

The Sin-sick Nation  
Isaiah 1:10-20  
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show the folly of rebellion and the hope of repentance as seen in Isaiah 1.

## Introduction

### I. The sin-sick nation & hypocritical worship

#### A. Sins of the nation (1:2-9)

1. God had brought up children, but they had rebelled against Him. (v.2)
  - a. The Hebrew word used here indicates a breach of relationship.
2. While the ox and donkey are pictured as being intelligent enough to know where to go for their needs, here the people do not, the ox and donkey have more sense than them. (v.3)
3. Notice how the nation is described (v.4-8)
4. If it weren't for God leaving a remnant, there would have been nothing left of them (v.9)

#### B. Corruption & hypocritical worship (1:10-15)

1. They attempted to hide their corruption, their sin, behind their hypocritical and empty acts of worship. (v.10-13)
  - a. Empty because they are not worthy to worship God because of their sin and ignore what they ought to be doing.
  - b. This is still a problem today. Acting as worshippers is not what God wants.
  - c. Vain, empty hypocritical worship cannot hide the sins of a nation or of a single individual.
2. When you refuse to turn from sin, everything you offer to God becomes empty, nothing matters if you are not right in the sight of God (v.14-15)
  - a. He was weary of bearing their assemblies, enduring, or tolerating them.
    - i. God despises worship that is a sham.
  - b. Your hands are full of blood – is a reference to sin, they were covered in sin.

### II. Reformation, lamentation & redemption

#### A. Reformation of life (v.16-20)

1. Put away sin, stop doing it (v.16)
2. Remove sin and install righteousness (v.17)
3. Repent and come back to God (v.18)
4. Blessings await if you return, if not only punishment (v.19-20)

#### B. Lamentation over Jerusalem (v.21-23)

1. God laments the wicked change in Jerusalem (v.21)
2. Their sin is called out (v.22-23)

#### C. Redemption through purging (v.24-31)

1. Sin has a price (v.24,28-31)
2. Those who repent are purged of their wickedness (v.25-27)

### III. Lessons for us today.

#### A. Sin ruins everything (v.21-23)

1. Sin ruins worship assemblies
2. Sin ruins families
3. Sin ruins individuals
4. Sin ruins the hope of heaven

#### B. Repentance and Reformation of Life is the only way

1. Putting sin away is one of the single greatest themes of the Bible.
2. Reformation or change of lifestyle means coming to God in full obedience and complete dedication.

#### Application & Conclusion:

1. How did God respond to hypocritical worship? How did He respond to Jerusalem turning to sin?
2. Will Christ respond any differently on the judgment day?
3. What did God say was required for them to be pleasing to Him once again?
4. Full Invitation

#### Non-Christians must:

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Luke 13:2-3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – John 14:15, Rev 2:10

#### Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9