

Crimson and White

1. What kind of kings were Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah (v. 1)? How did they make Isaiah's job as a prophet of God harder?
2. How did the Lord "rear and bring up" the sons of Israel (v. 2)? How did they revolt against Him (see v. 4)? In what ways do we also revolt against the Lord? How were oxen and donkeys smarter than the Israelites (v. 3)? What did the Israelites not know and understand?
3. What were the results of the Jews' revolt (v. 5-7)? What was the cause of their bruises and wounds (v. 6)?
4. How were the Jews like a "shelter in a vineyard", "a watchman's hut in a cucumber field" and "a besieged city" (v. 8)?
5. In verse 10, why is God calling Jerusalem "Sodom" and "Gomorrah"?
6. Why is God rejecting the Jews' sacrifices, offerings, and feasts in verses 11 through 14? How does He describe His reaction to their religious actions in these verses? What are some ways people today try to apply surface level fixes to things that are actually heart issues?
7. According to v. 15, why are our prayers futile when we have unrepented sin in our lives? What are common reasons God does not hear our prayers, besides the actual shedding of blood?
8. What can we do to get our prayers answered and our service to the Lord pleasing to Him again, per verses 16 and 17? What should we do in addition to turning from sin (v. 17)? How can we seek justice? Who are the widows, fatherless and orphans we should be helping? How can we defend and plead for them?
9. Why are the illustrations the Lord uses in verse 18 so effective? Why are they so amazing? What does the Lord mean by "let us reason together"?
10. What are the alternatives God presents in verses 19 and 20? Why did Israel and many people today choose the second option? Why do we, at times, choose it