

**BOOK OF ISAIAH**  
**A NATION IN CRISIS**  
**ISAIAH 1:1-9**

**Introduction**

Before I begin my message today, I want you to understand that I in no way adhere to what is known today as REPLACEMENT THEOLOGY!

*Replacement Theology* essentially teaches that because of Israel's rebellion against God and their rejection of Christ, the Church has replaced Israel in God's plan. Nothing could be further from the Truth!

The Bible is very clear that Israel is God's chosen people and that though He has set Israel aside during this Church age, He still has plans for Israel that will be literally fulfilled during the Tribulation Period and during the Millennial Reign of Christ! (Cf. Romans 11:25)

Nevertheless, I want you to understand that there is plenty for us to gain from God's dealings with the nation of Israel! Why else would God have left us with the Old Testament Scriptures?

Listen to what the Apostle Paul said in two different places in the N.T.:  
*Romans 15:4 For **whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning**, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.*

*1 Corinthians 10:11 Now all these things **happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition**, upon whom the ends of the world are come.*

As we read and study the prophets, we notice that many of the problems that Judah and Israel had are similar to the problems that we have in our own country and even in our Churches today.

What does that tell us? The leaders of our nation and even many in the Church haven't learned from the History that could have helped them? Many have gotten away from God's Book and cast aside the very things that could have kept us from making the same mistakes! How foolish!

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God's opening indictment of Judah here is also an opening indictment against us! What God says about Judah should sound familiar to us, because it is true of our nation! Unfortunately Israel's sins and mistakes have become ours!

**I. WE SEE A TENDER GOD! (Vs. 2)**

This is a courtroom scene! The heavens and earth are called into witness! The same way that they were called to witness by Moses when he gave forth his song:

*Deuteronomy 32:1 Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth.*

**A. The LORD Tenderly Raised Israel, And Yet Israel Rebelled Against Him!**

*"I have nourished and brought up..."*

**1. The LORD Made Them Into The Great Nation That They Were!**

ANY greatness they had was because of the LORD!

ALL of the possessions they had were because of the LORD!

EVERY blessing they enjoyed, they enjoyed by the good grace of God upon them!

**2. The LORD Was Longsuffering Towards Them!**

**B. The LORD Has Also Tenderly Raised Our Nation By Giving Us So Many Blessings!**

**1. It Was The LORD Who Made Us Into A Great Nation!**

ANY greatness we have had past or present is because of the LORD!

ALL of the possessions that we have had past or present is because of the LORD!

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**EVERY blessing** that we have enjoyed, we have enjoyed by the good grace of our God upon us!

Think of all the blessings that God has given to us personally and to our country. Doesn't He deserve more devotion than He receives?

*WE SEE A TENDER GOD...*

**II. WE SEE A TREACHEROUS PEOPLE! (Vs. 3-8)**

**A. Israel Had Forgotten! (Vs. 3)**

The ox and donkey may be brute beasts of burden, but at least they know who takes care of them and where their provisions come from.

**1. Israel had forgotten that it was God who took care of them and provided for them!**

They belonged to Him! And they were dependent on Him for all they required!

**a. For Their Possessions!**

**b. For Their Provisions!**

**c. For Their Protection!**

**d. For Their Peace!**

**e. For Their Petitions!**

**f. For Their Pardon!**

**g. For Their Power!**

**2. Likewise, our nation has forgotten that it is the LORD Who cares and provides for us!**

We are dependent on Him for all WE require!

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*Israel Had Forgotten!*

**B. Israel Had Forsaken! (Vs. 4)**

**1. Israel Had Left The LORD!**

Their guilt in this was fourfold!

Note how each description here is in contrast to what God had designed them to be!

**a. They Were A “Sinful Nation!”**

*Exodus 19:6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation...*

**b. They Were A “People Laden With Iniquity!”**

But listen, the LORD had chosen them to be “a peculiar people unto Himself”!

*Deuteronomy 14:2 For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God, and the LORD hath chosen thee to be a peculiar people unto himself, above all the nations that are upon the earth.*

**c. They Were “A Seed Of Evil Doers!”**

But the LORD had made them the “seed of Abraham” and of Isaac, and of Jacob! (Men of faith and of the covenant or promise that was passed down to them!)

