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Isaiah 54

THE REMAINDER of this section of Isaiah portrays the results of the atoning work of the Servant of the LORD and adds more detail to what is summarized in 53:11, "He will see the result of the travail of his soul and will be satisfied."

Chapter 54 describes the far-reaching effects of the Servant's work in general terms. In 55:1-56:2 there is a very specific personal application to all who put their faith in the LORD's Servant. The statements in 56:3-8 show the universal outreach of the work of the Servant as God's grace is extended to people of every nation and His Temple becomes a house of prayer for all people.

The results of what the Servant did are to go on through all eternity. Much of the material in these three chapters looks forward to the very distant future. The prophet sees a beautiful vision of the glories that will come as a result of the atonement described in chapter 53. Much of its language is figurative, but its general import is usually quite clear, though some portions may not be fully understood until the time of their fulfillment.

Most of the material in these chapters describes the future blessing of all the followers of the LORD's Servant regardless of their racial or national background. In Part 3 only one small passage is devoted specifically to the nation of Israel (54:4-10). The words *Jacob*, *Jerusalem*, and *Zion*, so frequent in Parts 1 and 2, never occur in Part 3; and even the word *Israel* occurs only three times, in two of which it is merely part of the phrase "the Holy One of Israel" (54:5; 55:5).