

# Haftarah

**Isaiah 54:11-55:5**

# Seven Consolations to Israel

**Isaiah 40:1-26; 49:14-51:3; 54:11-55:5; 51:12-52:12; 54:1-10; 60:1-22; and 61:10-63:9**

Isaiah = יֵשַׁעְיָהוּ = Yeshayahu = Yah is Salvation or Salvation is from Yah.

- Why Three prophetic portions of rebuke during the Three Weeks?
- Why seven prophetic consolations after Tisha B'Av leading up to Rosh Hashanah?

- We need to remember the great sins of Israel so we do not repeat these mistakes.
- But, we also need to remember God as YHWH, not just Elohim.
- The negativity bias of the (fallen) human brain internalizes criticism much more quickly than complements/praise/comfort, hence more consolations than rebukes.
- Seven is the number of creation and spiritual re-creation.

Ephesians 4:22-24 (TLV)

22 With respect to your former lifestyle, you are to **lay aside the old self** corrupted by its deceitful desires,

**23 be renewed in the spirit of your mind,**

**24 and put on the new self—created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.**

**Isaiah 40:1-26**

**49:14-51:3**

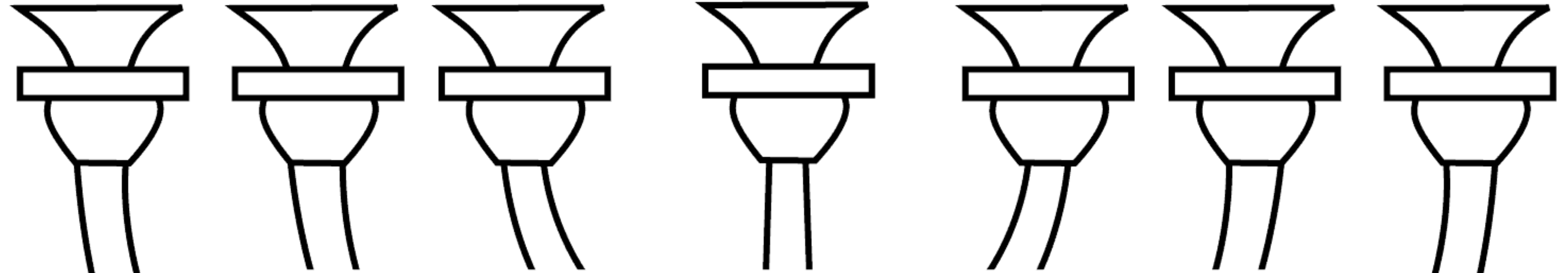
**54:11-55:5**

**51:12-52:12**

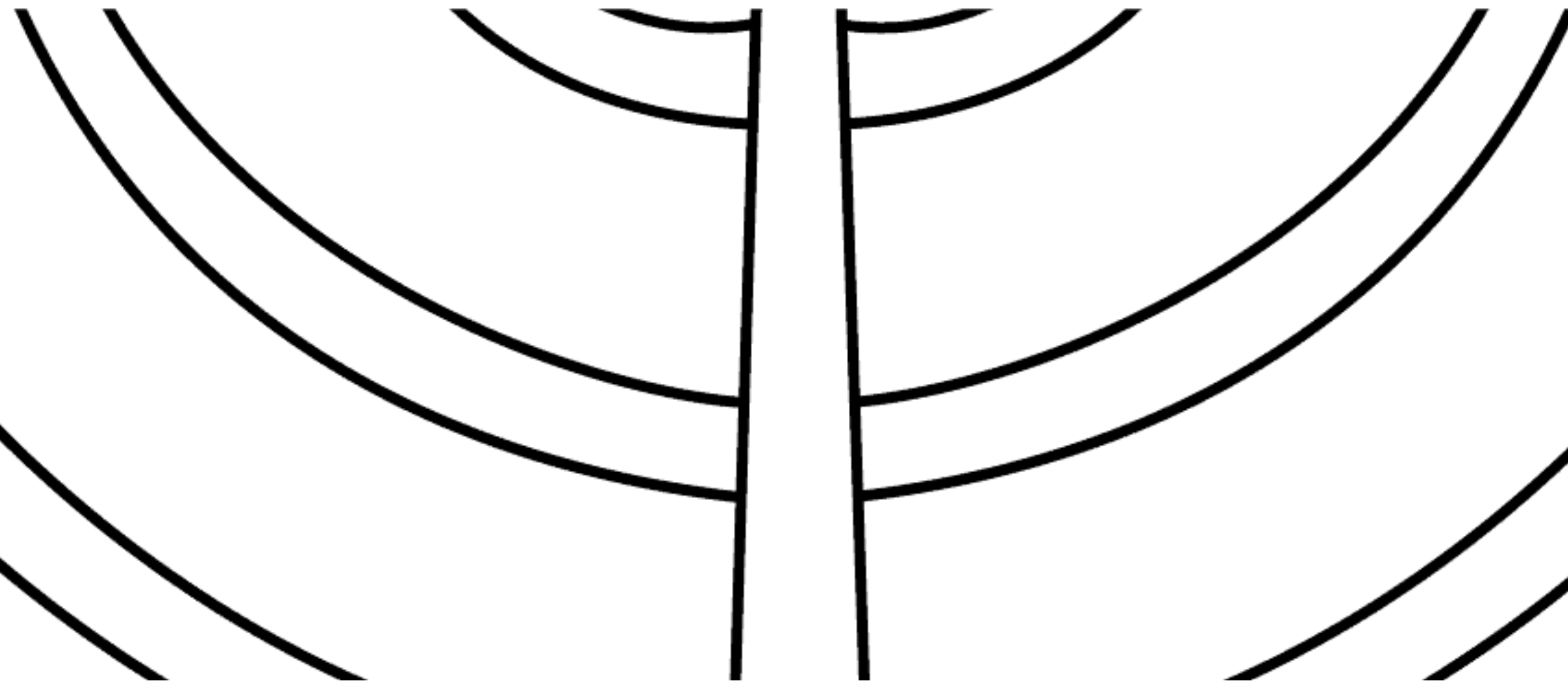
**54:1-10**

**60:1-22**

**61:10-63:9**



## **The Seven Consolations of Israel**



# 1st Consolation

## Isaiah 40:1-26 - God Sends the Prophet

“Comfort, comfort My people,” says your God. **Speak kindly to the heart of Jerusalem** and proclaim to her that her warfare has ended, that **her iniquity has been removed**. For she has received from Adonai’s hand double for all her sins.” (Isaiah 40:1-2, TLV)

- Lit. Speak upon/to the lev (heart/mind) of Jerusalem.
- Zion - Bearer of Basar - Good News! Behold YHWH Elohim - His Arm is Ruling for Him.

“Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been told to you **from the beginning**? Have you not understood **from the foundations of the earth**? He sits above the circle of the earth—its inhabitants are like grasshoppers—He stretches out the skies like a curtain, spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.” (Isaiah 40:21-22, TLV)

