

Isaiah 57

Chapter 57 of 66 · 21 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Israel's Futile Idolatry

- 1** The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart: and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come.
- 2** He shall enter into peace: they shall rest in their beds, each one walking in his uprightness.
- 3** But draw near hither, ye sons of the sorceress, the seed of the adulterer and the whore.
- 4** Against whom do ye sport yourselves? against whom make ye a wide mouth, and draw out the tongue? are ye not children of transgression, a seed of falsehood,
- 5** Enflaming yourselves with idols under every green tree, slaying the children in the valleys under the clifts of the rocks?

- 6** Among the smooth stones of the stream is thy portion; they, they are thy lot: even to them hast thou poured a drink offering, thou hast offered a meat offering. Should I receive comfort in these?
- 7** Upon a lofty and high mountain hast thou set thy bed: even thither wentest thou up to offer sacrifice.
- 8** Behind the doors also and the posts hast thou set up thy remembrance: for thou hast discovered thyself to another than me, and art gone up; thou hast enlarged thy bed, and made thee a covenant with them; thou lovedst their bed where thou sawest it.

9 And thou wentest to the king with ointment, and didst increase thy perfumes, and didst send thy messengers far off, and didst debase thyself even unto hell.

10 Thou art wearied in the greatness of thy way; yet saidst thou not, There is no hope: thou hast found the life of thine hand; therefore thou wast not grieved.

11 And of whom hast thou been afraid or feared, that thou hast lied, and hast not remembered me, nor laid it to thy heart? have not I held my peace even of old, and thou fearest me not?

12 I will declare thy righteousness, and thy works; for they shall not profit thee.

13 When thou criest, let thy companies deliver thee; but the wind shall carry them all away; vanity shall take them: but he that putteth his trust in me shall possess the land, and shall inherit my holy mountain;

Comfort for the Contrite

14 And shall say, Cast ye up, cast ye up, prepare the way, take up the stumblingblock out of the way of my people.

15 For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.

16 For I will not contend for ever, neither will I be always wroth: for the spirit should fail before me, and the souls which I have made.

17 For the iniquity of his covetousness was I wroth, and smote him: I hid me, and was wroth, and he went on frowardly in the way of his heart.

18 I have seen his ways, and will heal him: I will lead him also, and restore comforts unto him and to his mourners.

19 I create the fruit of the lips; Peace, peace to him that is far off, and to him that is near, saith the LORD; and I will heal him.

20 But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt.

21 There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

Holy — קָדוֹשׁ (Qadosh)

Holy, set apart

The Hebrew **qadosh** (קָדוֹשׁ) means holy or set apart—separated from common use for God's purposes. God is 'the Holy One of Israel,' utterly distinct from creation in moral perfection.

Iniquity — ḥוּם (Avon)

Iniquity, guilt, punishment

The Hebrew **avon** (חוּם) encompasses iniquity, guilt, and its punishment—the twisted nature of sin. 'The LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all' (Isaiah 53:6), Christ bearing our guilt and penalty.

Lord — אֲדֹנָי (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יְהֹוָה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

Love — אַהֲבָה / חֶסֶד (Ahavah / Chesed)

Love / Loyal-love

Hebrew uses **ahavah** (אַהֲבָה) for love generally, but the covenant term **chesed** (חֶסֶד) describes God's steadfast, loyal love—faithful covenant commitment beyond mere emotion.

Righteous — צַדִּיק (Tzaddik)

Righteous one

The Hebrew **tzaddik** (צַדִּיק) describes one who is righteous, just, or lawful—conforming to God's standard. From the root **tzedek** (צִדְקָה), meaning righteousness or justice.

Sacrifice — זבֵחַ (Zevach)

Sacrifice, offering

The Hebrew **zevach** (זבֵחַ) denotes a sacrifice or offering—an animal slaughtered for worship. Old Testament sacrifices foreshadowed Christ, 'the Lamb of God' (John 1:29).

Transgression — עַבְدָה (Pesha)

Transgression, rebellion

The Hebrew **pesha** (עַבְדָה) means transgression or rebellion—willful violation of God's law. It implies deliberate revolt against divine authority: 'he was wounded for our transgressions' (Isaiah 53:5).

