

ISAIAH 59

Overview of the chapter:

The God of Israel is not defeated even in the light of the people He has joined Himself to! Vs. 1

God's purpose and plan for Israel has not come to fruition because... Vs. 2-8

Israel's experience, which has resulted from her condition. Vs. 9-15

God's purpose and plan will be accomplished because God will make a reality by means of His own effort! Vs. 16-21

Vs.1 Behold:

1. The Lord could save them – He is powerful enough.
Num 11:12-13; Isa 50:2-6ff; Eph 1:9-11(vs5); Jer 32:17
2. It is not because He cannot hear them. 1 John 1:5-2:2; Ps. 66:18;
Prov. 28:9; Isa 58:9-12; 65:24

Vs. 2 It is because they have continued in sin throughout their entire existence with Him. (God is speaking to His chosen, not the lost of the world.)

1. Their iniquities have made a separation between them and their God.
2. Their sins have resulted in:
 - a. God hiding His face from them.
 - b. Your sins – His inability to look upon them – resulted in His not hearing them.

Note: Verses 2-8 are directed at the majority. It does not apply to the remnant!

It can be said of the remnant

Righteous 57:1	1 John 3:4-10 with Rom 9:31 thru 10:4
Chosen 65:9,15,22	Eph 1:3-6; 2 Pet 1:3-11
Servants 65:8-9; 13-14	1 Pet 2:4-5
God's Holy People 63:18	1 Pet 2:9
Lovers of God's Israel 66:10	1 John 5:1
Take refuge in God 57:13	Col 3:3-4
Observe His word 66:2,5	1John 3:2-3

Vs. 3-9 That which God would have to watch had He not turned His face from them:

1. Hands defiled with blood.
2. Fingers defiled with iniquity.
3. Lips speaking falsehoods. Eph 4:25
4. Tongues muttering wickedness. Eph. 4:31-32
5. Everyone is out to sue his brother (though he has no righteous basis).
1 Cor 6:1-8
6. No one speaks honestly. Eph 4:29
7. They trust in confusion. 1 Cor 14:6-17
8. Speak lies.
9. Conceive mischief – bring forth iniquity.

Vs. 5-6 Within the family of God, their choices were like laying viper eggs among the members – when they hatched, people died. Jude 12-13

The lives they lived produced spider webs as coverings, which were unable to hide the true being that lay underneath.

Threads of iniquity, strands of violence.

10. Feet that run to evil – hasten the person along so that he might shed innocent blood.
11. Their every thought – iniquity.
12. Anywhere they have traveled – devastation and destruction are the signs of their passing.

They do not know the way of peace.

There is no justice with them.

They make the straight crooked.

Whoever follows after them finds no peace.

Therefore:

1. Justice eludes them.

2. Righteousness never catches up.
3. Only darkness for those who were hoping for light.
4. No brightness of day; only gloom.
5. God's people's lives become like:
 - a. Groping along the wall...blind.
 - b. Stumbling, though it is broad daylight.
 - c. The vigorous unable to function – like dead men.
 - d. Growling like bears.
Moaning like doves.

Hoping for justice but finding none.

Unable to find salvation.

Vs. 12 Our transgressions multiplied before the judge.

Sins screaming out our guilt. Gen 4:3-10; 1 John 3:11-12

Our transgressions on us – unable to escape them.

We know our iniquities.

Vs. 13 1. Transgressing the Lord. 2 Tim 4:9-18

2. Denying Him.
3. Turning away from Him.
4. Speaking.
5. From our hearts, lying words.

Vs. 14-15 The truth, the whole truth.

No justice; no righteousness; no uprightness; no truth.

The one who tries to escape these pollutants becomes a prey (God's children have made it a big black hole).

This was not God's plan for Israel.

Vs. 16a Israel has sunk to such a low level that no one but the Lord can save the nation.

Like a warrior, God goes forth to fight for His people.

Vs. 16b-18 His armor. Eph. 6:14-17

God's other armor; vengeance and zeal.

God will supply righteousness and salvation for His people as He executes vengeance on His enemies.

Vs. 19 He will come and all mankind will see.

Vs. 20 He will come to Zion and redeem Jacob.

Vs. 21 When He comes for Israel, He will inaugurate His New Covenant with them.
Jer. 31:31-34; Ezk. 36:27; Joel 2:29