

**Series: Isaiah 40-66**  
**Lesson: Isaiah 54-55**  
**Author: Harold Shank**



Theme: The God of hope and history sends a servant

1. Isaiah 54 includes three extended metaphors describing God's relationship to Israel in Babylonian captivity.
  - a. Husband and wife, children and tents
    - i. In this metaphor Israel in captivity is compared to a barren woman who is told to sing for joy.
    - ii. God is the husband who has called his wife.
  - b. Noah and the flood
    - i. God punishes the world by a flood and then ended the flood.
    - ii. Just as he ended the flood, God will now end exile.
  - c. War
    - i. The return from exile will end oppression and terror.
    - ii. Any coming war with Judah will not originate with God and God will protect the people.
2. Isaiah 55 - Teaching about God's ways, thoughts and words.
  - a. God's invitation
    - i. What choice is Israel given?
    - ii. What is the difference between Babylonian food and God's food?
  - b. God's thoughts
    - i. There are two sets of ways and two sets of thoughts.
    - ii. Does this passage suggest that God's ways can or cannot be understood? Explain.
    - iii. How are God's ways, thoughts and words like rain and snow?
  - c. Announcement
    - i. Isaiah announces the return.
    - ii. All nature responds to the return from exile