# 2nd Consolation

## 49:14-51:3 - Zion Responds - She Feels Forsaken

“But Zion said: “Adonai has forsaken me, Adonai has forgotten me.” “Can a woman forget her nursing baby or lack compassion for a child of her womb? Even if these forget, I will not forget you. Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of My hands. Your walls are continually before Me.” (Isaiah 49:14-16, TLV)

- Zion feels separated from Adonai - forsaken, rejected, & forgotten, which is a type of death.
- God assures her that new life is coming to her, despite her suffering.
- The covenant stands because God is faithful even when we are not.

# 3rd Consolation

## 54:11-55:5 - Prophet Reports Back to God & He Tells Zion

“Afflicted one, storm-tossed, unconsoled, behold, I set your stones in antimony, lay your foundations with sapphires, make your pinnacles of rubies, your gates of crystal, and all your walls of precious stones. All your children will be taught by Adonai. Your children will have great shalom.” (Isaiah 54:11-13, TLV)

- God assures Zion that her fruit, her children, will be taught (discipled) by YHWH Himself.
- He describes Zion being built with beautiful, eternal stones.
- He provides living waters and bread where there is no more thirst or hunger. He makes an everlasting covenant.

“No weapon formed against you will prosper and you will condemn every tongue that rises against you in judgment. This is the heritage of Adonai’s servants—their vindication is from Me.” It is a declaration of Adonai.” (Isaiah 54:17, TLV)



# 4th Consolation

## 51:12-52:12 - God Speaks to the People

“I, I am the One who comforts you. Who are you that you should fear man, who dies, or a son of man, who is given up like grass?” But you forgot Adonai your Maker, who stretched out the heavens and laid the foundations of the earth. Are you in constant dread all day because of the fury of the oppressor as he makes ready to destroy? But where is the fury of the oppressor?” (Isaiah 51:12-13, TLV)

- Altar judgments of famine and sword, the cup of Adonai’s anger, has been removed from them and given to their enemies.
- He tells them to “Wake up!” & again to “Awaken, clothe yourself with strength, with beautiful garments, shake off the dust, and arise!”
- Their beautiful FEET carry the Good News, announce Peace, & Salvation.
- I have put My words in your mouth, and covered you with the shadow of My hand... (51:16)

