Pain

- When/how is pain bad?
- When/how is pain good?
- What would the world be like if we removed all pain?
 - Sometimes we act as though forgiveness should remove all of the pain of sin
- → What is a godly view of sin and forgiveness?

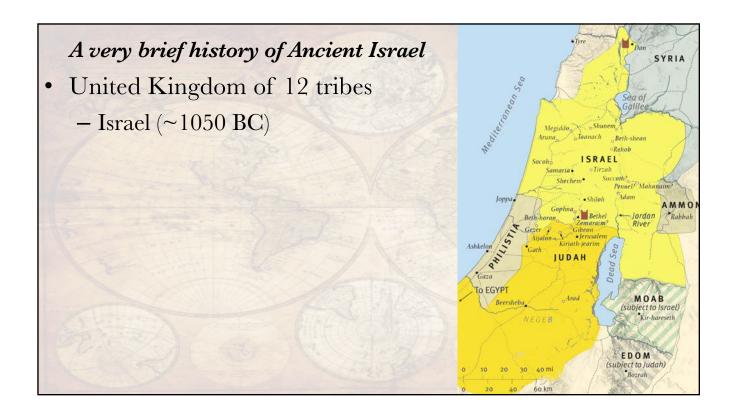
Removing a Permanent Stain Isaiah 1:1-20



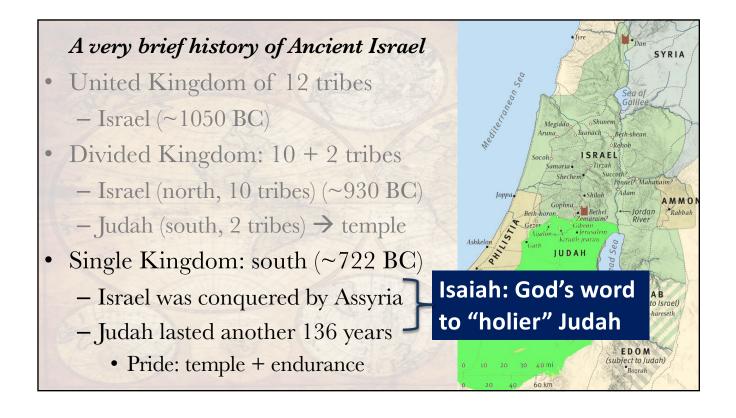


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A very brief history of Ancient Israel United Kingdom of 12 tribes Israel (~1050 BC) Divided Kingdom: 10 + 2 tribes Israel (north, 10 tribes) (~930 BC) Judah (south, 2 tribes) → temple Abbellow Summar Section Summar



Isaiah 1:1-20 1: God's message through Isaiah to "holier" Judah	
2-3:	
4:	A BUT THE STATE OF
5-9:	
10-15:	
16-17:	
18:	
19-20a:	Chinese: page 1112
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1: God's message through Isaiah to "holier" Judah 2-3: God's accusation: shameful rebellion 4: • "If someone has a stubborn and rebellious son who does not obey his father and mother and will not 10-15: listen to them when they discipline him, 16-17: ...stone him to death" Deuteronomy 21:18-20 18: • Even animals do better than God's people! 19-20a: 20b:

1: God's message through Isaiah to "holier" Judah

2-3: God's accusation: shameful rebellion

4: Isaiah's echo of God's accusation: shameful rebellion

Objective

5-9: • Many words for their sin

10-15: • Sinful: miss the mark

16-17: • Guilt: 'bent' (like 'crooked'), moral failings

18: • Evildoers: bad, evil

19-20a: • Corruption: decay

20b: • Forsake: abandon Relational

• Spurned: treat as unworthy and even offensive

• Turned their backs: treat as something horrible

Isaiah 1:1-20

1: God's message through Isaiah to "holier" Judah

2-3: God's accusation: shameful rebellion

4: Isaiah's echo of God's accusation: shameful rebellion

5-9: Consequences of this rebellion: people and land

10-15: • Why do you keep going in a path that has brought

16-17: so much trouble?

18: • Perhaps Isaiah could see trouble more clearly

19-20a: • Hut in cucumber field: abandoned "lean to"

20b: instead of a palace or temple for God

 Sodom & Gomorrah: symbols of wicked foreign cities that were totally destroyed in judgment

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5-9: Consequences of this rebellion: people and country

10-15: God's remedy: no more mere religion!

