

*Sermon Outline July 3, 2016*  
*“Gospel Repentance Offered” Isaiah 55*

I. *Repentance, a call, a “Ho”, an invitation, to something better, even to abundance –*

**“Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price.<sup>2</sup> Why do you spend money for what is not bread, And your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, And let your soul delight itself in abundance. (Isaiah 55:1-2 NKJ)**

1. *“Ho!” An attention grabbing word.*

The introductory particle (*hoi*) is mainly an attention-getting device, but it expresses a slight tone of pity. The prophet is an evangelist with a concern for the souls of men and a realization of their desperate condition without the blessings that the servant has obtained.

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2. *A call to the thirsty was not strange in Israel, waters sellers were common in such a dry land, but here spiritual waters are in view! Jesus gives a similar invitation –*

**On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.<sup>38</sup> “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”<sup>39</sup> But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. (John 7:37-39 NKJ)**

3. *Here wine and milk are offered-*

A. *Wine a symbol of God’s grace, His work to make us glad / happy –*

**And wine that makes glad the heart of man...(Psalm 104:15 NKJ)**

B. *Milk – a word connected to God’s Word –*

as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, (1 Peter 2:2 NKJ)

4. *What we spend are money, our efforts, our time on, is not bread. Meaning the things men give themselves to, seek, are NOT going to fill or satisfy a soul made for God!*
5. *God has something better for us, abundant life –*

**... eat what is good, And let your soul delight itself in abundance. (Isaiah 55:2 NKJ)**

**“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. (John 10:10 NKJ)**

II. *Repentance, a call to hear, to listen –*

**... Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, And let your soul delight itself in abundance.<sup>3</sup> Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live; ... 55:2b-3a NKJ)**

הִטָּא natah {naw-taw'}<sup>3</sup> **Incline your ear**

**Meaning:** 1) to stretch out, extend, spread out, pitch, turn, incline, bend

**“Therefore take heed how you hear. For whoever has, to him more will be given; and whoever does not have, even what he seems to have will be taken from him.” (Luke 8:18 NKJ)**

III. *Repentance, a call to the everlasting covenant, to sure mercies of David, to Jesus Christ, the Great Son of David and fulfiller of all God’s promises*

**And I will make an everlasting covenant with you-- The sure mercies of David.<sup>4</sup> Indeed I have given him as a witness to the people, a leader and commander for the people. (Isaiah 55:3b-4 NKJ)**

*This is a reference to Jesus Christ –*

1. *He is the Son of David, who gains us the sure mercies of David –*  
**And behold, two blind men sitting by the road, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, saying, “Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!”<sup>31</sup> Then the multitude warned them that they should be quiet; but they cried out all the more, saying, “Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!” (Matthew 20:30-31 NKJ)**

2. *He is the Fulfiller, and Fulfilment of all God’s Covenant promises –*  
**For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, who was preached among you by us-- by me, Silvanus, and Timothy-- was not Yes and No, but in Him was Yes.<sup>20</sup> For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us. (2 Corinthians 1:19-20 NKJ)**

3. *Jesus is a witness –*  
**and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed**

us from our sins in His own blood, (Revelation 1:5 NKJ)

4. *Jesus is our leader and commander –*

And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, "Are You for us or for our adversaries?"<sup>14</sup> So He said, "No, but as Commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, "What does my Lord say to His servant?"<sup>15</sup> Then the Commander of the LORD'S army said to Joshua, "Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand is holy." And Joshua did so. (Joshua 5:13-15 NKJ)

"These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those *who are* with Him are called, chosen, and faithful." (Revelation 17:14 NKJ)

5. *Jesus is the PERSON, the God-Man, the Leader, we repent to, and follow –*

"My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. (John 10:27 NKJ)

IV. *Repentance, a call to nations, even gentile nations*

–

Surely you shall call a nation you do not know, and nations *who do not know you shall run to you, Because of the LORD your God, And the Holy One of Israel; For He has glorified you.*" (Isaiah 55:5 NKJ)

1. *A message for our nation once a Christian nation –  
John Jay, First Chief-Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court -*

*"Providence has given to our people the choice of their rulers, and it is their duty – as well as privilege and interest – of our Christian nation to select and prefer Christians for their rulers."*

– John Jay

2. *We have moved ourselves far from our gracious start – can we run to God again?*

V. *Repentance, a call to seek God, a call to forsake our ways and thoughts and seek God's mercy –*

Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near.

<sup>7</sup> Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his

thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon. (Isaiah 55:6-7 NKJ)

1. *We need to forsake our wicked ways –*

There is a way *that seems* right to a man, But its end *is* the way of death. (Proverbs 14:12 NKJ)

... the way of the ungodly shall perish. (Psalm 1:6 NKJ)

2. *We need to choose God's Higher, Better Thoughts and Ways, see next point –*

VI. *Repentance, a high call up to God's Thoughts and God's Ways, which are found in God's Unstoppable Word –*

"For My thoughts *are* not your thoughts, Nor *are* your ways My ways," says the LORD.<sup>9</sup> "For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, So *are* My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts."<sup>10</sup> "For *as* the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater,<sup>11</sup> So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper *in the thing* for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:8-11 NKJ)

1. *His thoughts and ways are exceedingly different, higher and better than ours - :9*

2. *His Word will accomplish its purpose and His Word is how He teaches us His Ways - :10-11*

VII. *The call of repentance is a call that brings ultimate JOY*

–

"For you shall go out with joy, And be led out with peace; The mountains and the hills Shall break forth into singing before you, And all the trees of the field shall clap *their* hands."<sup>13</sup> Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree, And instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree; And it shall be to the LORD for a name, For an everlasting sign *that shall not be cut off.*" (Isaiah 55:12-13 NKJ)

"The two verbs are striking; *ye shall go out* perhaps has its roots in a reflection upon the exodus from Egypt, and signifies the departure of God's people from the bondage of sin in which they had been held captive."

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*The picture of nature is opposite of Paul's – Romans 8:22, and symbolizes full redemption! Relief & release from the curse caused by sin – Revelation*

22:3

*Arnold Brevick*