



(John 12:37-42) John's Gospel validates Isaiah!

## \*When, what you don't know may destroy you.

*\*Isaiah 1:1 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.*

*2 Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth! For the LORD has spoken: "I have nourished and brought up children, And they have rebelled against Me; 3 The ox knows its owner and the donkey its master's crib; But Israel does not know, My people do not consider."*

*4 Alas, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a brood of evildoers, children who are corrupters! They have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked to anger The Holy One of Israel, they have turned away backward.*

*\*Isaiah 1:5 Why should you be stricken again? You will revolt more and more. The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faints.*

*6 From the sole of the foot even to the head, there is no soundness in it, but wounds and bruises and putrefying sores; They have not been closed or bound up, or soothed with ointment.*

*7 Your country is desolate; your cities are burned with fire; Strangers devour your land in your presence; and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers.*

*8 So the daughter of Zion is left as a booth in a vineyard, as a hut in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city.*

*9 Unless the LORD of hosts had left to us a very small remnant, we would have become like Sodom, we would have been made like Gomorrah.*

*10 Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom; Give ear to the law of our God, you people of Gomorrah:*

*11 "To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices to Me?" Says the LORD. "I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fed cattle. I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs or goats.*

1. **Isaiah:** A book that is in great controversy today. The Holy One of Israel is a phrase used 25 times. Twelve 12 times in chapters 1 – 39 and Thirteen times in chapters 40 – 66. It's only used 6 times in all of the rest of the O.T. Cave #1 where the dead sea scrolls were found in 1947 had the entirety of the book of Isaiah! The most amazing prophetic book of the Bible.
2. **Israel:** A people filled with iniquity because it has forsaken God. Its sin has besieged the city and will lead them into destruction and literal captivity. Isaiah lived in Jerusalem and yet Prophesied to the northern kingdom as well as to Judah in the southern kingdom. He witnesses the destruction of the Northern kingdom and will prophesy about Babylon a hundred years before it comes into power.
3. **Sinful nations:** Have no master except sin. The saddest nations are those who once had God as their King and left Him out of foolishness and sin. Israel, the United States, and the U.K. all fall into this category.
4. **Sick thinking and weak heart:** The minds of humanity are twisted with perversion and falsehood. A sick mind is the result of a weak heart that didn't trust God. Salvation is the promise of a new heart and the renewing of our minds. Jeremiah 17:9-10 and Romans 12:2

## \*Have we wearied God?

*\*Isaiah 1:12(NIV) When you come to appear before me, who has asked this of you, this trampling of my courts?*

*13 Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths, and convocations—I cannot bear your worthless assemblies.*

*14 Your New Moon feasts and your appointed festivals I hate with all my being. They have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them.*

*15 When you spread out your hands in prayer, I hide my eyes from you; even when you offer many prayers, I am not listening. Your hands are full of blood!*

*16 Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight; stop doing wrong.*

1. **V:12-13 An assembly is worthless if**, they focus on what we do in ritual or routine, or it has a repetitive/empty/dull meaningless worship and readings. **An assembly that is highly valued anticipates the freshness of an experience with God and with His truth.** The true journey to the new experience is always with God.
2. **V:14-16 What moves God's heart?** It's not ritual in prayers, empty worship, and formalized readings of God's Word, they are wearisome to God. **Faith is what moves God's Heart. He is drawn by our hunger for holiness, righteousness, and faith that understands He (God) is the only source.**

### \*Experience cleansing and learn righteousness.

*\*Isaiah 1:17 Learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow.  
18 "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.  
19 If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land;  
20 But if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword"; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.*

1. **Cleansing is the key to doing.** You can never earn a cleansing it is the gift of God. **Any religion that promotes doing V:16 may confuse you. It's speaking of the desire to be clean that leads us to the God who cleanses us.**
2. **Two options.** A good land under God. The way of the sword under false gods. **Choose this day whom you will serve.**

### \*Our cities are a reflection of your Nation's spirit.

*\*Isaiah 1:21 How the faithful city has become a harlot! it was full of justice; righteousness lodged in it, but now murderers.  
22 Your silver has become dross, your wine mixed with water.  
23 Your princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves; everyone loves bribes, and follows after rewards. They do not defend the fatherless, nor does the cause of the widow come before them.  
24 Therefore the Lord says, The LORD of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel, "Ah, I will rid Myself of My adversaries, and take vengeance on My enemies.  
25 I will turn My hand against you, and thoroughly purge away your dross, and take away all your alloy.  
26 I will restore your judges as at the first, and your counselors as at the beginning. Afterward you shall be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city."  
27 Zion shall be redeemed with justice and her penitents with righteousness.  
28 The destruction of transgressors and of sinners shall be together, and those who forsake the LORD shall be consumed.  
29 For they shall be ashamed of the terebinth trees which you have desired; and you shall be embarrassed because of the gardens which you have chosen.  
30 For you shall be as a terebinth whose leaf fades, and as a garden that has no water.  
31 The strong shall be as tinder, and the work of it as a spark; both will burn together, and no one shall quench them.*

1. **V:21-23 A parallel to our times.** Our cities become harlots and we vote in pimps to govern the ongoing of our demise of the nation. **They get rich and the nation goes spiritually and economically bankrupt.**
2. **V:24-27 A Prophecy that lays out Israel's future.** God is outside of time. He sees the future as if it happened yesterday. There will be a day of judgment and a new heaven and earth in Chapter 65:17, and the former things will not be remembered nor will they come to mind. All of this is the truth of the book of Isaiah.
3. **V:28-31** The total destruction of false gods and false worship. A fire that doesn't go out is one destiny and the other is a city of righteousness and the faithful city (26). **Choose this day who you will serve.**