



1/13/26

*I was in a doctor's office, and I heard the U2 song, I still haven't found what I'm looking for. I thought it was kind of ironic in light of today's passage. The wonderful thing is... for all who have received Jesus as our Savior, we HAVE found what we're looking for! Or should I say... WHO!*

*Blessings,  
Jonna*

*Isaiah 54:9-17*

*I have a recurring dream every once in a while. The details in the dream may change but the theme never does. I'm always trying to get somewhere or to something... and no matter what I do, I never arrive. I'm sure there's some psychological reason for that, but I don't know what it is. I just know it happens. I wonder if Noah or his family were having dreams like that during the 377 days on the ark. I bring this up because today's passage makes me think of it. Promises of hope are given but I realize in some ways the complete fulfillment of these promises hasn't yet arrived. But I can be confident that, unlike my dreams, I don't have to search or hope for what I need to find. I have the promise of vs. 17 that I can anchor my confidence in... "This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord and their vindication from me, declares the Lord."*

*So now, I look at the verses that come before vs. 17 to see... What is my heritage as a servant of the Lord?*

*God was speaking specifically to the Israelites who had been in captivity because of their own rebellion. He was giving hope that He as their Redeemer would restore them because of His everlasting love and compassion. Can I apply the truths of this passage to myself? I'm not Jewish. But yes, I can... on a spiritual, eternal level. Jesus is my Redeemer. I was captive to the domain of darkness, destined for eternal imprisonment in hell. But Jesus redeemed me and made me part of the bride of Christ, the church, His body.*

*Vs. 9-10 ~ God said that His redemption is like the days of Noah... the unconditional covenant promise He made that He would no longer cover the earth with a flood. He would no longer be*

*angry with mankind, knowing full well that the intentions of our hearts are still evil from our youth. His promise was not based on their obedience, but His goodness.*

*He said, "For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but My steadfast love shall not depart from you, and My covenant of peace shall not be removed," says the Lord, who has compassion on you." This is a verse I held so tightly to while I was growing up. But I didn't understand how deep its truth goes. No matter what I face on this earth, no matter how bad things get, because of God's unconditional love, He will never withhold His love from me... though I deserve it! I can say I faced a lot of struggles as a child that I did not bring on myself... but it's also true that I made a lot of bad choices that DID bring deserved consequences. And yet, even in God's discipline, He never stopped loving me. His peace is mine even if this world is full of troubles. Romans 5:1 says, "Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God." He will not remove His peace from me. This is a promise that is true right now... it's not one I have to wait for. It has already arrived, proven with the blood of Jesus on the cross. Why would God love me like this? He has compassion on me. That never changes because I belong to Him.*

*Vs. 11-12 ~ God refers to His servants as "afflicted one, storm tossed and not comforted." The Israelites had been afflicted because of their own rebellion. God allowed the storms to come so that they would turn back to Him in repentance. But He never removed His love from them. I need to remember that if God allows the storm in my life, there is something He wants to change in me. It isn't to condemn me, but to rescue me.*

*Here is what I wait to see in all its fullness... He will lavish me with His beautiful jewels. My foundation will be laid with sapphires. What does that mean for me on the eternal level? All the riches of wisdom and knowledge are found in Jesus. Jesus is my priceless foundation. I am anchored in Him, and no one can break my foundation. The beauty I will experience in heaven will absolutely be gorgeous jewels, but the treasures of heaven are so much more. This is waiting for me. This is where I need to place my hope.*

*Vs. 13-14 ~ This is my prayer... that my children will be taught by the Lord and be filled with His peace. I am so thankful that my children do know the Lord and are being taught by Him. Let me never think that I'm their answer of hope... but let me always point them and their children to Jesus. O Lord, please let my heritage be filled with generations of children who put their trust in You!*

*I will be established in righteousness. This is true for me now... and it is being made more and more true for me as I grow in Christ through the transforming power of the Spirit. Romans 5:17 says that Jesus has given me the free gift of righteousness, and Hebrews 10:14 says that He has "perfected for all time those who ARE BEING sanctified." God is doing in me what He has declared over me... righteousness which brings peace.*

*He is not allowing oppression to destroy me now, and the day will come when He will keep all the devil's schemes from touching me in any way, because the devil will be bound in prison forever.*

*So I don't need to fear now, though if I'm being honest... I do. But I can hold to the promise of Psalm 46:1, God is my EVER-PRESENT help in trouble. The devil can't destroy God's work.*

*Vs. 15 ~ I can be sure that the Lord does not CAUSE strife to come to me. When He ALLOWS any strife to touch my life, He will work good through it. He will never call it good, but He will work it for good. Not only that, but He will stop those who stir up strife for me... in His timing and His way.*

*Vs. 16-17 ~ No weapon that's fashioned against me will be able to take me down because God is the one who gave the blacksmiths the ability to make weapons. God will give me the words to show those who speak against me that they're wrong.*

*These are the promises I can hold to from the Lord... In the here and now, I will see Him sustain me and provide for me. In the eternal perspective, He will completely fulfill all these promises.*

*Truly, if God's promises were only for the temporary of this world, what would it matter? The beauty of it all is that His promises are forever.*

*This is my heritage because I belong to Him. I am His servant and His adopted daughter and His friend. He's given me the right to hold all these titles. He's given me His righteousness. I did nothing to deserve any of this, but because of his unfailing love, He freely gives it all. O Lord, I am Your servant, let it be to me according to Your word.*