16-17: • Progression of God's disgust with empty religion

18: When you spread out your **hands** in prayer,

19-20a: I hide my **eyes** from you;

20b: even when you offer many prayers,

I am not listening.

Your **hands** are full of blood! 1:15

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16-17: God's remedy: submission to God's moral law

18: • In this case, God didn't ask

19-20a: ...for better "worship services" (vertical)

20b: ...but for better treatment of people (horizontal)

• "For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen." 1 John 4:20

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- 16-17: God's remedy: submission to God's moral law
 - 18: Invitation to God's grace
- 19-20a: Agree with God on the ugliness of sin
 - 20b: Not INSTEAD of pursuing justice
 - He offers the cleansing we can't complete ourselves
 - "Divine passive": God is the unstated washer

Isaiah 1:1-20

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 - 18: Invitation to God's grace
- 19-20a: 2 paths: godly submission (life), or rebellion (death)
 - 20b: Eat (in blessing) or be eaten (in judgment)

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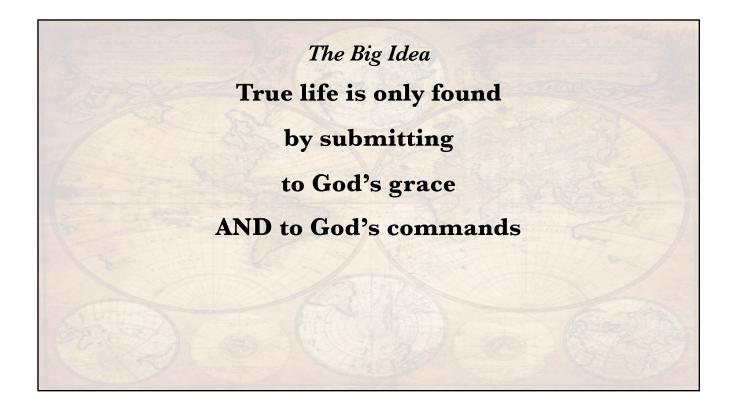
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18: Invitation to God's grace

19-20a: 2 paths: godly submission or rebellion

20b: This is God's unalterable plan

for our relationship with Him



When caught in sin...







Contrition = I'm sorry I did wrong

Application

- Grow in our conviction (deep belief): sin is disgusting, enslaving, contagious, and deadly
 - Sin = any failure to conform to the moral law/nature of God in act, attitude, or nature
 - Both before and after Christ's death & resurrection
 - Being in Christ rescues people from this power
 instantly (justification) and progressively (sanctification)
 - Sin is **not** less awful
 - Religious sin is even more disgusting

Application

- Grow in our conviction (deep belief): sin is disgusting, enslaving, contagious, and deadly
- · Respond to sin in a godly way
 - 1. Confess & receive/accept forgiveness
 - "If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and **will forgive us** our sins and **purify us** from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us." 1 John 1:8-10
 - "Therefore confess your sins **to each other** and **pray for each other** so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." *James 5:16*

Application

- Grow in our conviction (deep belief): sin is disgusting, enslaving, contagious, and deadly
- · Respond to sin in a godly way
 - 1. Confess & receive/accept forgiveness
 - 2. Be determined to steer away from temptation
 - "And if your right hand causes you to stumble, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to go into hell." *Matthew 5:30*
 - "And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one." *Matthew 6:13*

Application

- Grow in our conviction (deep belief): sin is disgusting, enslaving, contagious, and deadly
- · Respond to sin in a godly way
 - 1. Confess & receive/accept forgiveness
 - 2. Be determined to steer away from temptation
 - 3. Pursue justice & God's ways: make amends wisely
 - Zacchaeus: his problem was greed and he cheated others of their money
 - "But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, 'Look, Lord! Here and now **I give half** of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, **I will pay back** four times the amount." *Luke 19:8*

Application

- Grow in our conviction (deep belief): sin is disgusting, enslaving, contagious, and deadly
- · Respond to sin in a godly way
 - 1. Confess & receive/accept forgiveness
 - 2. Be determined to steer away from temptation
 - 3. Pursue justice & God's ways: make amends wisely
 - 4. Be determined to be changed, in His grace
 - "For this very reason, **make every effort** to add to your faith goodness..." 2 Peter 1:5-7
 - "Stop doing wrong. Learn to do right." Isaiah 1:17

The Big Idea

True life is only found

by submitting

to God's grace

AND to God's commands