# 5th Consolation

## 54:1-10 - God's Face is No Longer Hidden

“Sing, barren one, who has not given birth. Burst into singing and shout, you who have not travailed. For more are the children of the desolate than the children of the married one,” says Adonai. “Enlarge the place of your tent, stretch out your tabernacle curtains. Do not hold back—lengthen your cords, strengthen your stakes.” (Isaiah 54:1-2, TLV)

- Zion emerges from her afflictions like a new creature, teeming with life!
- Joyful singing and shouts as the tent increases, strengthens, and stretches out.
- No more shame, disgrace, or reproach of widowhood.
- God's everlasting chesed, mercies, and covenant of peace prevail.

# 6th Consolation

## 60:1-22 - People Reflect God's Light & Glory At Last

“Arise, shine, for your light has come! The glory of Adonai has risen on you. For behold, darkness covers the earth, and deep darkness the peoples. But Adonai will arise upon you, and His glory will appear over you.” (Isaiah 60:1-2, TLV)

- The abundance of the sea will come to you, the wealth of nations. This is the restored dominion of man, ruling as proper image bearers of Adonai.
- You will call your walls salvation and your gates praise.
- There will be no need for the sun and moon, Adonai is the light and glory of Zion.
- The people will be righteous & possess the land forever as the branch of His planting.

“The sons of those who afflicted you will come bowing to you, and all those who despised you will fall at the soles of your feet. They will call you the city of Adonai, Zion of the Holy One of Israel.” (Isaiah 60:14, TLV - see assembly of Philadelphia)

# 7th Consolation

## 61:10-63:9 - Bride Has Made Herself Ready

“I will rejoice greatly in Adonai. My soul will be joyful in my God. For **He has clothed me with garments of salvation**, He has wrapped me in a **robe of righteousness**—like a bridegroom wearing a priestly turban, **like a bride** adorning herself with her jewels.” (Isaiah 61:10, TLV)

- For Zion’s sake, I will not keep silent. On Your Walls O Jerusalem, I have set Watchmen who will not hold their peace until Jerusalem becomes a praise in the earth!
- You will be called, “My Delight is in Her” and your land, “Married.” The Redeemed. Sought Out. A City Not Forsaken.
- The garments of the Bride and the Groom are mentioned.

“Who is this coming from Edom, in crimsoned garments from Bozrah? This One splendid in His apparel, pressing forward in His great might?” “It is I who speak in righteousness, mighty to save.” (Isaiah 63:1, TLV)

