



3/19/26

*I just finished the book, *Waiting on God*, by Andrew Murray for the 4th or 5th time. If there was any book I would want to memorize other than the Bible, this would be the book. My natural inclination is always to move toward self-reliance. This book reminds me in so many ways that self-reliance is self-sabotage. In the final chapter, Andrew Murray says, "Never forget the two foundational truths on which this blessed waiting rests... They are simply: your absolute helplessness and the absolute sufficiency of your God." Isaiah 55 is a perfect example of this encouragement. I truly have nothing to offer God, and I have no ability to provide for myself apart from God, but God is so faithful to provide for me everything I need. Everything. He leaves nothing out. The only thing that keeps me from believing that is assuming I know what I need better than He does... like a toddler who thinks she knows what she needs better than her parents do... even when that means she thinks eating dog food or standing on the table is a good idea. 🙄 O Lord, please help us to trust Your wisdom and all sufficient provision, and help us NOT to trust our own minds or our own wisdom apart from You.*

*Blessings,  
Jonna*

*Isaiah 55 ~*

*Vs. 1-2 ~ The LORD God says, "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to Me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food."*

*What is God calling me to do? Come to Him! He calls "all who are thirsty" to come. Who is thirsty? EVERYONE! We may not all realize how thirsty we are; we may get used to living on ice chips and little sips... but we're thirsty. O Lord, please help me to realize how thirsty I am. Please lead me to the water.*

*I love what Jesus said about the living water in John 7:37-38. He made the same call as this verse, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink." His invitation was for us to receive*

*the Holy Spirit who would be the living water flowing from our hearts. This is why I'm called NOT to quench the Spirit at work in my heart. He's the one who quenches my thirst.*

*God says to buy food and drink "without money and without price." My money is no good with Him, but He puts no price tag on what He has for me. And yet, I so often think I have to pay. When I'm doing that, I'm trying to buy the wrong food and drink.*

*He says, "Why do spend your money for that which is not bread? Why work for that which doesn't satisfy?" Truly, have I ever had lasting satisfaction from something that God did not provide? Isn't it crazy to keep working and spending on plastic bread and fleeting satisfaction? Why would I do that? Maybe it's because I want to be in control. But isn't being in control overrated when God is the one who is asking me to give it to Him? If I'm not giving Him control, it's either because I falsely think I know better Him, or I think I will find more pleasure apart from Him, or I think He won't really take care of me, or I believe He doesn't really care. All those are lies from the pit of hell that play with my feelings and try to deceive me.*

*The truth is, God wants to give me what is good, to DELIGHT myself in rich food. The goodness and delight I really want only come from Him. Psalm 63:5-6 says, "My soul will be SATISFIED as with fat and rich food, and my mouth will praise You with joyful lips, when I remember You upon my bed, and meditate on You in the watches of the night." This is the truth. So I need to LISTEN DILIGENTLY to the LORD.*

*I need to listen diligently to the LORD and NOT my feelings, NOT the lies of the world or the devil, NOT misguided opinions based on, "Well, I THINK God would want..." as though God is dead. Let His WORD speak. It is always available to me!!!*

*Vs. 3-4 ~ "Incline your ear, and come to Me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, My steadfast, sure love for David. Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples."*

*Incline my ear to the Lord. Lean in to hear what He has to say. He does have something to say. I can always find it in His word. Why does He want me to hear Him? And not just hear Him, but come to Him... to listen to Him like Lazarus' sister Mary did when she sat at the feet of Jesus... listening diligently. He wants to give LIFE to my soul! That word for life means "revive." He wants to revive me... to fill me with what I need... the spiritual food and drink I need to have energy and to satisfy my hunger and thirst... not just with the leftovers or crumbs, but with RICH, delightful food.*

*In Isaiah 55, the Lord spoke of making a covenant with all who come, the covenant with David. This covenant is everlasting. This covenant He speaks of is a prophecy of Jesus! It is everlasting. It is steadfast, never going away. It is the covenant loyalty love that the Father has for Jesus, the descendant of David... that love poured into all who come. The love God has for His only begotten Son is the same love He has for me!!! And what part do I have in this covenant with the Lord? I'm just called to come!*

*God made David a witness of His love for His chosen people. He also made him a leader and commander for them. But let me not miss this. Isaiah was written about 300 years AFTER David died!!! This is talking about JESUS!!! JESUS became a witness when He left His throne to come to earth and give Himself for us. JESUS is our leader and commander... and not just for the Israelites!!! I just have to read the next verse to see this truth...*

*Vs. 5 ~ "Behold, You (Jesus) shall call a nation that You do not know, and a nation that did not know You shall run to You, because of the Lord Your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for He has glorified You."*

*This is so beautiful! Who is the nation that did not know Jesus? The Gentiles!!! That's me! It's a whole new people for the Lord. 1 Peter 2:9-10 speaks of this... "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for His own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy." Through Jesus, all who come to Him are a new, chosen race of people who belong to Him... who run to Him and worship Him. Why? Because the LORD has glorified Jesus as it says in Philippians 2:9-11, "Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."*

*If this is true... and it is..., why WOULDN'T I listen diligently to the Lord? Why WOULDN'T I come to Him and hear and live and be revived?*

