Isaiah 1-4

- The sins of God's people...
 - Vain worship
 - Idolatry
 - Hands full of blood, murder
 - Corrupt, rebellious and unmerciful leaders
 - Pride—in abundance, appearance, in their sin, etc.
 - Walked in the ways of the people around them—in both speech and conduct.

Bottom line...

Animals treat those who feed and sustain them better than you do (1:2-3).

- God's mood, as He observes their sin—hates it, cannot endure it, has had enough, cannot endure it, weary of bearing it.
- God's willingness to forgive, if they repent ("though your sins are like scarlet...").
- God's judgment against those who don't repent, and the purpose behind it—to cleanse and restore, and to exalt His name.

 What a contrast between these days and the "last days," when God's rule will be exalted, when His law will go forth from Jerusalem, when individuals from all nations will submit to Him and walk in His ways, when His kingdom will be advanced by truth and not by war, when the King himself (the Branch) shall be beautiful and glorious, when the filth of sin is removed leaving a holy people, when perfect guidance and secure refuge will be provided His people (2:2-4; 4:2-6).

The Lord's Vineyard Woe Means Whoa! Isaiah's Vision and Call

Isaiah 5-6

The Lord's Vineyard

- Who is His vineyard, according to the text?
 - "For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the **house of Israel**, and the **men of Judah** are His pleasant plant. He looked for justice, but behold oppression ("bloodshed"—NAS, ESV); for righteousness, but behold, a cry for help" (5:7).

The Lord's Vineyard

- What is the punch line here, the one that leaves
 God's people without excuse?
 - "What more could have been done to My vineyard that I have not done in it? Why then, when I expected it to bring forth good grapes, did it bring forth wild grapes?" (5:4).
 - Vv. 1-2 explain further the effort to which God went.

- The first woe (5:8–10) warns against what sin?
 - Covetousness
 - "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses" (Luke 12:15).

- Those addressed in the first woe had **possessions** as their god. How about this second group (5:11-17)-what was their god?
 - Pleasure.
 - Partied hard with no thought of God.

- The "cart rope" people (5:18–19), what did they dare God to do?
 - Verse 19.
 - And what's the point of the cart rope metaphor?

- "Call evil good and good evil" (5:20)—how does it get to that point?
 - "Because they have rejected the law of the LORD of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel" (5:24).

- "Wise in their own eyes"—how has that always turned out for people?
 - "Professing to be wise, they became fools" (Rom. 1:22).

- Functional drunks—would that be an apt description for those in verse 22?
- And what was at least one means they used to support their habit? (23).
 - "Who justify the wicked for a bribe" (5:23).

- To whom will the Lord whistle?
 - "He will lift up a banner to the nations from afar, and will whistle to them from the end of the earth; surely they shall come with speed, swiftly" (5:26).
 - Does this answer the dare from 5:19?

Isaiah's Vision and Call

- What was Isaiah's reaction to what he saw and heard?
 - "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts" (6:5).

Isaiah's Vision and Call

- What wonderful thing happens next?
 - "Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth with it, and said: 'Behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged'" (6:6–7).

Isaiah's Vision and Call

- And so how did Isaiah respond to the question,
 "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?"
 - "Here am I! Send me."
- And what was he sent to do?
 - Preach to a people who won't listen, and keep on preaching until they receive their just punishment.