

ISAIAH ♦ Rescued & Renewed



“Finally and Fully Satisfied”

Isaiah 55:1-13

November 3, 2019

Isaiah 55:1-13

“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. ² 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. ³ 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.

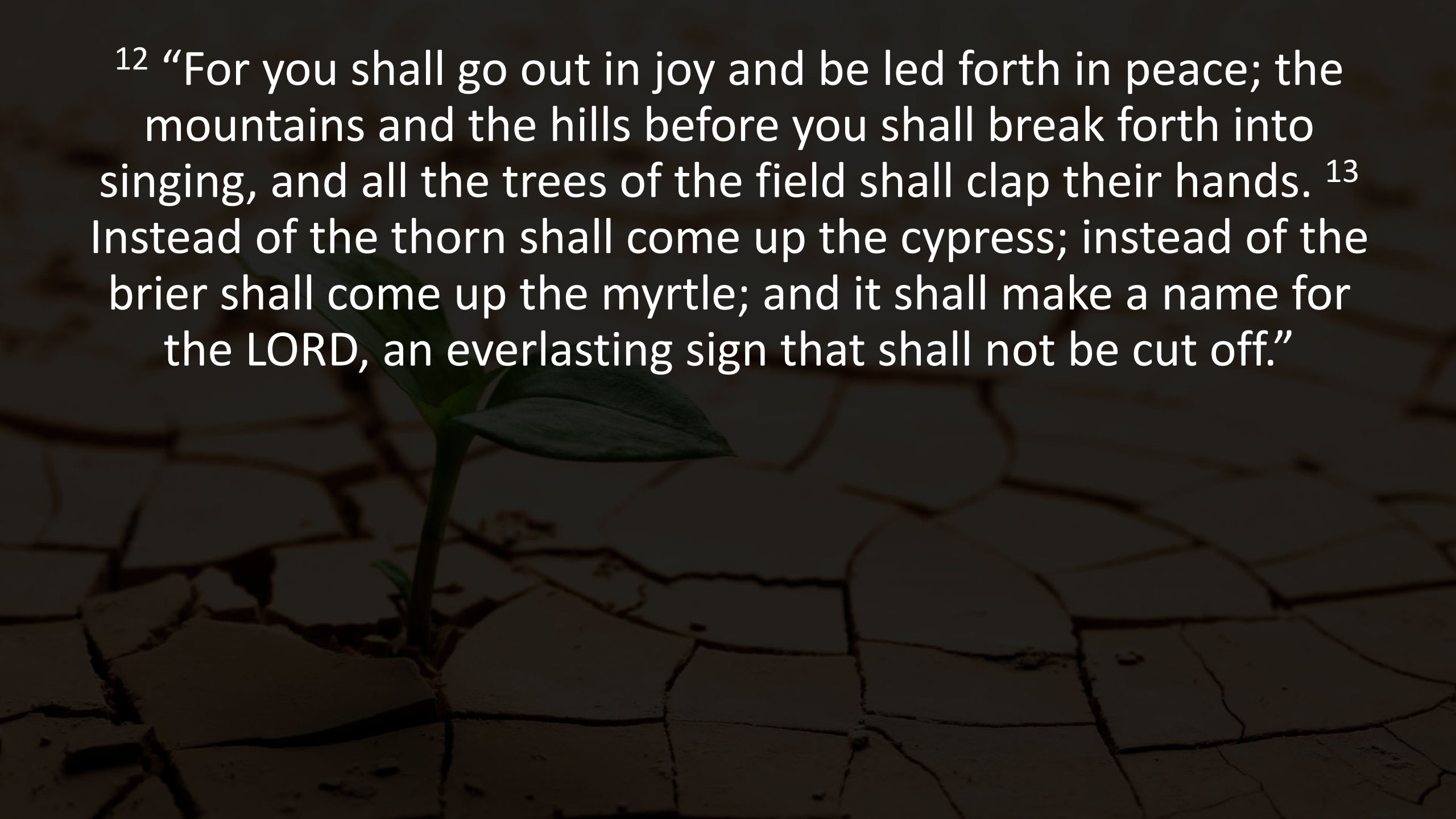
⁴ Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵ Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know, and a nation that did not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

⁶ “Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; ⁷ 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.

⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

¹⁰ “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, ¹¹ 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.

12 “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. 13 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.”

A small green plant with three leaves is growing out of a cracked, dry, brownish ground. The ground is covered in a network of dark, irregular cracks, suggesting a parched or arid environment. The plant is positioned in the lower-left quadrant of the image, with its stem and leaves clearly visible against the cracked earth.

Wholeness: Created, Lost and Pursued

Genesis 1:31

And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.

Genesis 3:6b

the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate

Isaiah 55:2

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

...that which is not bread...that which does not satisfy...



If only_____,
I'd be...
Whole
Complete
Satisfied
Happy

If only...she would love me

If only...I was accepted/respected

If only...I could make more money

If only... I could stop this sin

If only... my kids turn out "ok"

Cost / Benefit

...spend your money...and your labor...

