

v. 10-11-- We are God's vessels. His word goes forth from His mouth --He speaks to our spirits--by receiving His Word and living it, we're holding it and putting it into the earth for His final victory. (See notes for Isaiah 42:4)

v. 12-13-- We must declare His Word with joy and peace. Put His word back into the earth, so He can recreate the earth itself to be like the Garden of Eden again. Paul says that nature will share in our glory at the end.

## Chapter 56

v. 1-- Our salvation is already here if we've accepted Jesus into our hearts. His righteousness has been revealed to us if we've been baptized in the Spirit by Christ Jesus.

v. 2-- Blessed is the man who doeth this--who accepts Christ's Salvation. He is the Lord of the Sabbath (Mark 2:27 & 28) and those who live by the Spirit, walk in the Spirit, and don't let their evil nature or other people deter them from following Christ's way.

v. 3-7-- All christians are one--no one is a stranger in the Lord and no one is "a dry tree". We are all watered and nourished by the Spirit, and everyone has an equal chance for salvation and the glorious joy of God.

v. 8-- God says He will gather others (not just the Isrealites) to Him (meaning Christ)--Jesus said that no one can come to Him except those the Father gives Him. (John 6:44)

v. 9-12-- Watch out for Satan's influence--he will try to steal our joy in the Lord--he is only out for his own gain and lives for this world and the things in it.

## Chapter 57

v. 1-- When good men die, people say "why did God take such a good man?" But sometimes He takes people to protect them from the evil in the world. This is not to be confused, however, with Satan's attacks of sickness and disease in God's people. God doesn't take people sick, he takes them peacefully and gloriously.

v. 2-- That person is resting in the glorious peace of God which in life we only taste, as Christians.

v. 3-5-- He is speaking of people who ignore Him and His love and chose money, power, fun, the shallow joys of this world, and call those who put God first, fools.