

# Treasure Hunt

- Who are the people whom God allows to seek and find him, though they have not asked for him?
- What must we do so that they can seek and find God?
- In v. 2, what is it that makes a way of life “not good?”
- How can we avoid living such a life?
- What do the activities in vv. 3-5 have in common?

# Overview of Isaiah 58-66 (Before)

False vs. True Worship	58:1-14	66:1-24
Indictment & Confession	59:1-15a	63:7-65:25
The Redeemer	59:15b-21	63:1-7
Zion's Glory (2fs)	60:1-22	62:1-12
The Redeemer	61:1-11	

# Chiastic Confession, 63:15-64:12

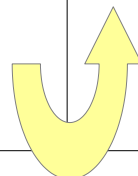
<p><b>God's Habitation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Why don't you deliver us?</li> </ul>	<p>63:15, <i>Heavenly Habitation</i></p>	<p>64:10-12, <i>Earthly House</i></p>
<p><b>God's People</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•God our Father</li> <li>•His creative power</li> <li>•Imperative request</li> <li>•Titles of relationship</li> </ul>	<p>63:16-19</p>	<p>64:8-9</p>
<p><b>God's Wrath</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•His presence/face</li> <li>•Judgment as melting/shaking</li> </ul>	<p>64:1-3 Wrath against the <i>nations</i></p>	<p>64:5b-7 Wrath against his <i>people</i></p>
<p><b>God's <del>Expectation</del> Grace</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Wait for him</li> <li>•Rejoice</li> <li>•Work Righteousness</li> <li>•Remember him</li> </ul>	<p>64:4-5a</p>	

# Structure of 63:7-65:25 (Before)

	Speaker	Refs to the Lord	Refs to People	State of People	Theme
63:7-14	Isaiah	He	<b>They</b>	Wicked	<b>Indictment</b>
63:15-64:12		Thou	<b>Us</b>		<b>Confession</b>
65:1-7	The Lord	I	They	Righteous	<b>Indictment</b>
65:8-10				Wicked	<b>Promise</b>
65:11-12			<b>You</b>	Wicked	<b>Indictment</b>
65:13-16			You-They	Comparison	<b>Mixed</b>
65:17-25			They	Righteous	<b>Promise</b>

# Integration of Isaiah 65-66

	<b>Isaiah 65</b>	<b>Isaiah 66</b>	
True Worship (from Gentiles)	1	1-2	18-23
False Worship from Israel	2-7	3-4	15-17
The Fate of the Wicked vs. God's Servants	8-16	5-6	14
Blessing on Jerusalem	17-25	7-13	



# Overview of Isaiah 58-66 (Revised)

False vs. True Worship	58:1-14	66:1-24 65:1-25
Indictment (2pl)	59:1-15a	
Description (3s) & Confession (1pl)		63:7-64:12
The Redeemer	59:15b-21	63:1-7
Zion's Glory (2fs)	60:1-22	62:1-12
The Redeemer	61:1-11	

# The Paradox of Isaiah 65:1a

65:1a I am **sought** (דרש Nifal) of them that **asked** שאל **not** for me; I am **found** (מצא Nifal) of them that **sought** בקש me **not**

→ How can you seek without asking or seeking?

Compare

Eze 20:3 Son of man, speak unto the elders of Israel, and say unto them,

Thus saith the Lord GOD;

**Are ye come to enquire** (דרש Qal) of me?

As I live, saith the Lord GOD,

**I will not be enquired** (דרש Nifal) of by you.

→ Permissive use of the Nifal “I will let myself be ...”

**I let myself be sought of them that asked not for me;**

**I let myself be found of them that sought me not**

# The Rhetoric of 65:1

## Confession, 63:7-64:12

## Accusation, 65:1

You have been **asking** for my help and **seeking** me:

- 63:15 where *is* thy zeal and thy strength, the sounding of thy bowels and of thy mercies toward me?
- 64:1 Oh that thou wouldest rend the heavens, that thou wouldest come down, that the mountains might flow down at thy presence.

1a I let myself be sought of them that **asked not** for me;  
I let myself be found of them that **sought me not**

You have been pleading your relation to me:

- 16-19 O LORD, *art our father*, ... 17 ... Return for **thy servants'** sake, ... 18 The **people of thy holiness** ... 19 We are *thine*: thou never barest rule over them; **they were not called by thy name.**

1b I said, Behold me, behold me, unto a nation *that was not called by my name.*



# Isa 65:1-2 in Rom 10:20-21

Rom 10:20 But Esaias is very bold, and saith (v. 1),  
I was found of them that sought me not;  
I was made manifest unto them that asked not after me.

21 **But to Israel** he saith (v. 2),

All day long I have stretched forth my hands unto a disobedient  
and gainsaying people.

