

# Treasure Hunt

- What is the main cause of the various sins in Prov 6:16-19, and how does Solomon indicate this?
- How does our Lord comment on Solomon's insight?
- Which portions of the confession (vv. 9-15a) describe the consequences of Israel's sin?
- How are these parts similar to one another?
- Which portions describe the sin itself?
- How are these parts similar to one another?

# Overview of Isaiah 58-66

|                         |           |            |
|-------------------------|-----------|------------|
| False vs. True Worship  | 58:1-14   | 66:1-24    |
| Indictment & Confession | 59:1-15a  | 63:7-65:25 |
| The Redeemer            | 59:15b-21 | 63:1-7     |
| Zion's Glory (2fs)      | 60:1-22   | 62:1-12    |
| The Redeemer            | 61:1-11   |            |

# Structure by Pronouns

## Accusation

59:1 Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: 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. 3 For **your** hands are defiled with blood, and **your** fingers with iniquity; **your** lips have spoken lies, **your** tongue hath muttered perverseness.

## Description

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

## Confession

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

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. 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:

# Anatomy of Iniquity

| Pro 6:16-19   |  | Isa 59   |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| 16 These six <i>things</i> doth the LORD hate: yea, seven <i>are</i> an abomination unto him: |  | 1-2 Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: 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. |  |
| 17 A proud look,  | and he that soweth <b>discord</b> among brethren.                    |  | 8 The way of <b>peace</b> they know not; and <i>there is</i> no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know <b>peace</b> . |
| a <b>lying tongue</b> ,   | 19 A false witness <i>that</i> speaketh <b>lies</b> ,                | 3b your lips have spoken <b>lies</b> , your <b>tongue</b> hath muttered perverseness.  |  |
| and <b>hands</b> that <b>shed innocent blood</b> ,  | <b>feet</b> that be swift in <b>running to mischief</b> <b>רעה</b> , | 3a For your <b>hands</b> are defiled with <b>blood</b> , and your fingers with iniquity;   | 7a Their <b>feet run to evil</b> <b>רע</b> , and they make haste to <b>shed innocent blood</b> : ... wasting and destruction <i>are</i> in their paths.                            |
| 18 An heart that deviseth <b>wicked imaginations</b> <b>און מחשבות</b> ,                      |  |  | 7b their thoughts <i>are</i> <b>thoughts of iniquity</b> <b>און מחשבות</b> ;   |

# The Center of the Chiasm

| Pro 6:16-19   |   |
|---|---|
| 16 These six <i>things</i> doth the LORD hate: yea, seven <i>are</i> an abomination unto him: |   |
| 17 A proud look,  | and he that soweth discord among brethren.    |
| a lying tongue,   | 19 A false witness <i>that</i> speaketh lies, |
| and hands that shed innocent blood,   | feet that be swift in running to mischief,    |
| 18 <b>An heart</b> that deviseth wicked imaginations,   |   |

Mar 7:21-23 from within, **out of the heart of men,** proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, 22 Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: 23 All these evil things come **from within,** and defile the man.

# Cause and Effect

| Cause   | Effect  |
|---|---|
|   | 1-2 God is far from you   |
| 3 “ <b>For your</b> hands are defiled with blood, ...”  |   |
| 4-8 <b>They</b> have sinned   |   |
|   | 9-11 “ <b>Therefore</b> is judgment far from <b>us</b> , neither doth justice overtake <b>us</b> : ...” |
| 12 “ <b>For our</b> transgressions are multiplied before thee, ...”<br>“ <b>for our</b> transgressions <i>are</i> with <b>us</b> ; ...” |   |
|   | 14 “And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off:”                               |
| <b>for</b> truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. ...  |   |

# Alternation in 9-15a

|                             |  |  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| <p><b>A:<br/>Effect</b></p> | <p>9 <b>Therefore</b> is <b>judgment</b> far from us, neither doth <b>justice</b> overtake us: ...</p>   | <p>14a And <b>judgment</b> is turned away backward, and <b>justice</b> standeth afar off:</p>  |
| <p><b>B:<br/>Cause</b></p>  | <p>12 <b>For</b> our transgressions are multiplied before thee, and our sins testify against us: <b>for</b> our transgressions <i>are</i> with us; and <i>as for</i> our iniquities, we know them; 13 In transgressing and <b>lying</b> against the LORD, and departing away from our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart words of <b>falsehood</b>.</p> | <p>14b <b>for truth</b> is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. 15a Yea, <b>truth</b> faileth; and he <i>that</i> departeth from evil maketh himself a prey:</p> |

# Judgment and Justice in Isaiah

God desires them:

5:7 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts *is* the house of Israel, and the men of Judah his pleasant plant: and he looked for **judgment** משפט, but behold oppression; for **righteousness** צדקה, but behold a cry.

