

# Isaiah

## “The Evangelical Prophet”

### I. God’s Denunciation of Judah (1:1-12:6)

- A. The Condemnation of Judah (1:1-2:1-4)
- B. The Cleansing Judgments to Come (2:5-5:30)
- C. The Calling of Isaiah (6:1-13)

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- 1. Isaiah’s *Ministry* to Ahaz (7:1-25)  
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- 2. Isaiah’s *Affirmation* of Assyria’s Invasion (8:1-9:7)  
Key Prophecy → The Coming of the Messianic King (9:1-2, 6-7)

### 3. Isaiah’s *Judgments* against Israel— (N. Kingdom/Samaria) and Assyria (9:8-10:34)

#### a. The *Judgments* against Israel (N. Kingdom/Samaria) (9:8-10:4)

#### 1) *Pronouncing Judgments* against their Pride and Arrogance (9:8-12)

<sup>8</sup> The Lord sends a message *against Jacob*, and it falls on Israel.

<sup>9</sup> And all the people know *it, that is*,  
Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria,  
asserting in pride and in arrogance of heart:

<sup>10</sup> “The *bricks* have fallen down,  
But we will rebuild with *smooth stones*;  
The *sycamores* have been cut down,  
But we will replace them with *cedars*.”

<sup>11</sup> Therefore the LORD raises *against them adversaries* from Rezin  
and *spurs their enemies on*,

<sup>12</sup> The Arameans on the east and the Philistines on the west;  
and they *devour Israel* with gaping jaws.  
In spite of all this, His *anger* does not turn away  
and His *hand* is still stretched out.

2) ***Proclaiming Judgments*** against **Ungodliness** and **Evil** in **all Levels** of their **Society** (9:13-17)

<sup>13</sup> Yet the **people do not turn back** to Him who **struck them**,  
**nor** do they **seek the LORD of hosts**.

<sup>14</sup> So the LORD ***cuts off head*** and ***tail*** from Israel,  
***both palm branch*** and ***bulrush*** in a ***single day***.

<sup>15</sup> The **head** is the ***elder*** and ***honorable man***,  
and the ***prophet*** who **teaches falsehood** is the **tail**.

<sup>16</sup> For **those** who ***guide*** this **people** are ***leading them astray***,  
and **those** who are ***guided by them*** are brought to ***confusion***.

<sup>17</sup> **Therefore the Lord** does **not** take **pleasure** in their ***young men***,  
***nor*** does **He** have **pity** on their ***orphans*** or their ***widows***;  
for **every one** of them is **godless** and an **evildoer**,  
and **every mouth** is **speaking foolishness**.

In *spite of* all this, **His anger** does **not** turn away  
and **His *hand*** is still **stretched out**.

3) ***Portraying*** a land **Consumed** by the Lord's **Anger**,  
and their ***own Wickedness*** (9:18-21)

<sup>18</sup> For **wickedness** burns like a fire;  
it **consumes** ***briars*** and ***thorns***;  
it even sets the **thickets** of the ***forest aflame***  
and they **roll upward** in a column of **smoke**.

<sup>19</sup> By the ***fury of the LORD of hosts*** the land is ***burned up***,  
and the **people** are like ***fuel*** for the fire;  
**no man spares** his brother.

<sup>20</sup> They ***slice off what is*** on the **right hand** but ***still*** are ***hungry***,  
and they ***eat what is*** on the **left hand** but they are ***not satisfied***;  
**each** of them **eats** the **flesh of his own arm**.

<sup>21</sup> **Manasseh devours Ephraim**, and **Ephraim Manasseh**,  
and **together** they are ***against*** Judah.

In *spite of* all this, **His anger** does **not** turn away  
and **His *hand*** is still **stretched out**.

4) ***Predicting “Woe”*** upon **those** who **enact evil Statutes**  
and **unjust Decisions** (10:1-4)

**10 Woe** to those who **enact evil statutes**  
and to **those** who constantly **record unjust decisions**,

<sup>2</sup> So as to **deprive** the **needy of justice**  
and **rob** the **poor** of **My people** of *their* rights,  
so that **widows** may be **their spoil** and that they may **plunder** the **orphans**.

<sup>3</sup> Now what will you do in the **day of punishment**,  
and in the **devastation** which will come from **afar**?

