

THE BOOK OF ISAIAH

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¹ The vision which Isaiah the son of Amoz saw, which he saw concerning Judah, and Jerusalem, in the reign of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, who reigned over Judah.

² Hear, O heaven, and hearken, O earth! For the Lord has spoken, *saying*, "I have begotten and reared up children, but they have rebelled against Me. ³ The ox knows his owner, and the donkey his master's crib; but Israel does not know Me, and the people have not regarded Me." ⁴ Alas, sinful nation, a people full of sins, an evil seed, lawless children; you have forsaken the Lord, and provoked the Holy One of Israel.

⁵ Why should you be smitten anymore, transgressing more and more? The whole head is pained, and the whole heart sad. ⁶ From the feet to the head, there is no soundness in them; neither wound, nor bruise, nor festering ulcer *are healed*; it is not possible to apply a plaister, nor oil, nor bandages. ⁷ Your land is desolate, your cities are burned with fire; strangers devour your land in your presence, and it is made desolate, overthrown by strange nations. ⁸ The daughter of Zion shall be deserted as a tent in a vineyard, and as a storehouse of fruits in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city. ⁹ And if the Lord of Sabaoth had not left us a seed, we would have become like Sodom, and been made like Gomorrah.

¹⁰ Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom; attend to the law of God, you people of Gomorrah. ¹¹ "Of what *value* to Me is the abundance of your sacrifices?" Says the Lord. "I am full of burnt offerings of rams; and I delight not in the fat of lambs, and the blood of bulls and goats; ¹² neither shall you come *with these* to appear before Me; for who has required these things at your hands? You shall no more tread My court. ¹³ Though you bring fine flour, *it is* futile; incense is an abomination to Me; I cannot bear your new moons, and your Sabbaths, and the great day; ¹⁴ *your* fasting, and rest from work, your new moons also, and your feasts My soul hates; you have become loathsome to Me; I will no longer pardon your sins. ¹⁵ When you stretch forth your hands, I will turn away My eyes from you; and though you make many supplications, I will not hearken to you; for your hands are full of blood. ¹⁶ Wash, and be clean; remove your iniquities from your souls before My eyes; cease from your iniquities; ¹⁷ learn to do well; diligently seek judgment, deliver him that is suffering wrong, plead for the orphan, and obtain justice for the widow.

¹⁸ "And come, let us reason together," says the Lord; "and though your sins be as purple, I will make them white as snow; and though they be as scarlet, I will make *them* white as wool. ¹⁹ And if you are willing, and hearken to Me, you shall eat the good of the land; ²⁰ but if you be not willing, nor hearken to Me, a sword shall devour you; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken this."

²¹ How has the faithful city of Zion, *once* full of judgment, become a harlot! Where righteousness lodged, but now murderers. ²² Your silver is worthless, your wine merchants mix the wine with water. ²³ Your princes are rebellious, companions of thieves, loving bribes, seeking after rewards; not pleading for orphans, and not heeding the cause of widows.

²⁴ Therefore thus says the Lord, the Lord of hosts, “Woe to the mighty *men* of Israel; for My wrath shall not cease against My adversaries, and I will execute judgment on My enemies. ²⁵ And I will bring My hand upon you, and purge you completely, and I will destroy the rebellious, and I will take away all transgressors from you. ²⁶ And I will establish your judges as before, and your counselors as at the beginning; and afterward you shall be called the city of righteousness, the faithful mother city of Zion.” ²⁷ For her captives shall be saved with judgment, and with mercy. ²⁸ And the transgressors and the sinners shall be crushed together, and they that forsake the Lord shall be utterly consumed. ²⁹ For they shall be ashamed of their idols, which they delighted in, and they have been made ashamed of the gardens which they coveted. ³⁰ For they shall be as a terebinth tree that has cast its leaves, and as a garden that has no water. ³¹ And their strength shall be as a thread of tow, and their works as sparks, and the transgressors and the sinners shall be burned up together, and there shall be none to quench *them*.