

Isaiah 1

New King James Version (NKJV) Isaiah 1

1 The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

The Wickedness of Judah

2 Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth! For the LORD has spoken:

“ I have nourished and brought up children, And they have rebelled against Me;

3 The ox knows its owner
And the donkey its master's crib; But Israel
does not know,
My people do not consider.”

4 Alas, sinful nation,
A people laden with iniquity,
A brood of evildoers,
Children who are corrupters! They have
forsaken the LORD, They have provoked to
anger

The Holy One of Israel,
They have turned away backward.

5 Why should you be stricken again? You will
revolt more and more.

The whole head is sick,
And the whole heart faints.

6 From the sole of the foot even to the head,
There is no soundness in it,
But wounds and bruises and putrefying sores;
They have not been closed or bound up,

Or soothed with ointment. 7 Your country is
desolate,

Your cities are burned with fire;
Strangers devour your land in your presence;
And it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers.

8 So the daughter of Zion is left as a booth in a
vineyard,

As a hut in a garden of cucumbers, As a
besieged city.

9 Unless the LORD of hosts

Had left to us a very small remnant,
We would have become like Sodom,
We would have been made like Gomorrah.

10 Hear the word of the LORD, You rulers of
Sodom;
Give ear to the law of our God, You people of
Gomorrah:

11 “ To what purpose is the multitude of your
sacrifices to Me?”

Says the LORD.

“ I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams
And the fat of fed cattle.
I do not delight in the blood of bulls,
Or of lambs or goats.

12 “ When you come to appear before Me, Who
has required this from your hand,

To trample My courts?

13 Bring no more futile sacrifices;

Incense is an abomination to Me.

The New Moons, the Sabbaths, and the calling

of assemblies—

I cannot endure iniquity and the sacred meeting.

14 Your New Moons and your appointed feasts

My soul hates;

They are a trouble to Me,

I am weary of bearing them.

15 When you spread out your hands, I will hide

My eyes from you;

Even though you make many prayers, I will not hear.

Your hands are full of blood.

16 “ Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean;

Put away the evil of your doings from before

My eyes. Cease to do evil,

17 Learn to do good; Seek justice,

Rebuke the oppressor; Defend the fatherless,

Plead for the widow.

18 “ Come now, and let us reason together,”

Says the LORD,

“ Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall

be as white as snow; Though they are red like
crimson, They shall be as wool.

19 If you are willing and obedient,

You shall eat the good of the land; 20 But if you
refuse and rebel,

You shall be devoured by the sword”;

For the mouth of the LORD has spoken. The
Degenerate City

21 How the faithful city has become a harlot! It
was full of justice;
Righteousness lodged in it,
But now murderers.

22 Your silver has become dross, Your wine
mixed with water.

23 Your princes are rebellious,
And companions of thieves;
Everyone loves bribes,
And follows after rewards.

They do not defend the fatherless,
Nor does the cause of the widow come before

them.

24 Therefore the Lord says,
The LORD of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel,
“ Ah, I will rid Myself of My adversaries, And
take vengeance on My enemies.

25 I will turn My hand against you, And
thoroughly purge away your dross, And take
away all your alloy.

26 I will restore your judges as at the first,
And your counselors as at the beginning.
Afterward you shall be called the city of
righteousness,

the faithful city.”

27 Zion shall be redeemed with justice,
And her penitents with righteousness.

28 The destruction of transgressors and of
sinners shall be together,

And those who forsake the LORD shall be
consumed. 29 For they shall be ashamed of the

terebinth trees

Which you have desired;
And you shall be embarrassed because of the
gardens Which you have chosen.

30 For you shall be as a terebinth whose leaf
fades, And as a garden that has no water.

31 The strong shall be as tinder, And the work
of it as a spark; Both will burn together,
And no one shall quench them.

