

Forsaken

“Give ear, O heavens, and you, O earth, to the word which the Lord has said: I have taken care of my children till they became men, but their hearts have been turned away from me. Even the ox has knowledge of its owner, and the ass of the place where its master puts its food: but Israel has no knowledge, my people give no thought to me. O nation full of sin, a people weighted down with crime, a generation of evil-doers, false-hearted children: they have gone away from the Lord, they have no respect for the Holy One of Israel, their hearts are turned back from him. Why will you have more and more punishment? why keep on in your evil ways? Every head is tired and every heart is feeble. The body, from head to foot, is all diseased; it is a mass of open wounds, marks of blows, and broken flesh: the flow of blood has not been stopped, and no oil has been put on the wounds. Your country has become waste; your towns are burned with fire; as for your land, it is overturned before your eyes, made waste and overcome by men from strange lands. And the daughter of Zion has become like a tent in a vine-garden, like a watchman’s house in a field of fruit, like a town shut in by armies. If the Lord of armies had not kept some at least of us safe, we would have been like Sodom, and the fate of Gomorrah would have been ours.” (Isaiah 1:2-9 BBE)

God had grown up a nation protecting it as it became mature. He had shown favor to His people and now they had forsaken Him. Surely, as a nation, God has shown our country favor. Yet America is like Judah full of sin and rebellion.

What can be said about your life? Have you rebelled against the Most High God? Judah was compared to an ox and a donkey, which know their master, but Judah did not. The people were laden with sin. It clung to them as the disgusting odor of a pig’s wallow. Everything they touched they corrupted with their waywardness until the whole nation was sick.

They had provoked the anger of the Lord. God had ravaged (or would ravage) the nation with outsiders. They had become desolate and alone.

To what is this attributed but ignorance and indifference of God? Do not allow yourself to forsake God lest He forsake you. God will never forsake His elect. However, what confidence do you have of your election if you return to your sin? I tell you should have no confidence while the filth of this world clings to you.

Cast off sin and pray that you be part of the remnant. Yes, He has His remnant even among this wicked people. They are the ones who do not follow evil, but follow the Lord and keep His commandments.