

**An Invitation to the Future  
God's Mercy and Grace...Promised and Delivered  
Isaiah 55:6 – 13**

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We are seeing the extravagant mercy of God, fully on display in Isaiah. Mercy which is only possible because of the work of the Suffering Servant who we have already determined is Jesus Christ.

The promises we reviewed last time we were together are breath taking. Considering those promises, what is it that must be done to take advantage of what is being freely offered to all and given at no cost?

I mean, isn't it counterintuitive to "come buy wine and milk without money and without cost?" Indeed, it is.

A buying without any resource is not the usual, human kind of transaction; rather it is an exchange which, though as definite as in normal buying, is fulfilled in receiving free possession of what God gives. (Rosscup 2008, 1129)

How long is this offer good for? Isn't this same kind of offer made earlier but at that time just to the nation?

Isaiah 1:18–20

“Come now, and let us debate your case,” Says the LORD, “Though your sins are as scarlet, They shall become as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be like wool. If you are willing and obedient, You will eat the best of the land; But if you refuse and rebel, You will be devoured by the sword.” For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.” (NASB 2020)

Close, but the offer at that point was to His people who were in a covenant relationship with Him and who had walked away from that relationship. Here, we have seen that the Suffering Servant will accomplish much more, achieving results for the entire planet.

Isaiah 55:6–7

“Seek the LORD while He may be found; Call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked abandon his way, And the unrighteous person his thoughts; And let him return to the LORD, And He will have compassion on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.” (NASB 2020)

The key to obtaining the promises is simple...seek the Lord.

The Hebrew word, in the active imperative, is דָּרַשׁ (dirsu). It means to “seek with care, care for; enquire about, investigate; be intent on; make supplication.” (Lexham Press 2017)

To seek is, as ever in religious usage (e.g. 8:19), not to look for something lost but to come with diligence to where the Lord is to be found. It speaks, therefore, of commitment, determination, persistence in spiritual concern and in longing for the Lord’s presence and fellowship. (Motyer 1999, 389)

Diligently seek, commit to the search and seek the Lord with care. For all who are listening this very moment, He can be found, right now, today. Paul pointed out the need for action.

2 Corinthians 6:2

“For he says, “I heard you at the acceptable time, and in the day of salvation I helped you. **Look, now is the acceptable time; look, now is the day of salvation!**” (NET)

The theme of seeking the Lord while He may be found is a consistent theme in the scriptures. All of us will have a day or time where it is no longer possible. Obviously, death would end the opportunity, or it could be due to constantly rejecting Him and reaching the point of no return where God has nothing further to say to you, like Jesus was with Herod (Luke 23:8 & 9). For those who reject up to the rapture, there will still be time, but there will be a serious cost associated with the delaying decision.

Believing is a hard matter. Hence many hesitate until it is too late. And hence the Prophet’s warning, to turn to the LORD in season, to seek and call on Him. For the LORD is not near and able to be found without limitation. (Lange, et al. 2008, 600)

So back to the question, how long is the offer good for? It depends. How long has He been seeking each of us? How long have we said no to His voice? That was the thought that brought me to the Lord. I was scared that if I continued to reject Him, He would stop asking. That really is indeed the case sometimes.

Yet the opportunity to respond to God’s self-revelation does not last forever. God’s removal of his protective presence from Jerusalem before the Babylonian destruction (Ezekiel 10) illustrates this danger. In addition, a refusal to respond to God tends to debilitate the person through a hardening of the heart. (Briley 2000-, 236-237)

The imperative, seek the Lord, do so today, right now while He still may be found. He makes sure that for those who seek, He can be found.

