him that is</i> near, saith the LORD;)</p>	<p>18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father.</p>
<p>19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners,</p>	
<p>but fellowcitizens with the saints,</p>	<p>and of the household of God;</p>