Luke 12:16

And (Jesus) told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷ and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ ¹⁸ And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.”’ ²⁰ But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹ So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not ***rich toward God.***”

Cost:

Time, Talent and Treasure

My Heart & Soul

“You’ll Ruin Your Appetite”
The deeper “cost” is forgoing REAL thing.

Cost / Benefit

...spend your money...and your labor...

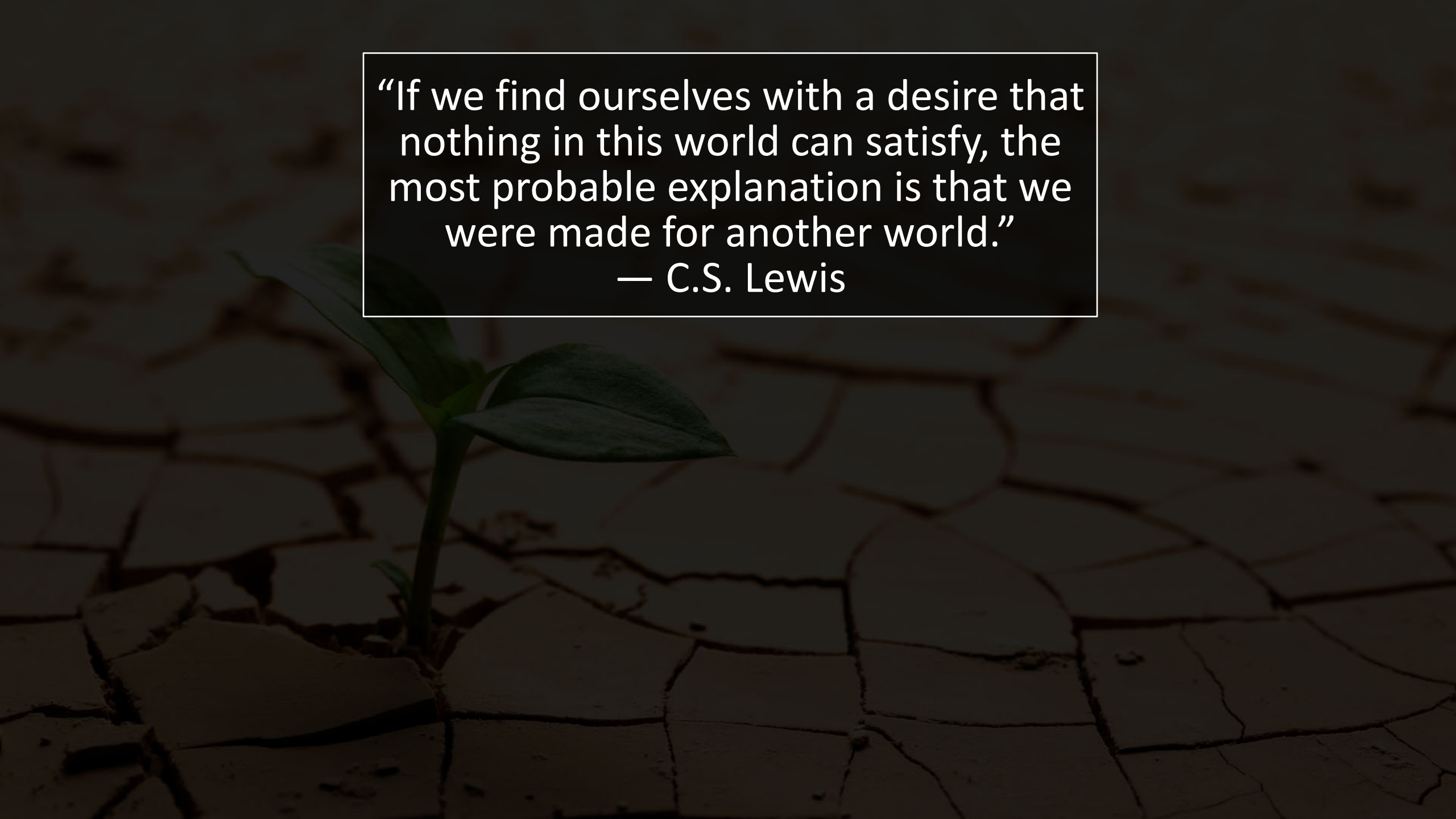
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Benefit:

It DOES “satisfy”
(until it doesn’t)

The “Then What”

A small green plant with two leaves is growing out of a patch of cracked, dry earth. The background is dark and textured, suggesting a parched landscape. The text is overlaid on a white rectangular box in the upper right quadrant.

“If we find ourselves with a desire that nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that we were made for another world.”
— C.S. Lewis

Wholeness: Offered

Isaiah 55

^{2b} *Listen diligently* to me...

⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. ⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Our culture, feelings and intellect tell me to “Satisfy Myself”

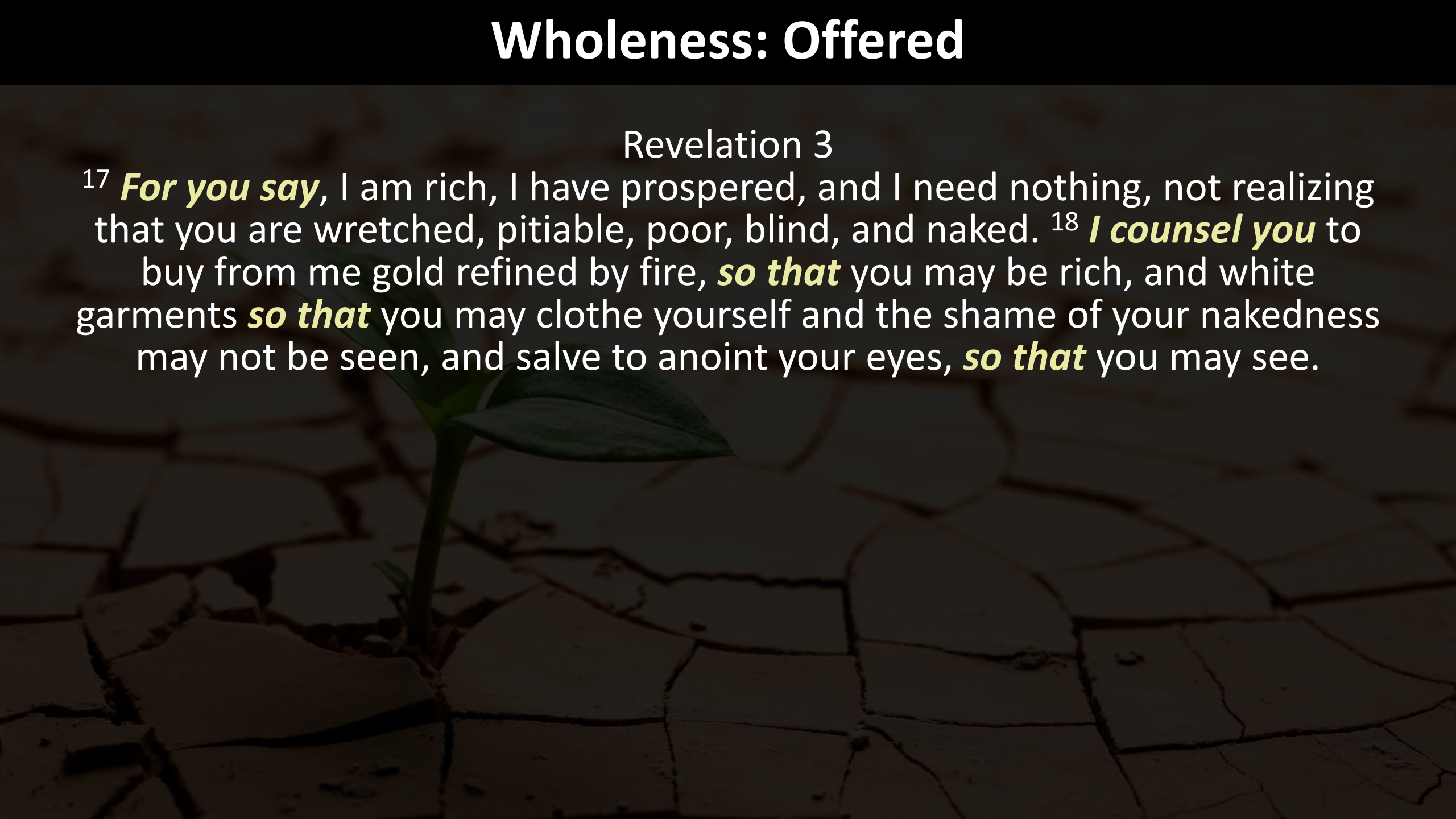
(“If it feels good, do it”)

But there’s a Truer Truth.

Wholeness: Offered

Revelation 3

¹⁷ ***For you say***, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked. ¹⁸ ***I counsel you*** to buy from me gold refined by fire, ***so that*** you may be rich, and white garments ***so that*** you may clothe yourself and the shame of your nakedness may not be seen, and salve to anoint your eyes, ***so that*** you may see.

A small green plant with several leaves is growing out of a patch of cracked, dry earth. The background is dark and textured, suggesting a parched landscape.

Isaiah 55

“Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! ^{2b} **Listen diligently** to me, and **eat** what is good, and **delight** yourselves in rich food. ³ **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.

⁶ **Seek** the LORD while he may be found; **call** upon him while he is near; ⁷ 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 We Can Do:

- Seek & Run
- Return & Forsake
- Call & Listen
- Eat & Delight

Psalm 34:8

Oh, taste and see
that the LORD is good!

Isaiah 55

“Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! ^{2b} Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ 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.

⁶ Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; ⁷ 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 God Will Do:

- Have Compassion
- Abundantly Pardon
- Make a Covenant
- Make You Alive
- SATISFY YOU

Wholeness: Secured in Christ

1 Peter 1:3-5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, ***he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ*** from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

The death of Christ pays for and reverses the emptiness that Sin has caused...re-creating us back into wholeness with God.

Wholeness: Secured in Christ

Colossians 3:1-3

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

***Because, in Christ, God
is Satisfied with us,***

***We can now be
satisfied in Him***

Wholeness: Finally and Fully Restored

¹² “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. ¹³ 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.***”