

God's Judgment Against Sin

Isaiah 1

Five Key Ideas

- The **sins** of God's people
- God's **mood**, as He sees the sins of His people
- God's **willingness to forgive**, if they repent
- God's **judgment** against those who refuse to repent
- God's **purpose** in bringing this judgment

Sins of God's People

- **Specifics:** empty worship (11–15); “hands...full of blood” (15); murder (21); princes were corrupt, rebellious, and unmerciful (23); idolatry (29).
- **Extent:** “laden with iniquity, a brood of evildoers” (4); sick from head to toe, with festering, oozing sores (5–6).
- **Bottom line:** Rebelled against the One who fed them and raised them (3); had “forsaken the LORD” (4).

God's Mood

- “Have provoked to anger the Holy One of Israel” (4).
- “I have had enough...” (11).
- “I do not delight...” (11).
- “I cannot endure...” (13).
- “My soul hates...” (14).
- “I am weary of bearing...” (14).

But Ready to Forgive...If They Repent

- Up to them: “If you are willing and obedient...but if you refuse and rebel...” (19–20).
- “Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow” (16–17).
- **The merciful, gracious promise:** “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool” (18).

God's Judgment Against His People

- “I will hide My eyes...I will not hear” (15).
- “I will rid myself of my adversaries, and take vengeance on my enemies. I will turn my hand against you” (24–25).
- “Those who forsake the Lord shall be consumed” (28).
- “For you shall be as a terebinth (oak) whose leaf fades, and as a garden that has no water. The strong shall be as tinder; and the work of it as a spark; both will burn together, and no one shall quench them” (30–31).

God's Purpose in Judgment

- “I will turn My hand against you, and thoroughly **purge** away your dross, and take away all your alloy” (v. 25).
- “I will **restore** your judges as at the first, and your counselors as at the beginning” (v. 26).
- “Afterward you shall be called a city of righteousness, the faithful city” (v. 26).
- “Zion shall be redeemed with justice, and her penitents with righteousness” (27).