

ISAIAH 64 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.



This chapter continues with a prayer for God to appear as in times past, in some remarkable and surprising manner for them; against His enemies who are their enemies. They present the deplorable condition they were in, and pray for pardon of their sin, and turning away God's anger.

A Prayer for God's intervention,

¹ Oh that You would tear apart the heavens, and come down so the mountains would dissolve at Your presence / He did come down, and at the time, it didn't work out well for Him; He came to His own, and they treated Him badly,

² as dry brush set ablaze, as fire under boiling water: make Your name known to Your adversaries / let your foes know who You are,

till the nations tremble at Your presence!

³ like when You did terrifying things / awesome, dreaded things **which we did not expect**/ things beyond our dreams,

You came down, and the mountains quaked at Your presence.

⁴ For since the beginning of the world,
no ear has ever heard, **no** eye has ever seen,

O God, beside You, all that is prepared

for the one who waits for Him.

⁵ You meet him who rejoices and does what is right, who calls to mind Your ways: behold, You were angry for we sinned: and continuing in them, and will we be saved?

⁶ For all of us are as an unclean thing, all our rightnesses are as a filthy rag; and all of us whither like a leaf;

and our iniquities / our inequities, our inequalities and inconsistencies, **like the wind, take us away.**

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⁷ And there is no one who calls on Your name, who arouses himself to take hold of You:

so You hid Your face from us, and delivered us to be consumed, because of our iniquities.

⁸ But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and You our Potter; and all of us are the work of Your hand.

⁹ Be **not** very angry / do not be angry beyond measure,

O LORD, do **not** remember our iniquity forever.

Behold, look now, we beseech You, for we are all Your people.

¹⁰ Your sacred cities are deserted, Zion is deserted, Jerusalem a desolation.

¹¹ Our sacred and beautiful house, where our fathers praised You, is burned down:

and all our precious things are ruined.

¹² Will You restrain Yourself for this, O LORD?

Will You keep silent still, and afflict us severely?

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