

# Treasure Hunt

- What historical episode does Isaiah have in mind throughout vv. 8-14?
- In v. 8, God says that the Israelites are “children that will not lie.” What does he mean?
- How is the “angel of God’s presence” or “the angel of the Lord” different from other angels?
- Does God have emotions? If so, what difference does it make?

# 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	

# Accusation (2pl) Structure of 59:1-15

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 (3pl)

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 (1pl)

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:

# A Brief History of Israel

<b>Prolog</b>	7 I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD, <i>and</i> the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which <b>he</b> hath bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his lovingkindnesses.
<b>Gracious Care</b>	8 For <b>he</b> said, Surely they <i>are</i> <b>my people</b> , children <i>that</i> will not lie: so he was their Saviour. 9 In all their affliction <b>he</b> was afflicted, and the angel of <b>his</b> presence saved them: in <b>his</b> love and in <b>his</b> pity he redeemed them; and <b>he</b> bare them, and carried them all the days of old.
<b>Rebellion</b>	10 But they rebelled, and vexed <b>his</b> holy Spirit:
<b>Chastisement</b>	therefore <b>he</b> was turned to be their enemy, <i>and</i> <b>he</b> fought against them.
<b>Repentance</b>	11 Then he [Israel] remembered the days of old, Moses, <i>and</i> <b>his people</b> , <i>saying</i> , Where <i>is</i> <b>he</b> that brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of <b>his</b> flock? where <i>is</i> <b>he</b> that put his holy Spirit within him? 12 That led <i>them</i> by the right hand of Moses with <b>his</b> glorious arm, dividing the water before them, to make <b>himself</b> an everlasting name? 13 That led them through the deep, as an horse in the wilderness, <i>that</i> they should not stumble? 14 As a beast goeth down into the valley, the Spirit of the LORD caused him to rest:
<b>Summary</b>	so didst <b>thou</b> lead <b>thy people</b> , to make <b>thyself</b> a glorious name.

# Isa 63:8-14 and the Exodus

Text	Relation to Exodus
8 For he said, Surely they <i>are</i> my people, children <i>that</i> will not lie: so he was their Saviour.	God's solemn decree to choose, sanctify, and deliver Israel
9 In all their affliction he was afflicted,	God's compassion for their sufferings in Egypt
and the angel of his presence saved them:	Promises of God's guidance during the Exodus
in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;	Exodus as redemption
and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old.	Deut 32:11-13 as an eagle ... beareth them on her wings ...
10 But they rebelled מרה, and vexed עזב his holy Spirit	Psa 78:40 How oft did they provoke מרה him in the wilderness, and grieve עזב him in the desert!
11-14 Then he remembered the days of old, Moses and his people ... the sea ... dividing the water	Numerous allusions

# 63:8 “Surely”: Wishful Thinking or Solemn Declaration?

Isa 45:14 Thus saith the LORD, The labour of Egypt, and merchandise of Ethiopia and of the Sabeans, men of stature, shall come over unto thee, and they shall be thine: they shall come after thee; in chains they shall come over, and they shall fall down unto thee, they shall make supplication unto thee, *saying*, **Surely** God *is* in thee; and *there is* none else, *there is* no God.

Isa 45:23-25 I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth *in* righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear. 24 **Surely**, shall *one* say, in the LORD have I righteousness and strength: *even* to him shall *men* come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed. 25 In the LORD shall all the seed of Israel be justified, and shall glory.

# “Children that will not lie”?

## Their promise:

Exo 19:7-8 And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words which the LORD commanded him. 8 And all the people answered together, and said, **All that the LORD hath spoken we will do.**

## Hebrew imperfect as obligation rather than prediction:

Exo 20:13 Thou **shalt** not kill. 14 Thou **shalt** not commit adultery. 15 Thou **shalt** not steal. 16 Thou **shalt** not bear false witness against thy neighbour. 17 Thou **shalt** not covet thy neighbour's house, thou **shalt** not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that *is* thy neighbour's.

→ “Children that **SHALL** not lie.”

## NT Echo:

Eph 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, **which God hath before ordained** that we should walk in them.

# 63:9 “In all their affliction he was afflicted”

The general principle:

Jdg 10:16 And they put away the strange gods from among them, and served the LORD: and his soul was grieved for the misery of Israel.

Zec 2:8 For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.

At the Exodus:

Exo 3:7 And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which *are* in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;



# 63:9b The Angel of his Presence in the Exodus

Exo 23:20 Behold, **I send an Angel before thee**, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. 21 Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for **my name *is* in him**.

Exo 33:14 And [God] said, My **presence** shall go *with thee*, and I will give thee rest. 15 And [Moses] said unto him, If thy presence go not *with me*, carry us not up hence.

Deu 4:37 And because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose their seed after them, and brought thee out **in his sight** [בפניו] "**with his presence**" with his mighty power out of Egypt;

# 63:9b The Angel of the Lord throughout the OT

Hagar:

Gen 16:7 And **the angel of the LORD** found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur. ... 13 And she called the name of **the LORD** that spake unto her, Thou God seest me:

Moses:

Exo 3:2 And **the angel of the LORD** appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. 3 And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt. 4 And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, **God called unto him** out of the midst of the bush,

Manoah:

Jdg 13:21 But **the angel of the LORD** did no more appear to Manoah and to his wife. Then Manoah knew that he *was* an angel of the LORD. 22 And Manoah said unto his wife, We shall surely die, because **we have seen God**.

Summary:

Mic 5:2 But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, *though* thou be little among the thousands of Judah, *yet* out of thee shall he come forth unto me *that is* to be ruler in Israel; **whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.**

# 63:9 Redemption and Carrying at the Exodus

## he redeemed them

Exo 6:6 Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, I *am* the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will **redeem** you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments:

Exo 15:13 Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people *which* thou hast **redeemed**: thou hast guided *them* in thy strength unto thy holy habitation.

## and he bare them, and carried them

Deu 32:11-12 As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings: 12 So the LORD alone did lead him, and *there was* no strange god with him.

# 63:10 Vexing the Holy Spirit

Cooccurrence of מרה and עצב:

Psa 78:40 How oft did they **provoke מרה him** in the wilderness, and **grieve עצב him** in the desert!

The image of the forsaken widow,

Isa 54:6 For the LORD hath called thee as a woman forsaken and **grieved עצב in spirit**, and a wife of youth, when thou wast refused, saith thy God.

NT Parallel:

Eph 4:29-30 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. 30 And **grieve** not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.