Deuteronomy 4:29

“But if you seek the LORD your God from there, you will find him, if, indeed, you seek him with all your heart and soul.” (NET)

Jeremiah 29:11–14

“I alone know the plans I have for you, plans to bring you prosperity and not disaster, plans to bring about the future you hope for. Then you will call to me. You will come and pray to me, and I will answer you. You will seek me, and you will find me because you will seek me with all your heart. Yes, I say, you will find me, and I will restore you to your land. I will gather you from every country and from every place to which I have scattered you, and I will bring you back to the land from which I had sent you away into exile. I, the LORD, have spoken.” (GNB)

God's faithfulness to those who seek him is manifested in his letting himself be found by them (yimmatse' lekha, "he will be found by you," 1 Ch. 28:9; 2 Ch. 15:2; Jer. 29:12–14; etc.), or his being good (tobh) to them (Lam. 3:25). (Wagner 1978, 300)

The Bible is clear, if we truly seek after the Lord, He ensures we find Him.

To "seek" the Lord is to stop dawdling and to become intentional about him, setting highest value on him, removing everything that keeps us from him, hearing his Word without back-talk, opening up to his will with no preconditions, budgeting our money for his cause first—the ever-widening circle is endless. Seeking the Lord is a whole-life realignment with Christ. We stop treating him as a religious garnish on the side. He becomes our continual feast, our defining center. And the time to move in his direction is now. (Ortlund, Jr. and Hughes 2005, 371)

But no one should delay in doing this! The phrase "while He may be found" suggests that, if we do not take His invitation seriously, the invitation may cease while we are delaying. (Wiersbe 1996, 147)

For those who do not know Him, seek Him now, He is findable. Call on Him now, He is waiting to hear from each of us.

Once we have sought the Lord and found Him, what does our life look like then? Does He leave us where we are or does a new and growing relationship with Him change us?

Isaiah 55:7

"Let the wicked abandon his way, And the unrighteous person his thoughts; And let him return to the LORD, And He will have compassion on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon." (NASB 2020)

As we come to the Lord and respond to the generous mercy and grace being provided in the invitation being made by God, things will change. The cleanup begins post salvation or for the prodigal, post return.

Isaiah 55:7a

"Let the wicked abandon his way..."

Wicked – רָשָׁע (rasa) - wicked, criminal...one guilty of crime, deserving punishment; sometimes also wicked. (Brown, Driver and Briggs 1977, 957)

Abandon – אָזַב (azob) - leave, abandon... forsake...leave behind. (Holladay and Köhler 2000, 269)

Once coming to the Lord, He says to the one who deserving of punishment, but because of the Suffering Servant there is mercy and grace, to leave behind their old manner of behavior. The operation to abandon or leave behind is in the active voice implying it is an active leaving behind. Abandon and keep on abandoning. We are not to return back to the lifestyle He is telling us to abandon.

"The prophet first calls on evil people to abandon their bad lifestyle." (Ogden and Sterk 2011, 1566)

What we are talking about are the results of repentance.

"Fundamentally, repentance means a change of mind and will. It is a decision one makes. But when repentance occurs, changes in life and action must follow." (Fisher 1988, 15)

As believers, we are empowered by the Holy Spirit who enables us and gives us the power to make these changes after we have given our life to Christ. We are not invited to clean up and then come, we are invited to come, then lifestyle changes become a natural outcome.

### Romans 3:21–26

“But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.” (ESV)

### Isaiah 55:7b

“...And the unrighteous person his thoughts” (NASB 2020)

Just as we are to abandon or leave behind the way we used to live, we also find our thoughts begin to change as well.

### Romans 12:1–2

“And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. **Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.** Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” (NLT)

Man’s thoughts differ from God’s in regard to his own character. He does not see himself a sinner as God does. Repentance is, therefore, an immediate duty. (Bannister and Hemenway 1886, 231)

As believers, we are enabled by the Holy Spirit to engage in needed lifestyle changes; and then, on top of that, we start to think differently. That change is also due to the Holy Spirit.

This may not happen overnight, but things we used to think were fine to do, as we grow in the Lord, become less of an attraction to us. In some cases, we find ourselves hating the way we used to live.

### 1 John 2:15–17

“Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever.” (ESV)

Once we say yes, the changes begin. He takes our decision seriously.