*Vs. 6-7 ~ So what should I do if I haven't been listening diligently to the Lord? This is a salvation call, but it's also a call for believers to give themselves wholeheartedly to the Lord in full devotion... to be satisfied in Him. He says, "Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon."*

*What am I called to do? Seek HIM! Seek NOT my feelings or my selfish desires. Seek HIM! Forsake my ungodly, selfish ways... rather than forsaking God. Forsake my thoughts that love what He hates and hate what He loves. The fact is, I can't hold onto the Lord AND the things that don't satisfy. I can't walk the tight rope. Eventually I will fall. The question is, which direction will I choose to fall?*

*Let me return to the LORD! And not to my old selfish, self-sabotaging ways. There are two things I need to see here that are so important... First, when I return to the Lord, He has abundant compassion for me. His grace and mercy are bigger than my sin. He abundantly pardons my sin. I don't have to earn my way to Him. I don't have to clean myself up in order to come to Him, just like I don't have to fix my broken arm before going to the doctor.*

*Second, I DO have to return to the Lord. Restoration comes with repentance. Saying, "I choose this sin. I know God will forgive me" is a terrible, cruel, heartless thing to do to the One who poured out His blood for me. His compassion and forgiveness come at a cost... to HIM. Let me never trample on His compassion and forgiveness by continuing to indulge myself in the things for which Jesus had to die.*

*Vs. 8-9 ~ "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts."*

*I have heard these two verses for years, but so often I didn't hear them in context of the chapter. This is so beautiful! The Lord speak of His higher ways and thoughts right after He speaks of His compassion and forgiveness. Do I think I'm compassionate? God is exponentially more. Do I think I'm a forgiving person? God is exponentially more. If I think I've just done too much wrong and He could not pardon me or that He's disgusted with me, I'm thinking of Him way too small. Numbers 23:19 says, "God is not man, that He should lie, or a son of man, that He should change His mind. Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not fulfill it?"*

*He absolutely will do all He says He will do... and this me gives so much hope when I read the next 2 verses...*

*Vs. 10-11 ~ "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes out from My mouth; it shall not return to Me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it."*

*This promise is so cool!!! Whatever God purposes, He WILL accomplish it. But it is even bigger than that!!! What does John 1:1 say about Jesus? "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." JESUS IS THE WORD THAT DOES NOT RETURN EMPTY!!!*

*Without God, I have no water. Without God, I have no seed to sow. Without God, I have no bread. God gives me all I need. And none of what He gives returns to Him empty. In John 17, Jesus said He was returning to the Father because He had accomplished the work the Father sent Him to do... to make the Father known and to give eternal life to all who would come to Him. Even 2000 years later He is STILL accomplishing His work. None of what He came to do is returning to Him empty or void. That includes MY SALVATION. God is so generous, so merciful, so compassionate, so patient as He calls His created image bearers to come to Him! He owes us NOTHING! He gives us everything.*

*Now this call and promise from God ends with JOY! How often do I think of God as the God of JOY? That is not the first thing that comes to mind. But He IS the God of JOY. And He says*

*that His joy is my strength.*

*Vs. 12-13 ~ "For You shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before You shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the Lord, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."*

*This again is so much HOPE, so much JOY! Both God's spoken word AND Jesus who IS the word came to earth in JOY. Hebrews 12:2 says that it was "for the JOY set before Him that He endured the cross." And He led in peace, because He is not only the God of JOY, but He is the God of PEACE. In John 16:33, moments before He was arrested, illegally tried, and then crucified, Jesus said, "I have said these things to you, that in Me you may have PEACE. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."*

*At His coming, all of creation sang and cheered. Why? Because of hope. Here's the hope for me. My life was just a thorn. But God has made me a cypress... an evergreen that never dies. My eternity is secure. Instead of a thorny brier that has berries camouflaging the thorns... like selfish desires camouflaging self-sabotage, God grows in me a myrtle... a beautiful flowering tree that causes no pain or destruction.*

*My whole purpose now is to be a sign like Jesus was, who points to the name of the Father... He is an everlasting sign that will NEVER be cut off or dethroned. This is such a beautiful, eternal purpose. It is satisfying. It is rich and delightful. This is what God has done for me... a former thorn bush and brier.*

*So my call is to ~*

- *Come*
- *Buy without money or price... so basically, RECEIVE*
- *Listen diligently*
- *Eat and delight in His delicacies*
- *Incline my hear to Him*
- *Hear*
- *Run to Him*
- *Seek Him*
- *Call upon Him*
- *Return to Him*
- *Leave my old ways AND thoughts for HIS ways and thoughts*

*And what does God promise?*

- *Food and drink at His cost, not mine*
- *Delightful delicacy that satisfies*

- *Life and revival*
- *An everlasting covenant*
- *Steadfast love*
- *Jesus*
- *Compassion*
- *Forgiveness*
- *His thoughts and ways*
- *His Word that always accomplishes His purpose*
- *Joy*
- *Peace*
- *A whole new identity*

*Praise the Lord!!! Here I am, Father. I'm ready to eat and drink and delight in You.*