

Isaiah 43:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thou hast bought me no sweet cane with money, neither hast thou filled me with the fat of thy sacrifices: but thou hast made me to serve with thy sins, thou hast wearied me with thine iniquities.

Analysis

Israel bought God no sweet cane (incense) or filled Him with sacrifice fat, yet burdened Him with sins and wearied Him with iniquities. The Hebrew 'abad' (serve/make to serve) used ironically—they made God serve their sins rather than serving Him! The role reversal is striking and offensive.

Historical Context

This devastating indictment shows Israel inverted the proper relationship—instead of serving God, they made Him deal with their sins. Their persistent rebellion became God's burden, requiring His intervention.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How do your sins burden God rather than your worship blessing Him?
2. What does it mean that your iniquities weary the infinitely patient God?

Interlinear Text

לְךָ יְתִּבְעֶלֶת בְּקַנְתִּי קַנְתִּי הַלְּבָבִי
H3808 Thou hast bought H0 with money H3701 me no sweet cane H7070 me with the fat H2459

לֹא זָבַחֲךָ יְהִי הַרְיוֹתִי נִי אֵגֶד תְּבִדְלָתִי
of thy sacrifices H3808 neither hast thou filled H389 but thou hast made me to serve H5647

בְּמַטָּאתִיךְ הַזְּגַעַתִּיךְ בְּעִוָּנְתִּיךְ
with thy sins H2403 thou hast wearied H3021 me with thine iniquities H5771

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 7:13 (Parallel theme): And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also?

Isaiah 1:14 (Parallel theme): Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them.

Jeremiah 6:20 (Sacrifice): To what purpose cometh there to me incense from Sheba, and the sweet cane from a far country? your burnt offerings are not acceptable, nor your sacrifices sweet unto me.

Ezekiel 6:9 (Parallel theme): And they that escape of you shall remember me among the nations whither they shall be carried captives, because I am broken with their whorish heart, which hath departed from me, and with their eyes, which go a whoring after their idols: and they shall lothe themselves for the evils which they have committed in all their abominations.

Isaiah 63:10 (Parallel theme): But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them.

Psalms 95:10 (Parallel theme): Forty years long was I grieved with this generation, and said, It is a people that do err in their heart, and they have not known my ways:

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