*Isaiah 41:8 But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend.*

**d. They Were “Children That Are Corrupters!”**

The Lord had declared to them in *Deuteronomy 14:1 Ye are the children of the LORD your God:...*

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Look at the three-fold nature of that corruption:

- 1) **They had forsaken the LORD!**  
Their heart had turned away from Him!
- 2) **They had provoked the Holy One of Israel to anger!**  
Guilty in their speech—The indication is they mocked or scorned the LORD!
- 3) **They had gone away backward!**  
Guilty in their actions—They chose their own way instead of God’s way!

**2. Likewise, Our Nation Has Left The LORD!**

As we look around we can see the evidences that our nation has also left the Lord! As we compare our beginnings to where we are now, the evidence speaks for itself and it speaks against our nation!

- a. **Our Nation Is Also “A Sinful Nation!”**  
“Sinful” means it has “missed” or “miss the mark!”

God has a will for our nation, but we have missed the mark as of late in so many ways!  
And we haven’t just missed it by a little! We’re not even close to what God would have us be!

When our nation is OK with killing baby humans—it has missed the mark!

When our nation is OK with what God calls an abomination—it has missed the mark!

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When our nation calls good evil and evil good—it has missed the mark!

In more ways than I’ve got time to detail today—our nation has missed the mark!

- b. **Our Nation Is A People “Laden With Iniquity!”**

The picture here is to be burdened down so as to make life severe or difficult!  
*Proverbs 13:15—“...the way of transgressors is hard.”*

You want to know why our nation is struggling in so many different ways? It is “laden” or “burdened with iniquity!”

*Iniquity = “perversity, moral evil”*

And the more our nation is “laden with iniquity” the more difficult life is going to get here!

- c. **Our Nation Is “A Seed Of Evil Doers!”**

By and large we have “a seed of evil doers” that has been raised up in a godless, humanistic environment in our public schools!

Ever since God, the Bible, and prayer were kicked out of our public schools things have done nothing but go downhill for our nation!

- d. **Our Nation Is Full Of “Children That Are Corrupters!”**

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*“corrupters” = “to cause to decay or ruin”*  
We see the same three-fold nature of that corruption as what is listed here:

- 1) **Forsaking the LORD!**  
Hearts are turning away from Him!
- 2) **Provoking the Holy One to anger!**  
Mocking and scorning God as never before!
- 3) **Gone away backward!**  
Choosing their own way instead of God’s way!

*Israel Had Forgotten...Israel Had Forsaken...*

**C. Israel Had Fallen! (Vs. 5-6)**

They were under judgment, being disciplined, and still didn't properly respond to the LORD by returning to Him!

Look at all the things that have happened to our country as of late, and yet people will not repent!

**D. Israel Had Foes! (Vs. 7-8)**

Israel was besieged by enemies and often conquered and left desolate!

Today our nation is being besieged by those whose desire to conquer us from without and within! Our leaders have blindly opened the floodgates to allow those with this anti-God ideology called Islam to flood our nation! And make no mistake, it is NOT just *“radical Islam”* or some individuals who have hijacked a *peaceful religion!* Islam intends to eradicate any and every thing that is not Islam! It is in their book—the Koran!

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And listen, if we don't find a place of repentance as a nation and get back to God! The future is bleak for the American way of life as we have become accustomed to!

**III. WE SEE A TENDER GOD...WE SEE A TREACHEROUS PEOPLE  
WE SEE A TINY REMNANT! (Vs. 9)**

The Lord left Israel with a faithful remnant! Without that remnant they would have been destroyed like Sodom and Gomorrah!

Listen friend, I believe the only reason the LORD hasn't poured out His judgment on our land more than He already has is because of a faithful remnant of believers in our land!

God always has a remnant of those who are faithful to Him! I'm talking about more than just being a believer! I'm also talking about an attitude of faith in the LORD and a walk of faithfulness that honors the LORD!

So, are you walking with the LORD...are you a part of the faithful remnant in our nation?

If not, then understand that you are a **part of the problem** when you could be a **part of the solution!**

It's more than just being saved and attending Church! It's about the LORD JESUS CHRIST being the Head of your life and directing your steps!

If you have not been born again, that is where it begins but understand that is only the beginning!

*Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.*