### 1 Corinthians 6:9–11

“Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived! The sexually immoral, idolaters, adulterers, passive homosexual partners, practicing homosexuals, thieves, the greedy, drunkards, the verbally abusive, and swindlers will not inherit the kingdom of God. Some of you once lived this way. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.” (NET)

To think differently means living differently; counter to the thinking in the culture around us.

We see the sin and root cause of the sin being dealt with. Our habits begin to change, the thinking behind the why we did some of the habits also begins to change. For example, I still want to do a really good job at work, but my motivation begins to change from doing it for money and prestige to doing it to glorify the Lord.

### Colossians 3:23–24

“Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.” (ESV)

Because I have repented, abandoned the bad stuff (sin) I used to do, and allowed the Holy Spirit to clean up my act. I have new goals.

### Matthew 25:21

“The master was full of praise. ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let’s celebrate together!’” (NLT)

For those who have strayed and then returned, we call them prodigals, we see the following: “...And let him return to the LORD, And He will have compassion on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.” (Isaiah 55:7c, NASB 2020). This also applies to those of us who have repented and come to Him in response to His offer of mercy.

The word for return is שׁוּב (swb) - to turn around, repent, to bring back, refresh, refute. (Koehler, et al. 1994 - 2000, 1427)

For all of us, this means we are being returned to what the original intent YAHWEH had for us all along.

For guilty wrongdoers to seek the LORD, they must first “forsake [their] way,” that is, change their lifestyle. People full of misdeeds and who cause injustice must forsake their “thoughts” (including their plans and intentions). Then they can “turn” (Heb. yashov, “return”) to the LORD to freely receive mercy and abundant pardon and forgiveness. (Horton 2000, 403)

This is not simply obtaining fire insurance. This is truly what is meant by the term...conversion. This is counter to what we see around us.

### Revelation 3:15–21

“I know what you have done; I know that you are neither cold nor hot. How I wish you were either one or the other! But because you are lukewarm, neither hot nor cold, I am going to spit you out of my mouth! You say, ‘I am rich and well off; I have all I need.’ But you do not know how miserable and pitiful you are! You are poor, naked, and blind. I advise you, then, to buy gold from me, pure gold, in order to be rich. Buy also white clothing to dress yourself and cover up your shameful nakedness. Buy also some ointment to put on your eyes, so that you may see. I rebuke and punish all whom I love. Be in earnest, then, and turn from your sins. Listen! I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with them, and they will eat with me. To those who win the victory I will give the right to sit beside me on my throne, just as I have been victorious and now sit by my Father on his throne.” (GNB)

Repentance is not so much a doing as a depending. It is not so much a striving for pardon as a posture of humility. In true repentance we confess our total reliance on God’s mercy. We acknowledge the inadequacy of anything we would offer God to gain his pardon. In true repentance we rest upon God’s grace rather than trying to do anything to deserve it. (Chapell 2001, 82)

### Isaiah 30:15a

“For this is what the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, has said: “In repentance and rest you will be saved, In quietness and trust is your strength...” (NASB 2020)

The promise we are given is clear here in the last half of verse 7, as we respond to His offer of mercy by seeking and calling upon the Lord, He empowers us to change and show the fruit of true repentance that His Holy Spirit produces in us. He follows up with a promise, “...He will have compassion on him...”. This

is more than we see on the surface, compassion is the word רחם (rheham). It means to “love; greet (meet) with love, take pity on.” (Lexham Press 2017)

As we turn towards the Lord, He responds with greeting us with love. “Though our sins have been very great and very many, and though we have often backslidden and are still prone to offend, yet God will repeat his pardon, and welcome even backsliding children that return to him in sincerity.” (Henry 1994, 1189)

Jesus, who fully reflected the Father, talks about this in His discussion about the prodigal son. The prodigal, upon coming to his senses:

