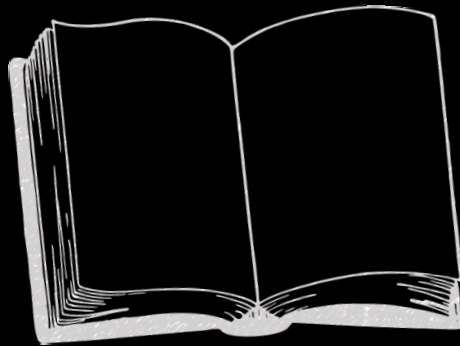




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BIBLE READING

ISAIAH 56:1-8

¹ This is what the LORD says: “Maintain justice and do what is right, for my salvation is close at hand and my righteousness will soon be revealed.

² Blessed is the one who does this — the person who holds it fast, who keeps the Sabbath without desecrating it, and keeps their hands from doing any evil.”



³ Let no foreigner who is bound to the Lord say, “The Lord will surely exclude me from his people.” And let no eunuch complain, “I am only a dry tree.”

⁴ For this is what the Lord says: “To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths, who choose what pleases me and hold fast to my covenant



⁵ to them I will give within my temple and its walls a memorial and a name better than sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name that will endure forever.

⁶ And foreigners who bind themselves to the LORD to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the Sabbath without desecrating it and who hold fast to my covenant



⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.”

⁸ The Sovereign LORD declares — he who gathers the exiles of Israel: “I will gather still others to them besides those already gathered.”





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A MEMORIAL AND A NAME

ISAIAH 56:1-8

Speaker: Pastor Gilbert
van Bueren



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WELCOME!

NOT WELCOME

Foreigners >> Isaiah 56:3a

- Those who worship other gods
- Those who do not do Torah
- Those who do not keep the sabbath

Excluded from God's promises

Ephesians 2:12



NOT NAMED

Eunuchs >> Isaiah 56:3b

- Genitals mutilated usually to qualify for imperial service
- Not welcome: Deuteronomy 23:1 / Not in genealogies / Name irrelevant
- Not named only relevant for economics and numbers



SALVATION CLOSE AT HAND

Isaiah 56:1+2

- Salvation connected to keeping sabbath
- Also Isaiah 56:4a+6b

Isaiah 56:7

- I will bring – I will give ... my house of prayer
- Jesus cleansing temple >> Mark 11:15-17

Welcome!



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MEMORIAL AND A NAME

Isaiah 56:5

- Yad Vashem

Psalms 113:9

- A joyful mother

Philippians 2:9

- The NAME

Revelation 2:17

- A new name



BODY OF JESUS CHRIST

1. All are Welcome – who seek Jesus!
 - Seeking = receiving and responding
 - Isaiah 56:1+2
2. All are Named and Honoured – in Jesus!
 - Despised / rejected <> exalted / honoured
 - Isaiah 56:7 and Philippians 2:9

