

What Matters Most

Galatians 6:11-18

You Will Fight For Things That Matter To You

A. Paul Got Involved Personally (6:11)

- 1. Others saw his involvement**
- 2. Others were impacted by his involvement**
- 3. Involvement takes effort**

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B. Will Reveal The Inner Motivations (6:12-16)

1. Of the Judaizers (6:12-13)

a. To avoid persecution (v 12)

b. To look good (v 13)

2. Of Paul (6:14-16)

a. Toward the cross (v 14)

b. Toward Christ (v 15)

3. Of others' walk (6:16)

a. A single rule (Acts 2:46)

b. A significant result

c. A sign of relationship with God

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C. Marked Paul's Life (6:17-18)

- 1. When you give the truth, the discussion is over**
- 2. Marks = stigmata (2 Corinthians 11:23-27)**
- 3. You will be marked by the grace of God**

A Sinful Nation

Isaiah 1

Mercy ignored will find judgment invoked

I. The Call to Order (1:1)

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.

A. Uzziah (Azariah) - 2 Kings 15:1-7

B. Jotham - 2 Kings 15:32-38

C. Ahaz - 2 Kings 16

D. Hezekiah - 2 Kings 18-20, 2 Chronicles 32

II. The Court (1:2)

Isaiah 1:2

Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the LORD hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me.

A. Not what we think - God takes no public opinion polls

B. Not what we want to hear - God is truth - not political correctness

Ecclesiastes 5:1

Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil.

III. The Charges (1:3-6, 21-23)

Isaiah 1:3-6

3 The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider.

4 Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward.

5 Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint.

6 From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment.

III. The Charges (1:3-6, 21-23)

Isaiah 1:21-23

21 How is the faithful city become an harlot! it was full of judgment; righteousness lodged in it; but now murderers.

22 Thy silver is become dross, thy wine mixed with water:

23 Thy princes are rebellious, and companions of thieves: every one loveth gifts, and followeth after rewards: they judge not the fatherless, neither doth the cause of the widow come unto them.

III. The Charges (1:3-6, 21-23)

A. The cause (1:3)

B. The condemnation (vv 4-6, 21-23)

1. Forsaken God (4, 21)

2. Committed sin (4, 21)

3. Backslidden (4, 22)

4. Despised correction (5, 23)

5. Diseased by sin (6)

IV. The Consequences Of Sin (1:7-15, 24, 29-31)

A. A desolate country (1:7-8)

Isaiah 1:7-8

7 Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers.

8 And the daughter of Zion is left as a cottage in a vineyard, as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, as a besieged city.

IV. The Consequences Of Sin (1:7-15, 24, 29-31)

B. A lack of righteousness (1:9-10)

Isaiah 1:9-10

9 Except the LORD of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, and we should have been like unto Gomorrah.

10 Hear the word of the LORD, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah.

IV. The Consequences Of Sin (1:7-15, 24, 29-31)

C. A broken relationship with God (1:11-15)

1. Vain worship (vv 11-14)

a. Is a waste of time

Isaiah 1:11-12

11 To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto me? saith the LORD: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; and I delight not in the blood of bullocks, or of lambs, or of he goats.

12 When ye come to appear before me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread my courts?

IV. The Consequences Of Sin (1:7-15, 24, 29-31)

C. A broken relationship with God (1:11-15)

1. Vain worship (vv 11-14)

b. Sickens God

Isaiah 1:13-14

13 Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting.

14 Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them.

IV. The Consequences Of Sin (1:7-15, 24, 29-31)

C. A broken relationship with God (1:11-15)

2. Unanswered prayers (v 15)

Isaiah 1:15

And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood.

IV. The Consequences Of Sin (1:7-15, 24, 29-31)

D. Oppression (1:24)

Isaiah 1:24

Therefore saith the LORD, the LORD of hosts, the mighty One of Israel, Ah, I will ease me of mine adversaries, and avenge me of mine enemies:

IV. The Consequences Of Sin (1:7-15, 24, 29-30)

E. Judgment (1:29-31)

Isaiah 1:29-31

29 For they shall be ashamed of the oaks which ye have desired, and ye shall be confounded for the gardens that ye have chosen.

30 For ye shall be as an oak whose leaf fadeth, and as a garden that hath no water.

31 And the strong shall be as tow, and the maker of it as a spark, and they shall both burn together, and none shall quench them.

V. The Conditions For Mercy (1:16-17)

A. Repentance (1:16)

Isaiah 1:16

Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil;

B. Righteousness (1:17)

Isaiah 1:17

Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

VI. The Chance For Mercy (1:18)

Isaiah 1:18

**Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD:
though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as
snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as
wool.**

See things God's way

VII. The Choice For Mercy (1:19-20)

Isaiah 1:19-20

19 If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:

20 But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

A. To accept (1:19)

B. To reject (1:20)

VIII. The Consequences of Obedience (1:25-28)

A. Purging of sin (1:25)

Isaiah 1:25

And I will turn my hand upon thee, and purely purge away thy dross, and take away all thy tin:

B. Restoration of righteousness (1:26-27)

Isaiah 1:26-27

26 And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors as at the beginning: afterward thou shalt be called, The city of righteousness, the faithful city.

27 Zion shall be redeemed with judgment, and her converts with righteousness.

VIII. The Consequences of Obedience (1:25-28)

C. Elimination of evil influence (1:28)

Isaiah 1:28

And the destruction of the transgressors and of the sinners shall be together, and they that forsake the LORD shall be consumed.

Ah