**Isaiah 40:1-26**

**49:14-51:3**

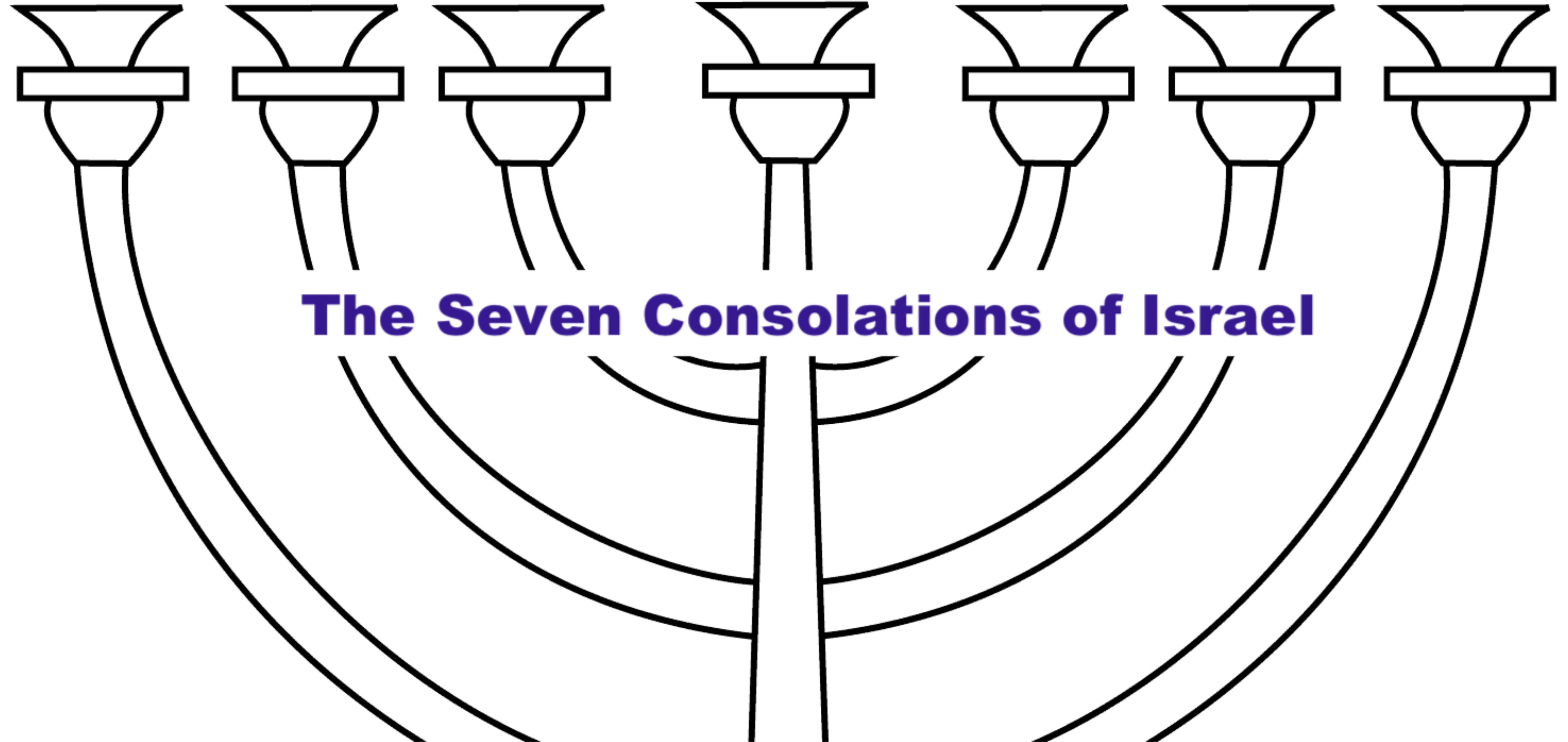
**54:11-55:5**

**51:12-52:12**

**54:1-10**

**60:1-22**

**61:10-63:9**



## **The Seven Consolations of Israel**



# Back to 3

## God's Counsel to Those Who Feel Forsaken & Forgotten

Revelation 22:16-17 (NASB)

16 "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things for the churches. **I am the root and the descendant of David**, the bright morning star."

17 The Spirit and the bride say, "**Come.**" And let the one who hears say, "**Come.**" And let the one who is **thirsty** come; let the one who wishes take the water of life **without cost.**



Isaiah 54:11-17 (NASB)

11 "O afflicted one, storm-tossed, and not comforted, Behold, I will set your stones in antimony, And your foundations I will lay in sapphires.

12 "Moreover, I will make your battlements of rubies, And your gates of crystal, And your entire wall of precious stones.

13 "All your sons will be taught of the LORD; And the well-being of your sons will be great.

14 "In righteousness you will be established; You will be far from oppression, for you will not fear; And from terror, for it will not come near you.

15 "If anyone fiercely assails you it will not be from Me. Whoever assails you will fall because of you.

16 "Behold, I Myself have created the smith who blows the fire of coals And brings out a weapon for its work; And I have created the destroyer to ruin.

17 "No weapon that is formed against you will prosper; And every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, And their vindication is from Me," declares the LORD.

## Isaiah 55:1-5 (NASB)

1 "Ho! Every one who thirsts, come to the waters; And you who have no money come, buy and eat. Come, buy wine and milk Without money and without cost.

2 "Why do you spend money for what is not bread, And your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, And delight yourself in abundance.

3 "Incline your ear and come to Me. Listen, that you may live; And I will

make an everlasting covenant with you, According to the faithful mercies shown to David.

4 "Behold, I have made him a witness to the peoples, A leader and commander for the peoples.

5 "Behold, you will call a nation you do not know, And a nation which knows you not will run to you, Because of the LORD your God, even the Holy One of Israel; For He has glorified you."



Isaiah 55:6-13 (NASB) 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; And let him return to the LORD, And **He will have compassion on him**, and to our God, **for He will abundantly pardon**.

8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor 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 snow come down from heaven, and do not return there without having watered the earth, **making it bring forth and sprout**, giving seed to sow and bread to eat,

11 so **My word will be that goes out from My mouth. It will not return to Me in vain, but will accomplish what I intend, and will succeed in what I sent it for.**

12 “Yes, you will go out with joy and be led forth with peace. The mountains and the hills will break forth before you singing, and **all the trees of the field will clap their hands!**

13 Instead of the thorn bush, a cypress will come up, and instead of the brier, a myrtle will come up, and it will be a memorial to Adonai, **as an everlasting sign that will never be cut off.”**