

The Restorative Table

Key Text: Isaiah 55

55 1 'O you who are thirsty, come to the water! You who have no money, come buy and eat! Come buy wine and milk without money, free! 2 Why spend money on what cannot nourish and your earnings on what fails to satisfy? Listen carefully to me: have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. 3 Pay attention, come to me; listen, and you will live. I shall make an everlasting covenant with you – the mercies of my steadfast love for David.

4 Look, I have put him as a witness to peoples, a leader and lawgiver to peoples. 5 Look, you will summon a nation unknown to you; nations unknown to you will hurry to you for the sake of the LORD your God because the Holy One of Israel has made you glorious.

6 Seek the LORD while he is to be found, call to him while he is near

7 Let the wicked abandon their ways and the sinful their thoughts. Let them turn back to the LORD that he may have mercy on them, to our God, for he is rich in forgiveness. 8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts and your ways are not my ways – declares the LORD. 9 For as the heavens are high above earth so are my ways above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts.

10 For as the rain and the snow come down from the sky and do not return before watering the earth, fertilizing it and making it germinate to provide seed for the sower and food to eat, 11 so it is with the word that goes forth from my mouth: it does not return to me unfulfilled or before carrying out my purpose and achieving what it was sent to do. 1

2 You will come out with joy and be guided in peace. Mountains and hills will break into joyful cries before you and all the trees of the countryside clap their hands. 13 Cypress will grow instead of thorns,

myrtles instead of nettles. And this will be a memorial for the LORD, an eternal sign that shall not be destroyed.'

1. Provision — Luke 9:10–17

God meets us in our hunger.

2. Rest — Luke 10:38–42

Rest comes from sitting in the presence of Christ.

3. Healing — Mark 2:13–17

The table becomes a place where broken people begin to heal.

4. Restoration — John 21:9–17

Grace restores people to their calling.

Closing: Isaiah 55

God's invitation remains open: Come, eat, and be restored.