

Isaiah  
Chapter 1

v. 1-4-- There are so many people now, also, whom the Lord is calling, and they will not listen, so they don't know Him. Many of these are Christians, but they are content with their Salvation and slip back into this world while waiting for that. They are not living in Christ's Victory for their lives NOW. Others are not saved at all, and haven't listened to His call of Salvation.

v. 5-6-- These people's souls (minds and emotions) are sick. They are rotting with the thoughts Satan puts there, thoughts of depression, pride, envy, loneliness, disallusionment, etc., and they don't come to Christ to be bound up in His Love, and have His ointment of Joy, Peace, Love, Patience, Faith, etc., put on.

v. 7-- Without Christ in our lives we are desolate--empty within ourselves, and Satan can come and devour the good in us and take over as much as we let him.

v. 8-- Satan's influence will grow up until it overcomes us, as a once neat cottage, if left unprotected and uncared for, will be overgrown by vines and brush.

v. 9-- But God wants us to overcome that. Since Christ's Victory, we need not go the way of the people of old. WE'VE BEEN VICTORIOUS!!

v. 10-- He is speaking to the people of today (Christians included) who think more of the pleasure of this world than of Him.

v. 11-- He doesn't want us to go to church to simply obey the laws of the church--whatever the denomination. He wants us to come to Him first, to listen first to Him, then to other people, and not put church laws and church leaders' opinions before His inner voice in each of us. We are to make our lives a sacrifice to Him, instead of our sacrifices being denominationally-oriented and becoming in that way of a shallow nature.

v. 12-- Some Christians are still so bound by their church that they go simply because their leaders say so, the church rules say so, or their neighbors will wonder why they weren't there. He's asking, "who told you to come...Me, or someone else?"

v. 13-15-- People obey church holidays, go on certain days, do certain things, are bound by certain denominational doctrines, and do these things, not by the Spirit of God, but by their leaders orders. The Lord doesn't consider these things wrong, but if they are not done through the Spirit, they are done in vain, for God must be worshipped in Spirit and in Truth. He wants us to be led by Him and Him alone!! (See Jeremiah 4:4)