

ISAIAH 48 vs 1

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The book of Isaiah has two great divisions; **first**: chapters 1–39; God's Criticism of both rebel houses **Israel** and **Judah**, thereby affecting all the local neighbors in the hood; and **second**: chapters 40–66; God's Consolation to both houses who have separate histories. The great Isaiah scroll found in the Qumran caves, dated from the 2nd century BC has put to rest many wild speculations about prophet Isaiah.



One of several themes in this chapter is clearly: **NAMES MATTER.**

¹ Hear this, O house of Jacob / whose name =: cheat, swindler, who are called by the name of Israel / whose name = ruled by God, and come from the stream of Judah / whose name =: praise of God; the father of the Jewish people; 1 of the 12 families who are of the lineage of father Jacob. The other day I was very shocked to hear someone living in Jerusalem say: Abraham was Jewish. No he was not; Abraham was a Hebrew. How could he be Jewish when Judah was his great grandchild?

This chapter is particularly speaking to those of the House of Judah:

who swear by the name of the LORD and remember the God of Israel but not in truth, and not rightly / who claim they are ruled by God, who make their oaths and pledges to the LORD whose word is good; who is faithful to what He promises; they identify with Him, The LORD already said, I have raised rebellious children; who have abandoned Me; and have gone backwards – **Isaiah 1**. Judah was envious of **Ephraim** and **Manasseh** – his ½ Egyptian brothers... given the birthright promises of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The LORD would resettle the brothers and told King David they would move to a new locality; but until that happened, those of **Ephraim's Israel** and those of Judah--- did not live up to their God given names; they were no different than the Hatfield's and the McCoy's or modern rival mob families – just a bunch of kinfolk always thinking the other was treated better.

But back to Isaiah addressing the house of **God's praise**:

They did not know: God who is spirit, can only be approached in spirit and in truth?

² For they call themselves of the holy city / they had a very high estimation of their city; **what is holy about it?** It's where they caused their innocent children to die a horrifying death as they pass through the fires of Baal. It's where all the prophets God sent them were killed. It's where the LORD of glory was murdered! It's were every godless relic created by hocus-pocus workers and their money-grubbing merchants – offensive to the God who created us... it's where all the churchianity crap can be purchased for a love gift of whatever they can get out of your pocket.

and they stay upon the God of Israel; whose name is The LORD of hosts / they claim to be anchored to the God who created all things; they say all the right sounding stuff, but it's all lip service:

³I declared the former things from the beginning, My mouth announced them and I made them known; suddenly I acted and they happened / what previously occurred, He told long ago.

⁴Because I knew you were stubborn, and the sinews of your neck are iron, and your forehead brass / the Lord knew from the start, they were a bunch of jackasses; total hardheads;

⁵From the beginning, I declared it to you; I made it known to you before it happened: so you could not say, My idol did this, my graven image and my metal image have ordained this / so these demon inspired creative story-tellers sound a lot like the folks now days... who seek to embezzle the gifts and talents God gives each of us, who love to brag they did thus and such; not a good thing.



⁶You heard it all, you saw it all, yet you will not declare it? / their fathers saw amazing things the rest of the world only heard of; / What? You're not going to share it with others? Since the days of Abraham, they were told they were to be a blessing to the whole world. [From the rising to the setting of the sun, My Name will be great among all the Gentiles](#) and in every place will they offer incense; for My Name will be great among the Gentiles – [Malachi 1](#).

So now, my question to our Jewish cousins is simple: When is the House of Judah going to do that? When are they going to share all the greatness of the Name of the LORD with the Gentile nations? **We're still waiting 2500 years... after Malachi spoke those beautiful verses.**

Or, when is the [House of Judah](#) going to invite us to sing along with them?

O PRAISE THE LORD, ALL YOU GENTILES;
PRAISE HIM ALL YOU PEOPLES;
FOR HIS COMPASSION IS GREAT TOWARD US;
AND THE TRUTH OF THE LORD IS FOREVER; PRAISE THE LORD.

**Psalm
17**

From this time on, I show you new things, even hidden things that you do not know / the LORD tells His people things that are now going to happen; some people have a hard time imagining God to be so arbitrary -- should He so choose, to create new things!

⁷ They are created **now**, and not long ago; you have not heard them before today; so you cannot say, Indeed, I knew it.

⁸ Yes, you have **not** heard; yes, you have **not** known; yes, from long ago your ear was **not** open. I knew you were treacherous, and called a transgressor from the womb / Jacob was a rebellious guy from birth; always stepping over the line; not a surprise to God.

⁹ For My name's sake I delay My anger and for My praise I refrain it from you, so as **not** to cut you off / because of God's reputation, He postpones His wrath; [God inhabits the praise of His people](#)

¹⁰ Behold, I have refined you, but not with silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.

