

Isaiah 1:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the LORD hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me.

Analysis

God summons all creation as witnesses to His covenant lawsuit against Judah. The Hebrew verb 'nourished' (gadal) and 'brought up' (romem) depict the tender parental care God lavished on Israel, making their rebellion (pasha, willful transgression) all the more heinous. This divine indictment establishes the prophetic pattern of combining covenant faithfulness with forensic judgment that permeates Isaiah's prophecy.

Historical Context

Written during Isaiah's ministry (740-680 BC) under kings Uzziah through Hezekiah. This opening oracle addresses Judah's spiritual apostasy despite material prosperity during Uzziah's reign.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing God as your spiritual Father shape your response to His correction?
2. In what ways might you be taking God's faithfulness for granted while pursuing your own path?

Interlinear Text

שָׁמָע	וְ	שָׁמֵם	וְ	יְ	אֶל	רֹא	וְ	בְּ	הָ	יְהִי	וְ	דָבָר	
Hear	O heavens	and give ear	O earth	H3588	for the LORD	hath spoken							
H8085	H8064	H238	H776		H3068	H1696							
בְּנִים	וְ	רֹא	מִתְנִדְרָה	וְ	לֹא	שָׁעָר	וְ	בְּנִים	וְ	רֹא	מִתְנִדְרָה	וְ	
children	I have nourished	and brought up	H1992	and they have rebelled	H6586	H0							
H1121	H1431	H7311											

Additional Cross-References

Deuteronomy 32:1 (Parallel theme): Give ear, O ye heavens, and I will speak; and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth.

Deuteronomy 30:19 (Parallel theme): I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

Micah 1:2 (References Lord): Hear, all ye people; hearken, O earth, and all that therein is: and let the Lord GOD be witness against you, the Lord from his holy temple.

Deuteronomy 4:26 (Parallel theme): I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto ye go over Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong your days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed.

Psalms 50:4 (Parallel theme): He shall call to the heavens from above, and to the earth, that he may judge his people.

Malachi 1:6 (References Lord): A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is mine honour? and if I be a master, where is my fear? saith the LORD of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name?

Isaiah 30:9 (References Lord): That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the LORD:

Isaiah 30:1 (References Lord): Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin:

Isaiah 65:2 (Parallel theme): I have spread out my hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which walketh in a way that was not good, after their own thoughts;

Jeremiah 22:29 (References Lord): O earth, earth, earth, hear the word of the LORD.