Rom 10:20 = Isa 65:1 motivates the church's missionary outreach:

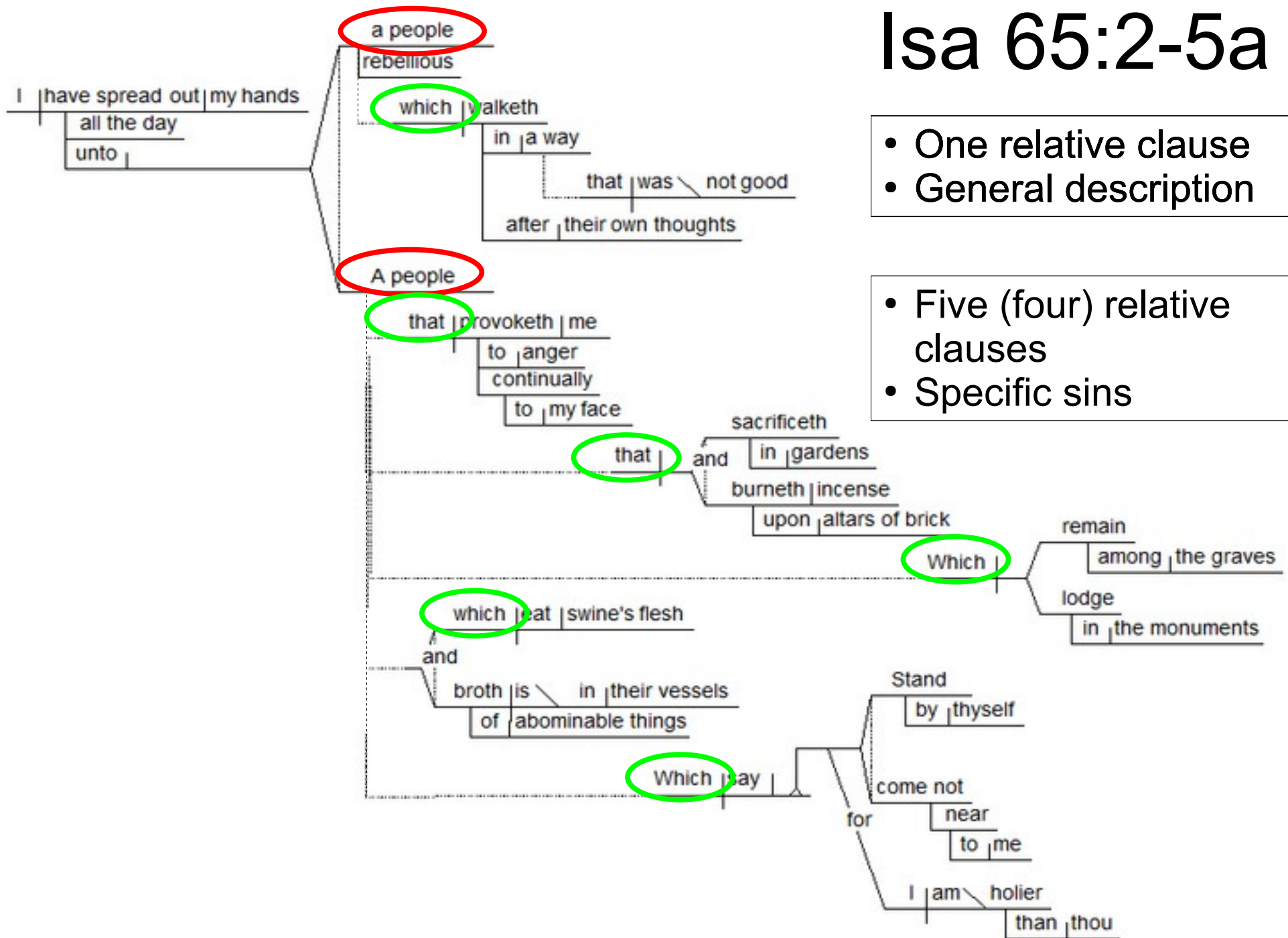
Rom 10:14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have  
not believed?

and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not  
heard?

and how shall they hear without a preacher?

15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent?

# Isa 65:2-5a



- One relative clause
- General description

- Five (four) relative clauses
- Specific sins

# Semantic-Syntactic Skewing in 65:3-5

3 A people

that **provoketh me to anger**

continually to my face

**sacrificing** in gardens,

and **burning** incense upon altars  
of brick;

4 Which remain among the **graves**,  
and lodge in the **monuments**,

which **eat swine's flesh**, and **broth  
of abominable things is in** their  
vessels;

5 Which say, Stand by thyself, come  
not near to me; for **I am holier than  
thou.**

These *are* a **smoke in my nose**, a fire  
that burneth all the day.

# The Importance of Correct Worship

Lev 10:1 And **Nadab and Abihu**, the sons of Aaron, took either of them his censer, and put fire therein, and put incense thereon, and offered strange fire before the LORD, which he commanded them not. 2 And there went out fire from the LORD, and devoured them, and they died before the LORD.

1Sa 13:9-14 And **Saul** said, Bring hither a burnt offering to me, and peace offerings. ... 10 And it came to pass, that as soon as he had made an end of offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; ... 13 And Samuel said to Saul, Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the LORD thy God, which he commanded thee: ... 14 ... now thy kingdom shall not continue ...

2Ch 26:16 But when [**Uzziah**] was strong, his heart was lifted up to *his* destruction: for he ... went into the temple of the LORD to burn incense upon the altar of incense. 17 And ... fourscore priests of the LORD ... withstood Uzziah the king, ... 19 Then Uzziah was wroth, and *had* a censer in his hand to burn incense: and while he was wroth with the priests, the leprosy even rose up in his forehead ... 21 And Uzziah the king was a leper unto the day of his death.

→ WCF 21:1 the acceptable way of worshipping the true God is instituted by Himself, and so limited by His own revealed will, that He may not be worshipped according to the imaginations and devices of men, or the suggestions of Satan, under any visible representation, or any other way not prescribed in the Holy Scripture.