¹¹ For My own sake, I will act for how can My name be profaned? and My glory I will **not** give to another. / God did it for no other reason than for His glorious purposes. John wrote, [You are worthy O Lord to receive glory and honor and power](#); for you have created all things and for your pleasure they were created -- [Revelation 4:11](#),

¹² Listen to Me, O **Jacob**, O **Israel** whom I called I am He; I am the first, I am also the last so as **not** to cut you off.

/ here, the LORD appeals to both the worst and best of those... called by His name;

He was before the name: Jacob or Israel were called – before the scoundrel, before the one ruled by God before any other great name; so everybody pay attention; because The LORD will be around... long after the descendants of faithless Jacob and of faithful Israel – and the children of all the others are all laid to rest.

And isn't that an interesting admission? It seems nearly everybody on planet earth wants to elbow their way to the front of the line. They have great ideas; they have great dreams; they want to be first. But our great God who was First, is also Last. He doesn't mind being Last. Is that why He created the entire universe? While few call on Him, He still is able to enjoy His creation as His prophetic timeline is worked out. Our God is the greatest Multi-tasker; inspecting what He planted; hopefully being made in His image and likeness.

That's what this chapter is about as He inspects those greatly blessed by Him; but who are not acting like Him; who are giving Him lip service – sounding correct --- but not acting in truth, not acting rightly. So the Lord God has to weed the garden He planted.

13 My own hand laid the foundation of the earth, My right hand spread out the heavens; when I summons them, they stand together: / if it wasn't God himself who told him, then how did Isaiah know the heavens were expanding? That was only affirmed in the 20th century. Check out: [What You Aren't Being Told About Astronomy](#) | [Our Privileged Planet](#).

14 Assemble, all of you, and listen, which among **them / your wood or metal idols has declared these things?**

The LORD has loved him he will do His pleasure on Babylon and His arm on the Chaldeans / some say this speaks to Cyrus the great, which is so, but prophecies serve dual purposes, as the LORD also speaks to successive generations; He introduces Another coming to deal with the last faithless whore.

15 I, even I, have spoken; yes, I have called him: I have brought him, and he will make his way prosperous / the one He calls will succeed.

16 Come near to Me, listen to this; from the beginning I have **not spoken in secret; from the time it happened, I was there and now the Lord GOD has sent Me and His Spirit.**

/ in the previous chapter some had to get down from their throne:

17 Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer the Holy One of Israel / the Creator of Israel; / the One who redeems, who repurchases; who buys back. This Name is mentioned many times; chapter 41 speaks of the Redeemer 13 times. Job first told us; I know my Redeemer lives, and at the last days He will take His stand on the earth; Job did not know when, but he added, yet in my flesh I will see God, whom I will see for myself, my own eyes will behold Him – [Job 19:25](#),

I am the LORD your God who teaches you to profit who leads you in the way you should go / we all could have been left unpurchased and thrown out as damaged goods; but the Lord God our Redeemer made a calculated business decision; the One who paid a price we could not pay... will guide us.

18 O that you paid attention to My instructions! / start there; Jesus said, I did not come to destroy the law, but to fulfill it; and He added a blessing to those who teach and do it; and a curse to those who dismiss and diminish it. On the mountain of Moses, [God wrote 10 instructions and no more.](#) – [good for life here and now.](#) Hosea said, [the Lord could have written 10,000](#), but they would have been ignored. Ezekiel said, [so the Lord gave them statutes that were not good](#), and judgments whereby they should not live – [Ezekiel 20:25](#).

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God could have law or lawless; He chose for life on earth to be orderly; His law is good. Jesus the night He was betrayed, said to His followers: **He who has my instructions and keeps them; He it is who loves me** – John 14; Jesus also said, as is your faith, it would be done to you. Do you love Him?

O that you paid attention to My instructions! Then your peace would have been as a river, and your rightness as the waves of the sea: / one was: honor your father and mother that you live long on the earth; another was: do not steal; only 8 more: **check them out at Deuteronomy 5:**

¹⁹ Your descendants would have been as the sand, and your offspring as grains of gravel; their name would not be cut off or destroyed from My presence.

²⁰ Go forth from Babylon, flee from the Chaldeans! Declare with a voice of singing, Proclaim it; tell it to the end of the earth; Say, The LORD has redeemed His servant Jacob / the cheat, the swindler is set free.

²¹ And they did not thirst when He led them through the deserts: He caused the water to flow out of the rock for them: He split the rock, and the water gushed out / the Lord appeals to the miracles that He gave them so many years earlier.

²² There is no peace for the wicked, says the LORD.

