

“Come Let Us Reason Together!”
Isaiah 1:1-20

In the opening chapter of Isaiah, the prophet presents a powerful message indicting Israel for their sinful and willful rebellion against the God who loves them. By God’s incredible grace He offers them a way back to a right relationship with Him! This message can impact our lives as we consider Israel’s. . .

I. Rebellion from God (1-10)

- **The Setting of Rebellion (1)**
The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

- **The Seriousness of Rebellion (2)**
Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the LORD hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me.

- **The Stupidity of Rebellion (3)**
The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider

- **The Scope of Rebellion (4)**
Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward.

- **The Stubbornness of Rebellion (5)**
Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint.

- **The Suffering of Rebellion (6)**
From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment.

- **The Sorrow of Rebellion (7)**
Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers.

- **The Solitude of Rebellion (8)**
And the daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city.

- **The Sinfulness of Rebellion (9)**
Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah.

- **The Sadness of Rebellion (10)**
Hear the word of the LORD, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah.

II. Rejection by God (11-15)

- **Rejection of Their Worship (11-14)**

To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? saith the LORD: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams...I delight not in the blood of bullocks or of lambs...Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them. (11, 14)

- **Rejection of Their Words (15)**

And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood.

III. Repentance to God (16-20)

- **A Thorough Repentance (16-17)**

Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil. (16)

- **A Timely Repentance (18-20)**

Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool. (18)

Small Group Discussion Questions

Icebreaker: Isaiah likens Israel to children who rebel against parents who love and nurture them. Share about a time you disobeyed your parents as a child and the lesson you learned.

- 1. Share something from Sunday's study that spoke to you personally – a challenge? An encouragement? a good reminder? a question that needs to be clarified?**
- 2. Read and discuss Isaiah 1:2-4. Why are God's children prone to sin against Him, such a perfect Father? What lesson can we learn from Israel's failure to stay true to their Lord?**
- 3. Read and discuss Isaiah 1:11-14. Why is God so offended by Israel's worship? What are some ways that our worship can fall short of truly pleasing the Lord?**
- 4. Read and discuss Isaiah 1:16-18. In your own words explain what it means to truly repent of sin? How does Isaiah 1:18 provide hope for sinners?**

Digging Deeper

There is one final section of Isaiah 1 that we did not cover on Sunday morning. Take some time to read verses 21-31 on the "Restoration of God" (i.e. restoring the glory of Jerusalem). How do verses 21-23 show the NEED of restoration? How do verses 24-31 show the WORK of restoration?

For Next Week

Compare the first and last chapters of Isaiah by comparing Isaiah 1:11-15 with 66:1-3 and Isaiah 1:21-31 with 66:10-24.