Luke 15:18–24

“ ‘I will get up, go to my father, and say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and you. I don’t deserve to be called your son anymore. Treat me like one of your hired men.” ’ So he got up and went to his father. While he was still far away, his father saw him and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, threw his arms around him, and kissed him affectionately. Then his son told him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and you. I don’t deserve to be called your son anymore.’ But the father told his servants, ‘Hurry! Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let’s eat and celebrate! Because my son was dead and has come back to life. He was lost and has been found.’ And they began to celebrate.” (ISV)

For some of us hearing this news and the free offer and what will happen if we avail ourselves of the offer, it just does not seem possible. How could anyone do this? If that is the thought, that comes from one source, the enemy. Satan and his minions will do anything and everything to prevent you and me from availing ourselves of this offer, even to the point of disbelief. In anticipation of that, God preemptively strikes at the heart of the argument.

He provides the reason for His extravagant mercy.

Isaiah 55:8–9

““For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” declares the LORD. “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts.” (NASB 2020)

God is infinite and in one sense, we simply do not get it...at all. How can those of us with a distinctive start date even understand the idea of someone who has always existed much less pretend that we can know His thoughts. But here is the catch, because of Jesus, the Suffering Servant, we can know Him.

John 14:8–11

“Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be content.” Jesus replied, “Have I been with you for so long, and you have not known me, Philip? The person who has seen me has seen the Father! How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you, I do not speak on my own initiative, but the Father residing in me performs his miraculous deeds. Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father is in me, but if you do not believe me, believe because of the miraculous deeds themselves.” (NET)

And there is more.

Colossians 1:15–20

“The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether they are kings, lords, rulers, or powers. All things have been created through him and for him. He himself existed before anything else did, and he holds all things together. He is also the head of the body, which is the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he himself might have first place in everything. For God was pleased to have all of his divine essence inhabit him. Through the Son, God also reconciled all things to himself, whether things on earth or things in heaven, thereby making peace through the blood of his cross.” (ISV)



The things that God thinks and purposes are not the things that man thinks and purposes, and therefore, because the thoughts are different, the outcomes of them in deeds are divergent. God's 'ways' are His acts, the manner and course of His working considered as a path on which He moves, and on which, in some sense, we can also journey. Our 'ways'—our manner of life—are not parallel with His, as they should be. (MacLaren 2009, 153)

While people unaided cannot come to fully know the infinite God, it is clear that God has revealed Himself and can be known to the extent of His self-revelation. In fact, redemption and eternal life are grounded in knowing God...(John 17:3). Even so, this knowledge is limited until we reach our heavenly home...(1 Cor. 13:12). Although God is infinitely greater than human comprehension, He is still intimately knowable. (Duffield and Van Cleave 2016, 44-45)

God's thoughts and His ways are governed by His righteousness. In our flesh, we simply do not get it. But for NT believers today, we have an addendum that needs to be considered.

1 Corinthians 2:14–16

“The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But **we have the mind of Christ.**” (ESV)

Boom! There it is. Because of the Suffering Servant and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, we have the mind of Christ. We struggle with having His mind and reflecting Jesus to those around us. We want to remember the wrongs against us and deal with the person involved. “Remember the number and aggravation of your sins. Remember God's hatred of sin. Yet He forgives fully. Casts them into the depths of the sea. Blots them out as a cloud. Will not remember them. Men remember offences against them, and make a difference. God forgets them.” (Bertram and Tucker 1892, 581)

Sinners must make a break with their thoughts and ways to have fellowship with a holy God. The Servant's work makes relationship with a holy God possible, but our work, having appropriated the Servant's work by faith, makes fellowship with a holy God possible. (Constable 2003, Is 55:8)

Again, because of the work of the Suffering Servant, we have the means available to us to change. He makes sure of that. We also have the means of knowing God and understanding Him, because of the same means; the helper, the advocate, the comforter, the paraclete.

