

True Righteousness

Isaiah 58

Be righteous not religious

A. Ritualism Not Acceptable to God (Isaiah 58:1-5)

1. Ritualism lures people to sleep (58:1)

**2. Ritualism is doing good things for the wrong reason
(58:2-3) - Zechariah 7:5-6**

3. Ritualism leads to strife (58:4)

James 4:1-5

4. Ritualism is not God's way (58:5)

Zechariah 7:7-10

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B. Righteousness is Always Acceptable to God

(Isaiah 58:6-12)

- 1. Leads to victory from sin's bondage (58:6)**
- 2. Leads to ministry to others (58:7)**
- 3. Leads to spiritual growth and testimony (58:8)**

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B. Righteousness is Always Acceptable to God

(Isaiah 58:6-12) - continued

4. Leads to a deeper relationship with God (58:9-12)

a. They would have answered prayers (v 9)

God wants to help

b. They would receive blessings from God (vv 10-11)

God promises to bless those who have a relationship with Him

c. They would demonstrate the character of God and make a difference (v 12)

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C. Requirements for Righteousness (Isaiah 58:13-14)

1. Turn from self (58:13)

**Understand the “Principle” of the Sabbath
(Exodus 31:12-18)**

2. Delight in the Lord (58:14)

**Participate in the "Practice" of the Sabbath
Psalm 34:4, 7**

A Broken Connection

Isaiah 59

Sin separates us from God

I. Condemnation of Israel (Isaiah 59:1-8)

A. For their lack of faith (59:1)

Isaiah 59:1

Behold, the LORD's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear:

Psalm 130:5

I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope.

I. Condemnation of Israel (Isaiah 59:1-8)

B. For their iniquities (59:2-8)

1. Sin separates us from God (v 2)

Isaiah 59:2

But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

I. Condemnation of Israel (Isaiah 59:1-8)

B. For their iniquities (59:2-8) - continued

2. Sins identified (vv 3-8)

a. A lying tongue (v 3)

Isaiah 59:3

For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness.

b. Injustice and evil thoughts (v 4)

Isaiah 59:4

None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity.

I. Condemnation of Israel (Isaiah 59:1-8)

B. For their iniquities (59:2-8) - continued

2. Sins identified (vv 3-8)

c. Oppression of others (v 5)

Isaiah 59:5

They hatch cockatrice' eggs, and weave the spider's web: he that eateth of their eggs dieth, and that which is crushed breaketh out into a viper.

d. Self-righteousness (v 6)

Isaiah 59:6

Their webs shall not become garments, neither shall they cover themselves with their works: their works are works of iniquity, and the act of violence is in their hands.

I. Condemnation of Israel (Isaiah 59:1-8)

B. For their iniquities (59:2-8) - continued

2. Sins identified (vv 3-8)

e. Wickedness (vv 7-8)}

Isaiah 59:7-8

7 Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths.

8 The way of peace they know not; and there is no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace.

Isaiah 57:21

There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.

II. Confession of Israel (Isaiah 59:9-15)

A. We are not as good as we think we are (59:9)

Isaiah 59:9

Therefore is judgment far from us, neither doth justice overtake us: we wait for light, but behold obscurity; for brightness, but we walk in darkness.

B. We are in spiritual darkness (59:10)

Isaiah 59:10

We grope for the wall like the blind, and we grope as if we had no eyes: we stumble at noon day as in the night; we are in desolate places as dead men.

II. Confession of Israel (Isaiah 59:9-15)

C. We have no hope (59:11)

Isaiah 59:11

We roar all like bears, and mourn sore like doves: we look for judgment, but there is none; for salvation, but it is far off from us.

II. Confession of Israel (Isaiah 59:9-15)

D. We are as wicked as You say we are (59:12-15)

1. We have sinned against You (vv 12-13)

Isaiah 59:12-13

12 For our transgressions are multiplied before thee, and our sins testify against us: for our transgressions are with us; and as for our iniquities, we know them;

13 In transgressing and lying against the LORD, and departing away from our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart words of falsehood.

II. Confession of Israel (Isaiah 59:9-15)

D. We are as wicked as You say we are (59:12-15) – cont'd

2. We have sinned against others (vv 14-15)

Isaiah 59:14-15

14 And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter.

15 Yea, truth faileth; and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey: and the LORD saw it, and it displeased him that there was no judgment.

III. Consolation of Israel (Isaiah 59:16-21)

A. God alone can bring salvation (59:16-17)

Isaiah 59:16-17

16 And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him.

17 For he put on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head; and he put on the garments of vengeance for clothing, and was clad with zeal as a cloak.

III. Consolation of Israel (Isaiah 59:16-21)

B. God alone will bring judgment (59:18-19)

Isaiah 59:18-19

18 According to their deeds, accordingly he will repay, fury to his adversaries, recompence to his enemies; to the islands he will repay recompence.

19 So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him.

III. Consolation of Israel (Isaiah 59:16-21)

**C. God alone will show mercy to those who turn to Him
(59:20)**

Isaiah 59:20

And the Redeemer shall come to Zion, and unto them that turn from transgression in Jacob, saith the LORD.

D. God alone can quicken with His Spirit (59:21)

Isaiah 59:21

**As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the LORD;
My spirit that is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the LORD, from henceforth and for ever.**

**Get Connected With
God**