

What To Do When You've Blown It | Part 2

Lesson 4

Isaiah 55:1-13

November 13, 2022

Before It's Too Late

INTRODUCTION

If, as the lesson's theme states, we might have "blown it," how would that have happened? A clue is evident in Isaiah 55:8: "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways', declares the Lord."

That fact is all around us; we are overwhelmed by it. As hard as we may try to train our thoughts toward those of God, the predilections of the world, engendered by Satan, continually invade our thinking.

What do we do about it? We can ignore it or complain or we can become angry. Yet, we know the corruption still exists unless we replace it with something more durable and promising. That "something" is the inexhaustible Word of God.

Isaiah (55:6) insists we should "call on Him while He is near." Let's do that! How much more expedient that is than waiting!

Memory verse: "Seek the LORD while He may be found; call on Him while He is near." —Isaiah 55:6

Pray, and read Isaiah 55:1-13. What questions or observations do you have about this passage?

OBSERVATION: What does the passage say?

1. What thirst is quenched in Isaiah 55:1?
2. To whom is an everlasting covenant promised?
(Isaiah 55:1a, 3b)
3. Which group of people will God freely pardon and why? (Isaiah 55:7)
4. How can we know that the Word that comes from God is dependable? (Isaiah 55:11)
5. What are indications that God's Word has been accepted? (Isaiah 55:12-13)

INTERPRETATION: What do the passages mean?

1. God is celebratory, offering a feast for all who accept His invitation. At the same time, He cautions everyone not to spend money on “what is not bread”. What does He actually want them to resist? (Exodus 20:3-5; Isaiah 55:2; Matthew 6:19)
2. At first glance, one may assume that the “witness...ruler and commander” of Isaiah 55:4 is one person in particular, but who else could it be? (1 Samuel 13:14; Psalm 18:43; Matthew 2:6; Revelation 1:5)
3. It is exceedingly prudent to “Seek the Lord while He may be found” and to “call on Him while He is near.” (Isaiah 55:6). So, who would allow God to slip out of reach, or to imitate Jonah who “ran away from the Lord” (Jonah 1:3)? Remembering that God is patient with those who seek Him, how should one look for Him and discover where He may be found? (Deuteronomy 4:29; 1 Kings 8:27; Psalm 139:8-10; Jeremiah 23:24)

4. What do the promises of God's Word as cited in Isaiah 55:11 mean? (Isaiah 55:6-7; John 4:13-14, 6:32-35; Revelation 22:17)

APPLICATION: How do the passages apply to your life?

1. In Isaiah 55:2, we are asked to consider our labor that "does not satisfy". What labor do you perform that are not satisfying to God or yourself?

2. It pleases God when we seek Him, but once is not enough, and now is better than later. When we hear Isaiah (55:6) say to “call on Him when He is near”, it is usually at a time when we truly need Him. Explain an event when this was apparent in your life.

3. God says that He will accomplish what He desires (Isaiah 55:11). He has a purpose for everything. How do you set aside “plans in a person’s heart” so that the “Lord’s purpose...prevails”? (Proverbs 19:21)