John 16:7–15

“But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I am going away. For if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you, but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong concerning sin and righteousness and judgment—concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; concerning righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. “I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. For he will not speak on his own authority, but will speak whatever he hears, and will tell you what is to come. He will glorify me, because he will receive from me what is mine and will tell it to you. Everything that the Father has is mine; that is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what is mine and will tell it to you.” (NET)

As NT believers we receive the Holy Spirit at the moment we take God up on His offer. He is, in the Greek, our paraclete.

Παράκλητος (paracletos) – “one who is called to someone's aid”. Accordingly Latin writers commonly rendered it, in its NT occurrences, with ‘advocatus’...one who appears in another's behalf, mediator, intercessor, helper. (Arndt, et al. 2000, 766)

Because of the work of the Suffering Servant and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, we can know God's thoughts. As we pick up on what He wants and how He wants us to live, we struggle because it really is counter to the way we have been raised.

Our struggle begins with the flesh and then once we come to Christ, it is our anti-supernatural bias. "Many Christians have excluded the activity and presence of the Holy Spirit from their individual and corporate lives. The disconnect originated with the secular sources that enveloped the western world during the Renaissance and Enlightenment periods but then were adopted by many western Christians as early as the Protestant Reformation." (Cummings 2021, 7)

He has provided all we need to be able to know. How reliable is it?

Isaiah 55:10–11

"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, And do not return there without watering the earth And making it produce and sprout, And providing seed to the sower and bread to the eater; So will My word be which goes out of My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the purpose for which I sent it." (NASB 2020)

How certain can we be about this promise of mercy at no cost and what He will do for those who take up the offer? He points to the weather as an example. Rain and snow always water the earth, right?

Rain and snow come from heaven and when the earth is watered, stuff grows, right? It is the created order, that as it operates, provides for the production of food which sustains life. It comes from above. God uses this as a way of saying that is what His word is like. "The reason why it unfailingly accomplishes the purpose for which it is sent forth is that it is divine. It is the very expression of the truth itself and hence cannot fail." (Young 1972, 384)

Hebrews 4:12–13

"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account." (ESV)

God's word will never fail to achieve the purpose He has set for it. What is it that changes lives? The word of God. When we share our story with someone, the one thing they will remember, is the scripture you used as part of the story. About God's word.

How did God create the universe? With His word. "And **God said**, "Let light come into being." And light came into being." (Lexham Press 2020, Genesis 1:3)

Psalms 32:6

"**By the word of the Lord** the heavens were made firm, and by the spirit of his mouth, all their power." (Lexham Press 2020, Psalm 32:6)

When God speaks, the universe listens. Only rebels turn a deaf ear to what He has to say and seek their own path. And how has that worked for us so far?

The word of God is always an intentional, never an idle word. The word of God is the vehicle for the will of God; the word expresses what God intends. The intention of the word of God is to serve the purposes of God in the world, to move the world along toward the objectives God has for it. The word activates the will of God; it represents a decision by God to accomplish what God wants to accomplish in a specific situation. It does not simply add something to the situation, it renders a divine decision concerning it. Having been addressed by the word of God, that situation is decisively altered. The word does not make God present in that situation, but seeks to clarify and direct the shape of God's will within that already pervasive presence. The word makes available to the world what would not otherwise be available—an



experience (including knowledge) of the will of God. The result is that the will of God can be discerned in the world; the will of God can be known to the extent that God has let it be known through the word. (Fretheim 1992, 963)

God has spoken to reveal his plans and purposes in the context of human history, and what he has said will be accomplished (cf. 53:10). Above everything else, these plans and purposes are for good (Jer. 29:11). God intends to bless the human race, to forgive its sins, to redeem its failures, and to give permanence to its work. All this will be accomplished through his revelatory word. (Oswalt 1998, 446)

Just as rain and snow provide water for the earth, so God's promises will be effective once he utters them. The phrase not return is repeated from the previous verse, but with the addition empty. God promises will not echo back to him without achieving what he intended. (Ogden and Sterk 2011, 1571)

The extravagant promises of God to provide mercy at no cost and provide life forever as a result of the achievements of the Suffering Servant are as dependable as rain and snow; actually, even more so. Everything God has said and promised will take place.

