

He Will Abundantly Pardon

Isaiah 55:1-11

We need forgiveness

- What all men hold in common. Romans 3:23
- Will we admit and recognize our need? 2 Samuel 12:13; Psalms 51:3
- Do we ever feel like the Pharisee in Luke? 18:9-14
- Hunger for righteousness begins with recognizing our need for forgiveness.

We need forgiveness

- Ecclesiastes 7:20-21, *"Indeed, there is not a righteous man on earth who continually does good and who never sins."*
- Psalms 143:1-2, *"Hear my prayer, O Lord, give ear to my supplications! Answer me in Your faithfulness, in Your righteousness! And do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for in Your sight no man living is righteous."*
- Psalms 130:1-4, *"Out of the depths I have cried to Thee, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice! Let Thine ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications. If You, Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee, that You may be feared."*

Isaiah 55:7

- What is the context?
 - Isaiah 53 – promise of a Savior who would lay down His life for man.
 - Isaiah 54 – the reconciliation of God's people to Himself.
 - Isaiah 55 – how we can obtain the mercy and pardon for our sins.
- Forgiveness is available. If we meet God's conditions, God has promised that He will "abundantly pardon."

- **Compassion** – "mercy" – "to love, to love deeply, to have mercy, to be compassionate, to have tender affection, to have compassion" (Brown Driver & Briggs Hebrew Lexicon)

- **Abundantly pardon** – abound in forgiveness. Jeremiah 33:8. References to this word have to point to the forgiveness found through Jesus Christ.
 - Jeremiah 31:31-34 – the new covenant would be marked by the complete forgiveness of sin that would be "remembered no more."
 - Indicates **great repetition sometimes** and so noted in this verse.

They realize that the things of this life don't provide them with what man needs most – 55:1-2

- What are we hungering and thirsting for? Psalms 42:1-2; 63:1; John 4:10-14; 7:37-38; Matthew 5:6
- Passing pleasures – Hebrews 11:24-26; Ecclesiastes 2:1-11

They are those who “incline their ear” and “come to” the Lord - 55:3

- Pay attention give your ear to the Lord. Isaiah 51:4-5
- God is trying to get our attention.
 - 2 Chronicles 33:9-10, Nehemiah 9:34, Isaiah 48:17-18
- Hebrew word for attention: means to prick up the ears (like an animal)
- Forgiveness is for those who give their full attention to God.

They are those who take advantage of every opportunity – 55:6

- There may be a time when it's too late.
- We assume the feast will always be there. Amos 8:11-12
- Psalms 32:6; **“pray to God in a time when He may be found”**
- Is this a “day of small things”? Zechariah 4:10; Hebrews 3:12

They are those who are willing to repent and change – 55:7

- Inside out ... Joel 2:13
- Bear Fruit ... Matthew 3:8; Acts 26:20
- Continue in sin? Romans 6:1; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
- Put them all aside ... Colossians 3:8; Ephesians 4:22
- Perhaps ... Jeremiah 36:1-3

They are those who will humble themselves before God's will – 55:8-9

- Think we're pretty smart? Psalms 50:17-21
- “Thy will be done” – Matthew 26:42; John 6:38
- It's not in us ... Jeremiah 10:23
- Potter and the clay – Isaiah 29:16; 45:9; Job 40:1-5

They are those who respond in faith and obedience to God's word – 55:10-11

- God has promised His word will succeed in the matter for which He sent it.
- Power is in the gospel – Romans 1:16
- Do we believe? 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Deuteronomy 29:29