

HAFTORAH SUMMARY FOR PARSHAS NOACH

by Rabbi Aron Tendler

Isaiah 54:1 - 55:5

This Shabbos we read chapter 54 in Yishayuhu that describes Israel in the aftermath of the destruction of the Bais Hamikdash as afflicted, barren, and inconsolable. The Navi assures the people that Hashem's kindness and love for them is ever present, protecting, and sustaining. This is the same Haftorah as Parshas Ki Tetzay. (the 4th Haftorah of Consolation)

Pasuk 54:9 refers to the destruction of Yerushalayim as "...this is like the waters of Noach to me..." The Navi lets us know that destruction occurs when Hashem's kindness and protection is removed from the world and from Israel. "For a brief moment I forsook you..." (54:7) "...for a moment I hid my face from you..." (54:8)

The Navi concludes with the reassurance that Hashem remembers His covenant with the world and the Chosen People. Consequences are the result of Hashem's presence being more or less manifest in society. The degree to which we reveal Hashem's influence in our lives is the degree to which His protection and supervision is realized. Our job is to reveal Hashem through doing His commandments and learning His Torah.