

ISAIAH 56

All Poetry

Verse 1

Thus saith the Lord:

(and) Keep ye judgment,
Do justice.

(For) My salvation is near to come,
(and) My righteousness is near to be revealed.

Verse 2

(and) Blessed is the man that doeth this,
Blessed is the son of man that layeth hold on it.

(and) Blessed is he that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it,
Blessed is he that keepeth his hand from doing any evil.

Verse 3

Neither let the Son of the Stranger (foreigner), that hath joined
himself to the Lord, speak, saying,
"The Lord hath utterly separated me from his people,"
Neither let the Eunuch (See Below) say,
"Behold, I am a dry tree."

Verse 4

(For) **Thus saith the Lord unto the Eunuchs:**

(and) That keep my Sabbaths,
(and) That choose the things that please me,
(and) That take hold of my covenant,

Verse 5

(Even) Unto them will I give, in Mine House and within My Walls,
a place,
(and even) Unto them will I give, (a handclasp and) **a name**, better than of sons
and of daughters, I will give them (endow them with) **an**
everlasting name, that shall not be cut off.

Verse 6

**Thus saith the Lord unto the Sons of the Stranger (foreigners),
that join themselves to the Lord:**

(and) To serve him,
To love the name of the Lord,
To be his servants.

(and) Every one that keepeth the Sabbath from polluting it,
Every one that taketh hold of my covenant.

- Verse 7
 (and) I will bring ^(these) to my Holy Mountain,
 I will make ^(these) joyful in My House of Prayer.
- Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted
 upon mine alter,
 (For) Mine House shall be called, “An House of Prayer For All People.”
- (In contrast - There are wicked leaders in Israel who will blindly, and sometimes for their own benefit, allow wicked things to be done to those who are foreigners, eunuchs or different in some way.)
- Verse 8
The Lord God which gathereth the outcasts of Israel saith:
- (Yet) “I will gather others to ^(Israel)”,
 “I will gather others beside those that are ^(already) gathered unto
^(Israel).”
- Verse 9
 (yea) All ye beasts of the field, come to devour!
 All ye beasts in the forest, come to devour!
- Verse 10
^(Their) watchmen are ^(altogether) blind, ^(and) ignorant,
 They are all dumb ^(watch)dogs; they cannot bark.
- They are sleeping ^{(lolling ^(drooping) seers)},
 They are lying down, loving to slumber.
- Verse 11
 (Yea) They are greedy dogs, which can never have enough,
 (and) They are shepherds that cannot understand.
- They all look to their own way,
 Every one for his gain ^(and) from his quarter ^(advantage).
- Verse 12
Come ye, say they:
- (and) I will fetch wine for us,
 We will fill ourselves with strong drink.
- (and) Tomorrow shall be as this day,
 (and) Tomorrow shall be much more abundant.

This from got questions.org:

Question: "What is a eunuch in the Bible? What does the Bible say about eunuchs?"

Answer: The eunuchs of the Bible were usually castrated males or those incapable of reproduction due to a birth defect. A eunuch could also be someone who performed work typical of eunuchs, although he remained perfectly capable of having sex—i.e., “eunuch” in some cases was simply a title. The purpose of intentional castration was to induce impotence and remove sexuality. It was a common practice in ancient times for rulers to castrate some of their servants and/or advisers in order to subdue and pacify them. It was especially common to castrate men who tended the royal harem. Queen Esther’s eunuchs are mentioned in Esther 4:4.

In Matthew 19:12, Jesus mentions eunuchs in the context of whether it is good to marry. He says, “There are eunuchs who were born that way, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by others—and there are those who choose to live like eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. The one who can accept this should accept it.” Jesus identifies three types of “eunuchs” here: natural eunuchs (“born that way”), forced eunuchs (“made eunuchs by others”), and voluntary eunuchs (“those who choose”).

Natural eunuchs include those who are born with a physical defect, but they also comprise those who are born with no real desire for marriage or sex. Forced eunuchs are those who have been castrated for whatever reason. Voluntary eunuchs are those who, in order to better serve the Lord in some capacity, choose to forego marriage. God calls some people to remain single (and therefore celibate). Paul speaks of those who serve the Lord in their unmarried state in 1 Corinthians 7:7—9.

Some with same sex attraction or activists in gay groups argue that Jesus was referring to homosexuals when He mentioned eunuchs who were “born that way.” However, the Bible never uses the words homosexual and eunuch interchangeably. Furthermore, eunuchs are never referred to in Scripture as being in sin, while homosexuality is universally condemned in both the Old and New Testaments.