

THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET

ISAIAH

	<p>CHAPTER 1</p> <p>PART I—THE PROPHECIES OF CONDEMNATION, 1:1–35:10</p> <p>I. THE PROPHECIES OF REBUKE & HOPE GIVEN TO JUDAH & JERUSALEM: AN OVERVIEW OF THE PRESENT & FUTURE OF GOD’S PEOPLE, 1:1–12:6</p> <p>A. The LORD’s Indictment of His People, 1:1-31</p>		
<p>1. God’s prophet Isaiah: He was a man given a very special vision by God</p> <p>a. Concerned Judah & Jerusalem</p> <p>b. Touched the reigns of four kings</p> <p>2. God’s first charge: They were rebellious</p> <p>a. The picture of a court trial: Called on heaven & earth to witness the charges</p> <p>b. The charge: Rebellion</p> <p>1) They had less knowledge & understanding than an ox or donkey</p> <p>2) They had become a sinful people, loaded down with guilt: Were evil & corrupt children</p> <p>3) They had forsaken the LORD, despised the Holy One, turned their backs on Him</p> <p>c. The folly of rebellion: Continued chastisement</p> <p>1) They were like victims, attacked & injured in both head & heart</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the whole body beaten, bruised, & cut • With wounds left untreated & allowed to fester & rot <p>2) They were to witness their country ravaged</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their cities burned • Their farms plundered & destroyed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Their capital Jerusalem, the Daughter of Zion, besieged & destroyed: Would be nothing more than a shattered hut <p>3) They were to be judged</p>	<p>The vision concerning Judah and Jerusalem that Isaiah son of Amoz saw during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.</p> <p>2 Hear, O heavens! Listen, O earth! For the LORD has spoken: “I reared children and brought them up, but they have rebelled against me.</p> <p>3 The ox knows his master, the donkey his owner’s manger, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand.”</p> <p>4 Ah, sinful nation, a people loaded with guilt, a brood of evildoers, children given to corruption! They have forsaken the LORD; they have spurned the Holy One of Israel and turned their backs on him.</p> <p>5 Why should you be beaten anymore? Why do you persist in rebellion? Your whole head is injured, your whole heart afflicted.</p> <p>6 From the sole of your foot to the top of your head there is no soundness—only wounds and welts and open sores, not cleansed or bandaged or soothed with oil.</p> <p>7 Your country is desolate, your cities burned with fire; your fields are being stripped by foreigners right before you, laid waste as when overthrown by strangers.</p> <p>8 The Daughter of Zion is left like a shelter in a vineyard, like a hut in a field of melons, like a city under siege.</p> <p>9 Unless the LORD Almighty had left us some survivors, we would have become like</p>	<p>Sodom, we would have been like Gomorrah.</p> <p>10 Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom; listen to the law of our God, you people of Gomorrah!</p> <p>11 “The multitude of your sacrifices—what are they to me?” says the LORD. “I have more than enough of burnt offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened animals; I have no pleasure in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats.</p> <p>12 When you come to appear before me, who has asked this of you, this trampling of my courts?</p> <p>13 Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations—I cannot bear your evil assemblies.</p> <p>14 Your New Moon festivals and your appointed feasts my soul hates. They have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them.</p> <p>15 When you spread out your hands in prayer, I will hide my eyes from you; even if you offer many prayers, I will not listen. Your hands are full of blood;</p> <p>16 Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight! Stop doing wrong,</p> <p>17 Learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.</p> <p>18 “Come now, let us reason together,” says the LORD. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.</p> <p>19 If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land;</p> <p>20 But if you resist and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword.” For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.</p> <p>21 See how the faithful city has become a harlot! She once was full of justice; righteousness used to dwell in her—but now murder-</p>	<p>God would leave a remnant, a few survivors</p> <p>d. The call to hear God’s Word: Rejected God’s Word like Sodom and Gomorrah</p> <p>3. God’s second charge: They were insincere, unacceptable in their worship</p> <p>a. The scathing accusation: Their worship was phony, empty, ritualistic</p> <p>1) They worshipped, but hypocritically (vv.4,10): Were rejected by God</p> <p>2) They came to God, but their coming was worthless, nothing more than trampling His courts</p> <p>b. The strong command: They must stop their formal, false worship</p> <p>1) Their meaningless offerings</p> <p>2) Their detestable incense</p> <p>3) Their evil assemblies</p> <p>4) Their special services: Festivals & feasts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were hated by God • Had become a weary burden to Him <p>5) Their formal prayers: Were not heard by God because their hands were as murderers, guilty of treating the needy unfairly, unjustly</p> <p>c. The astounding offer of clemency, a full pardon: Through spiritual cleansing</p> <p>1) They must repent: Turn from evil & learn to do right</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek justice • Help the oppressed • Defend the fatherless • Plead for the widow <p>2) They must come to the LORD & reason with Him: Face His convincing arguments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They were sinful, 2-4 • They could be forgiven <p>d. The warning: Two possibilities</p> <p>1) If they obeyed, would be rewarded</p> <p>2) If they kept turning away & rebelling, they would be destroyed: Judgment was certain, declared by God’s Word</p> <p>4. God’s third charge: They were unjust, deceitful</p> <p>a. The picture of a faithful, just, & righteous city: Became unfaithful—full of</p>

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<p>& wine but were now impure & worthless</p> <p>2) Had corrupt leaders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were covetous, like thieves who sought bribes • Refused to help & defend the fatherless & widows <p>b. The verdict & sentence: Pronounced by the LORD, the LORD of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel</p> <p>1) He will judge, get rid of all His enemies</p> <p>2) He will purge away all the impurities of the city</p> <p>3) He will restore righteous & just leaders: Jerusalem will be called <i>The City of Righteousness, the Faith-</i></p>	<p>dross, your choice wine is diluted with water.</p> <p>23 Your rulers are rebels, companions of thieves; they all love bribes and chase after gifts. They do not defend the cause of the fatherless; the widow's case does not come before them.</p> <p>24 Therefore the Lord, the LORD Almighty, the Mighty One of Israel, declares: "Ah, I will get relief from my foes and avenge myself on my enemies.</p> <p>25 I will turn my hand against you; I will thoroughly purge away your dross and remove all your impurities.</p> <p>26 I will restore your judges as in days of old, your counselors as at the beginning. Afterward you will be</p>	<p>called the City of Righteousness, the Faithful City."</p> <p>27 Zion will be redeemed with justice, her penitent ones with righteousness.</p> <p>28 But rebels and sinners will both be broken, and those who forsake the LORD will perish.</p> <p>29 "You will be ashamed because of the sacred oaks in which you have delighted; you will be disgraced because of the gardens that you have chosen.</p> <p>30 You will be like an oak with fading leaves, like a garden without water.</p> <p>31 The mighty man will become tinder and his work a spark; both will burn together, with no one to quench the fire."</p>	<p><i>ful City</i></p> <p>4) He will place the repentant people in the new, redeemed city of Jerusalem</p> <p>5) He will execute true justice against all rebels & sinners, all who forsake Him</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They will be ashamed & disgraced: Due to their false worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They will suffer the fate of the things in which they trusted: Fade away • They & their works will be burned, suffer in an unquenchable fire
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