Spirit — רוח (Ruach)

Spirit, wind, breath

The Hebrew **ruach** (רוּחַ) means spirit, wind, or breath—invisible but powerful. It describes both the Holy Spirit and the human spirit. God's Spirit gives life and empowers His people.

CROSS REFERENCES

Isaiah 57:1 **Evil:** 2 Kings 22:20; 2 Chronicles 34:28. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 42:25; 47:7; 1 Kings 14:13; 2 Chronicles 32:33; 35:24; Psalms 12:1; Micah 7:2; Malachi 2:2

Isaiah 57:2 **Parallel theme:** 2 Chronicles 16:14; Job 3:17; Ecclesiastes 12:7; Matthew 25:21; Luke 16:22; 2 Corinthians 5:1; 5:8; Revelation 14:13. **Peace:** Luke 2:29; 7:50

Isaiah 57:3 **Parallel theme:** Matthew 16:4; James 4:4; 1 John 3:10

Isaiah 57:4 **Parallel theme:** Exodus 9:17; Psalms 35:21; 2 Peter 2:13. **Sin:** Isaiah 1:4

Isaiah 57:5

Parallel theme: Isaiah 1:29; Leviticus 18:21; 2 Kings 23:10; Jeremiah 2:20; 3:13; 7:31; Ezekiel 16:20

Isaiah 57:6 **Parallel theme:** Jeremiah 3:9; Habakkuk 2:19. **Sacrifice:** Jeremiah 7:18

Isaiah 57:7 **Parallel theme:** Jeremiah 2:20; Ezekiel 16:16; 23:41

Isaiah 57:8 **Parallel theme:** Ezekiel 16:32; 23:41

Isaiah 57:9 **Parallel theme:** Ezekiel 23:16; Colossians 2:18

Isaiah 57:10 **Hope:** Jeremiah 2:25; 18:12. **Parallel theme:** Jeremiah 5:3

Isaiah 57:11 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 50:21; Proverbs 29:25; Jeremiah 2:32; 3:21

Isaiah 57:12

Parallel theme: Isaiah 29:15; Matthew 23:5; 23:13. **Righteousness:** Isaiah 64:5

Isaiah 57:13 **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 65:9; Psalms 37:9; Zechariah 7:13. **Faith:** Psalms 37:3; 125:1. **Holy:** Isaiah 11:9; 56:7; 65:25; 66:20; Joel 3:17

Isaiah 57:14 **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 35:8; 40:3; 62:10; Jeremiah 18:15; Romans 14:13; 1 Corinthians 1:23; 8:9; 8:13; 2 Corinthians 6:3; Hebrews 12:13

Isaiah 57:15

Spirit: Psalms 34:18. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 40:28; 52:13; Deuteronomy 33:27; Psalms 83:18; 90:2; 138:6; 147:3; Daniel 4:34. **Holy:** Exodus 15:11

Isaiah 57:16 **Parallel theme:** Psalms 85:5; Jeremiah 10:24; Micah 7:18. **Spirit:** Isaiah 42:5; Genesis 6:3; Numbers 16:22; Hebrews 12:9. **Creation:** Jeremiah 38:16

Isaiah 57:17 **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 56:11; Jeremiah 6:13; Colossians 3:5. **Sin:** 2 Peter 2:14

Isaiah 57:18 **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 30:26; 49:10; Psalms 23:2; Jeremiah 3:22; 13:17; 31:3; 33:6; Revelation 7:17

Isaiah 57:19 **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 6:7; Mark 16:15; Luke 21:15; Ephesians 6:19; Hebrews 13:15. **References Lord:** Acts 2:39. **Peace:** Matthew 10:13; Luke 2:14; Acts 10:36

Isaiah 57:20 **Evil:** Isaiah 3:11. **Parallel theme:** Jude 1:12

Isaiah 57:21 **Peace:** Isaiah 48:22; 59:8; 2 Kings 9:22. **Evil:** Isaiah 3:11

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