He commands his people to pursue them:

56:1 Thus saith the LORD, Keep ye **judgment** משפט, and do **justice** צדקה: for my salvation *is* near to come, and my righteousness to be revealed.

The nation claims to do them:

58:2 Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways, as [if they were] a nation that did **righteousness** צדקה, and forsook not the **ordinance** משפט of their God:

They fail in their ambition:

59:9 Therefore is **judgment** משפט far from us, neither doth **justice** צדקה overtake us

59:14 And **judgment** משפט is turned away backward, and **justice** צדקה standeth afar off

These qualities can only come from God:

9:7 Of the increase of *his* government and peace *there shall be* no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with **judgment** משפט and with **justice** צדקה from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.



# vv. 9-10, The Nature of our Calamity

| <b>Our Perspective</b>  | <b>Progressive Understanding</b>   |
|---|--|
| 9b we wait for light, but behold<br>obscurity;<br>for brightness, <i>but</i> we walk in darkness.                                   | It's the environment's fault.<br>It's obscure and dark outside.  |
| 10a We grope for the wall like the blind,<br>and we grope as if <i>we had</i> no eyes:  | Of course, we do behave as<br>though we were blind, or<br>worse.   |
| 10b we stumble at noonday as in the<br>night;<br><del><i>we are in desolate places</i></del> among fat<br>ones as dead <i>men</i> . | There's nothing wrong with<br>the environment. It's noonday<br>and others prosper. The<br>problem must be with us. |

# Against Whom do we Sin?

Joseph: Potiphar? Potiphar's wife?

Gen 39:9 how then can I do this great wickedness, and **sin against God?**

David: Uriah? Bathsheba? her grandfather Ahitophel?

Psa 51:4 **Against thee, thee only, have I sinned**, and done *this* evil in thy sight:

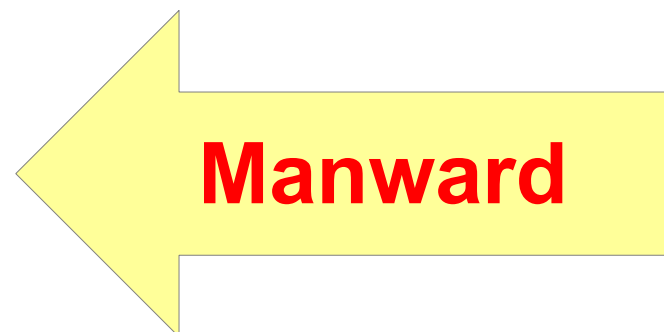
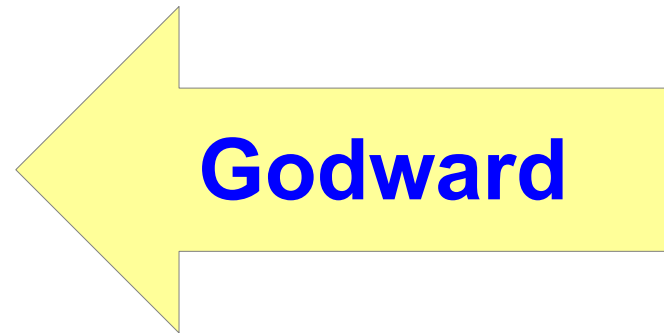
The prodigal son: his father and brother?

Luk 15:21 And the son said unto him, Father, **I have sinned against heaven**, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son.

# 59:12, Two Dimensions of Confession

**For our transgressions are multiplied **before thee**, and our sins **testify [to thee]** against us:**

**for our transgressions *are with us*; and *as for our iniquities, we know them*;**



# 59:13a

“transgress against” ב פשע = rebel against one’s ruler

1Ki 12:19 So Israel **rebelled against** the house of David unto this day.

2Ki 1:1 Then Moab **rebelled against** Israel after the death of Ahab.

“lie against” ב שח = deny somebody

Job 8:18 If he destroy him from his place, then *it shall deny him, saying*, I have not seen thee.

# v. 13, Stepping Down to Hell...