**To whom** will you **flee for help**?  
And **where** will you **leave your wealth**?

<sup>4</sup> Nothing *remains* but to **crouch** among the **captives**  
or **fall** among the **slain**.  
In *spite of* all this, **His anger** does **not** turn away  
And **His hand** is still **stretched out**.

## Personal Application **Isaiah's Warnings to Israel,** and to **our Nation** as well

1. Isaiah **warns us** that, having experienced the **judgment of God** because of **sin**, we should **repent** rather than **respond** with **pride** and "**arrogance of heart**:"

"The **bricks** have **fallen down**,  
But **we** will **rebuild** with **smooth stones**;  
The **sycamores** have been **cut down**,  
But **we** will **replace them** with **cedars**."(9:9-10)

2. Isaiah **warned** that **judgment** was coming to **Israel** because **evil** had **permeated all** levels of **society**. Isaiah's **warning** applies to **all** levels of **our society** as well. To the **leaders** who lead people **astray**, to the **young men**, to the **orphans** and even to the **widows** comes this **warning**—

"..the **LORD cuts off head** and **tail** from **Israel**,  
*both* **palm branch** and **bulrush** in a **single day**...

..for **every one** of them is **godless** and an **evildoer**,  
and **every mouth** is **speaking foolishness**." (9:14,17b)

3. Isaiah **warned Israel** that;

"...**wickedness** burns like a **fire**;  
it **consumes briars** and **thorns**;  
it even sets the **thickets** of the **forest aflame**..."

**no man spares** his **brother**...

each of them **eats the flesh** of his **own arm**.  
**Manasseh devours Ephraim**, and **Ephraim Manasseh**,  
and together they are **against Judah**. (9:18a, 19c, 20b-21a)

I believe that **like Israel, God** will allow **our own wickedness** to consume us like fire. If we **don't repent** and turn from **evil**, and become once again **one nation under God**— **indivisible**, “**hunger**” will come, resulting in deep **divisions**, and **we too** will “**devour**” **one another** through **anarchy** and **civil war**.

4. Isaiah **warned** those in **Israel** who would “**enact evil statutes**,” and **inscribe into law** “**unjust decisions**” (10:1).” These **statutes** were enacted so as:

“...to **deprive** the **needy of justice**  
and **rob** the **poor** of My people of *their rights*,  
so that **widows** may be their **spoil**  
and that they may **plunder the orphans**.” (10:2)

These “**unjust decisions**” were contrary to **Mosaic Law**, which **decreed special protections** for certain **classes** of people that were **vulnerable** to those in **power** who might **take advantage** of their **needy condition**. (Exodus 22:22, Deuteronomy 10:18, 27:19)

These **warnings** apply **to us** as a **nation** as well. **We too** are not to take **unfair advantage** of the **needy** and **vulnerable** among us. Instead we are to “**love our neighbor as ourselves**,” and help **provide** for the **needs of others**. As **human beings** we were all **originally** made after the **image of God** (Gen. 1:26), and are greatly **valued** by our **Creator**. Our **laws** are to **reflect** the **value** of **all human life**, and to promote **justice** for **all people**. This includes both rich and poor, strong and weak, esteemed and humble, old and young, and yes, **born and unborn**. Since 1973, **65 million innocent children** have been “**legally**” **killed** within their **mothers’ wombs**.

“**Woe to those** who **enact evil statutes**  
and to **those** who constantly record **unjust decisions**...” (10:1)

5. Isaiah **warned** **Israel** that in spite of all these **impending judgments** against **them**:

“**His anger** does **not turn away**  
and **His hand** is still **stretched out (against them)**. (9:12)

I believe that **our nation** is at a point where we are “**reaping corruption**,” and **experiencing a partial judgment** for **our sins**.

For the **wrath of God is revealed** from **heaven**  
against all **ungodliness** and **unrighteousness** of **men**  
who **suppress the truth in unrighteousness**, (Romans 1:18)

As we celebrate of **Independence Day** this year, let us **heed** these **warnings in Isaiah**. May we **seek the Lord** and **His righteousness**, and **never** get to the point where it is **too late**, where “**God's anger** does **not turn away**.  
and **His hand** is still **stretched out (against us)**.” (9:12, 17, 21, 10:4)