His word is trustworthy. The same one who spoke the universe into existence is the one making these promises. Mercy, life, and the love of God for those who take Him at His word is real. He is also the same one who promised those of us, post-resurrection, the paraclete, the Holy Spirit to dwell in us and do so forever. You and I are each holy ground because the God of the universe, lives in us. We are all still learning how to listen to Him.

Isaiah 55:12–13

“For you will go out with joy And be led in peace; The mountains and the hills will break into shouts of joy before you, And all the trees of the field will clap their hands. Instead of the thorn bush, the juniper will come up, And instead of the stinging nettle, the myrtle will come up; And it will be a memorial to the LORD, An everlasting sign which will not be eliminated.” (NASB 2020)

Who is it that is going out in joy? It is those who are thirsty and have taken up the offer rather than continuing to chase after things that do not satisfy. It is the remnant, it is all believers, it is all of those who have sought the Lord and taken Him at His word relying on the work of the Suffering Servant. All of “you” who were so far from God and needed peace, have now entered into peace.

At the end of the age, all who have taken God at His word, will go out in joy.

Go out is an exodus and exile metaphor. It speaks of the joy of erstwhile slaves and prisoners leaving captivity, but a greater liberation is in mind, i.e. the fruition of the Servant's work in bringing a world-wide people to the Lord. Joy is the inner transformation of the person; peace (cf. 53:5; 54:10), a new relationship with God. They will be led forth by the Lord himself (42:16; 52:12). (J. A. Motyer 1996, 458)

All who have listened and taken advantage of the offer have been set free.

We are at the beginning of the millennium and Jesus Christ is on the throne. The reality of the promises made by God and now being fulfilled is the source of joy and the source of peace worldwide. All will be led in peace. The Hebrew term used for the word translated peace is shalom. This is a term that has multiple meanings. It means “harmonious relations and freedom from disputes; especially during the absence of war...a contented state of general welfare...the state of being safe or free from danger...peace greeting... the state of being complete and entire...a state of wellbeing free from disease...a person you know well and regard with affection and trust...a state of peace that is a blessing or favor from God...the contentment one feels when one has fulfilled a desire, need, or expectation. (Lexham Press 2017)

The transformations being experienced internally are not all, there are also changes in the physical environment worldwide. The curse of Genesis 3:17 & 18 has been reversed. That which Paul said we were waiting for and had a taste of due to the Holy Spirit inside of us, is now reality.

Romans 8:18–25

“For I consider that our present sufferings cannot even be compared to the glory that will be revealed to us. For the creation eagerly waits for the revelation of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility—not willingly but because of God who subjected it—in hope that the creation itself will also be set free from the bondage of decay into the glorious freedom of God’s children. For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers together until now. Not only this, but we ourselves also, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we eagerly await our adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, because who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with endurance.” (NET)

Joy, absolutely. Shalom, like never experienced on the face of the planet. Total reversal of the curse...guaranteed.

Isaiah 55:13 “Instead of the thorn bush, the juniper will come up, And instead of the stinging nettle, the myrtle will come up; And it will be a memorial to the LORD, An everlasting sign which will not be eliminated.” (NASB 2020)

He has promised, He has guaranteed, and He will provide for a sign for us to all look and remember that He has provided “...wine and milk without money and without cost” establishing “an everlasting covenant” with the King descended from David on the throne of the planet. He promises to those who take Him up on His offer to help them change today, and He has guaranteed all our tomorrows.

Sign me up, that is what I want.

Romans 10:9 – 10

“because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and thus has righteousness and with the mouth one confesses and thus has salvation.” (NET)

Salvation is a Gift

- Admit you are a sinner, agree with Him and ask Him to forgive you.
- Talk to Him and tell Him that.
- Believe in your heart that Jesus died for your sins, was buried and He rose from the dead three days later.
- Call on the name of the Lord.

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