



Have you ever wondered what it is like to be a refugee? Have you ever wondered how it feels to pick up the few belongings you can carry and with a sick heart to leave your family home, your family farm, your family graves, your town, your country—perhaps never to return? But what if the chance comes to return home, for a new start under a new regime? The exultation and bridal joyousness of this chapter must be understood from the perspective of the returning refugees. The Israelites might have thought that Jerusalem had been irreversibly abandoned by the Lord—but it is not so.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Read & meditate on [Isaiah 62:1-5](#). Jot down 1 or 2 new thoughts that seem important to you. Why are they important to you?
2. Picture yourself as a refugee returning home to the Lord. What do you experience?
3. Isaiah has not kept silent about Judah's wickedness and her judgment. What motives does [verse 1](#) reveal about his refusal to keep silent?
4. How do [verses 2-5](#) describe the new relationship between God and Zion?
5. Pause and dwell on Zion's new names in [verse 4](#). [Hephzibah](#) means "my delight is in her" and [Beulah](#) means "married." How do you respond to these expressions of God's feelings toward you?
6. In [verses 6-7](#), what will the role of Jerusalem's watchmen be? What is promised in [verses 8-9](#)?
7. Describe the scene which [verse 10](#) sets up.
8. What role do celebratory processions and marches of witness have in the church today?

MOVING FORWARD

Respond in joyful prayer and worship to the God who calls you "Sought After, the City No Longer Deserted." Commit yourself to living the present in His presence.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

¹² [They will be called the Holy People, the Redeemed of the LORD; and you will be called Sought After, the City No Longer Deserted.](#) Isaiah 62:12