

The Betrayal of God Isaiah 1:2-20

*My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart
you, God, will not despise.*

Psalm 51:17

I. Broken Heart

*Listen, O heavens! Hear, O earth!
For the Lord Yahweh has spoken:
“I tenderly nurtured children and made them great,
but they have rebelled against me!”*

Isaiah 1:2

- A. Abandoning instead of embracing
- B. Despising instead of honoring
- C. Turning away instead of drawing near

*Oh, how this nation keeps sinning!
See them dragging the heavy burden of their guilt!
They are corrupt children, descendants of evildoers.
They have turned their backs on the Lord God
and despised the Holy One of Israel!
They have cut themselves off from the help of God.*

*Why would you seek to be injured further?
Why would you stubbornly continue in your rebellion?
Your whole head is sick,
and your heart and your will are weak and faint.*

*You are corrupt from the bottom of your feet
to the top of your head. There is no integrity—
nothing but bruises, putrefying sores, and raw open wounds!
They have not been drained or bandaged or soothed with oil.*

Isaiah 1:4-6

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II. Unbroken Grace

A. Indelible Stains

Hear the word of Yahweh:

*“You leaders of Sodom, heed the correction of our God!
People of Gomorrah, you’d better listen to His rebuke.”*

And Yahweh keeps saying:

*“Why such countless sacrifices—what use are they to me?
I’ve had my fill of your burnt offerings of rams
and your fattened animals.
I find no delight in the blood of bulls, lambs, or goats!”*

Isaiah 1:10-11

B. Indescribable Mercy

Wash yourselves and make yourselves clean.

*Remove your evil actions from my sight
and stop sinning!*

*Rescue the oppressed. Uphold the rights of the fatherless
and defend the widow’s cause.*

Isaiah 1:16,17

*Come now and let’s deliberate over
the next steps to take together.*

Yahweh promises you over and over:

*“Though your sins stain you like scarlet,
I will whiten them like bright, new-fallen snow!
Even though they are deep red like crimson,
they will be made white like wool!*

*If you have a willing heart to let me help you,
and if you will obey me, you will feast on the blessings
of an abundant harvest.*

*But if you are stubborn and refuse to obey,
the sword will eat you instead.*

The mouth of Yahweh has spoken.”

Isaiah 1:18-20