



Isaiah 55 - from *The Message* “Hey there! All who are thirsty,
come to the water! Are you penniless?

Come anyway—buy and eat!

**Come, buy your drinks, buy wine and milk. Buy without
money—everything’s free!**

**Why do you spend your money on junk food, your hard-
earned cash on cotton candy?**

Listen to me, listen well: Eat only the best, fill yourself with only
the finest.

Pay attention, come close now,
listen carefully to my life-giving, life-nourishing words.

I’m making a lasting covenant commitment with you,
the same that I made with David: sure, solid, enduring love.

**I set him up as a witness to the nations,
made him a prince and leader of the nations,**

**And now I’m doing it to you:
You’ll summon nations you’ve never heard of,**

and nations who've never heard of you will come running to you

**Because of me, your GOD,
because The Holy of Israel has honored you."**

⁶⁻⁷ Seek GOD while God's here to be found, pray to God while God's close at hand.

Let the wicked abandon their way of life and the evil their way of thinking.

Let them come back to GOD, who is merciful,
come back to our God, who is lavish with forgiveness.

⁸⁻¹¹ **"I don't think the way you think.
The way you work isn't the way I work."**

GOD's Decree.

"For as the sky soars high above earth,

so the way I work surpasses the way you work,

and the way I think is beyond the way you think.

Just as rain and snow descend from the skies
and don't go back until they've watered the earth,

Doing their work of making things grow and blossom, producing
seed for farmers and food for the hungry,

So will the words that come out of my mouth not come back
empty-handed.

They'll do the work I sent them to do,
they'll complete the assignment I gave them.

**12-13 "So you'll go out in joy,
you'll be led into a whole and complete life.**

**The mountains and hills will lead the parade, bursting with
song.**

All the trees of the forest will join the procession, exuberant
with applause.

No more thistles, but giant sequoias,
no more thornbushes, but stately pines—

Monuments to me, to GOD,
living and lasting evidence of GOD."