**Enlarge the Place of Your Tent**

For over 90 years after the Jews returned from Babylon, the walls and gates of Jerusalem lay in ruins. Even after Nehemiah rebuilt the city, only a few people lived there (Nehemiah 7:4; 11:1-2). However, 250 years earlier, Isaiah had predicted that Jerusalem would flourish again. The prophet gave a message of hope to the demoralized Jews: *Make room for the people that will come.* ***Enlarge the place of your tent.*** We often need to hear that same message of hope.

**1. Don’t despair because of the *problem***

Isaiah 44:26; 51:3; 52:9

**2. Rejoice because of the *promise***

The promise is fulfilled –

A. Partially in the *past*

B. Gloriously in the *future*

C. Through the gospel in the *present*

Galatians 4:21-31

**3. Look for the ones Jesus has *purchased***

Isaiah 53:10-12

**Application** – How can we enlarge the place of our tent?

A. *Expect* God to bring others

B. *Make* room in your life for them

C. *Develop* a world-wide vision

**For additional study or family discussion**

1. Did the Lord speak to you today about Himself and His ways? Did He show you a duty you need to perform or a promise you need to claim? What was either encouraging or challenging in the sermon?

2. In Galatians 4:21-31, Paul constructs an elaborate allegory to emphasize the difference between the Jews and the Christians. He reminds them Abraham had two sons, Ishmael and Isaac. Though the Jews were descended from Isaac, their rejection of the gospel makes them spiritual descendants of Ishmael.

*Jews*  *Christians*

Ishmael the son of a Isaac the son of a

 slave woman (Hagar) free woman (Sarah)

Jews=children of the flesh Christians=children of promise

Under the Sinai covenant Under the new covenant

Jerusalem on earth is their Jerusalem above is our

 mother mother

Persecutors Persecuted