

# Isaiah 31:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Turn ye unto him from whom the children of Israel have deeply revolted.

## Analysis

**Turn ye unto him from whom the children of Israel have deeply revolted** (שובו לאֲשֶׁר הָעֲמִיקוּ סָרָה בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, shuvu la'asher he'emiqu sarah beney Yisrael)—the imperative שׁוּב (shuv, return, turn back, repent) calls for return to the One from whom they הָעֲמִיקוּ (he'emiqu, made deep) סָרָה (sarah, rebellion, turning aside). The verb עָמַק (amaq) means to go deep, be profound—their rebellion wasn't superficial but thoroughgoing, deeply rooted. The wordplay with סָרָה (sarah) may connect to the name Sarah but primarily means apostasy, turning away.

After threatening judgment (vv. 1-3) and promising deliverance (vv. 4-5), Isaiah issues covenant lawsuit appeal: repent, return. The phrase 'deeply revolted' acknowledges the severity of sin—not casual drift but profound rebellion. Yet the call remains: שׁוּבוּ (shuvu, turn back). No rebellion is too deep for God's grace to reach. Lamentations 3:40 echoes: 'Let us search and try our ways, and turn again to the LORD.'

## Historical Context

Judah's rebellion was indeed deep: syncretistic worship, Egyptian alliances, social injustice, trusting military power over divine promise. Yet God offered return. Throughout prophetic literature, שׁוּב (shuv, return/repent) is the key word—Hosea 14:1, Joel 2:12-13, Malachi 3:7. The call to repentance permeates Scripture, climaxing in Jesus's first preaching: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand' (Matthew 4:17).

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. What areas of 'deep' rebellion—not casual sin but profound turning away—need God's grace in your life?
2. How does God's call to 'turn' reveal His desire for relationship restoration despite severity of sin?
3. What practical steps does 'turning back' to God involve—not just feeling sorry but actual reorientation?

## Interlinear Text

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שׁוּבוּ	לְאֶשׁ רַ	הָעֵמָּה יְקוֹ	סָבָה	בְּנֵי יְ
Turn	H834	have deeply	revolted	ye unto him from whom the children
H7725		H6009	H5627	H1121

  

יִשְׂרָאֵל:
of Israel
H3478

## Additional Cross-References

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**Jeremiah 3:22** (Parallel theme): Return, ye backsliding children, and I will heal your backslidings. Behold, we come unto thee; for thou art the LORD our God.

**Jeremiah 3:14** (Parallel theme): Turn, O backsliding children, saith the LORD; for I am married unto you: and I will take you one of a city, and two of a family, and I will bring you to Zion:

**Isaiah 55:7** (Parallel theme): Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

**Jeremiah 3:10** (Parallel theme): And yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah hath not turned unto me with her whole heart, but feignedly, saith the LORD.

**Acts 26:20** (Parallel theme): But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance.

**Acts 3:19** (Parallel theme): Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

**Jeremiah 5:23** (Parallel theme): But this people hath a revolting and a rebellious heart; they are revolted and gone.

**Hosea 9:9** (Parallel theme): They have deeply corrupted themselves, as in the days of Gibeah: therefore he will remember their iniquity, he will visit their sins.