

Isaiah 64:9

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Be not wroth very sore, O LORD, neither remember iniquity for ever: behold, see, we beseech thee, we are all thy people.

Analysis

'Be not wroth very sore, O LORD, neither remember iniquity for ever: behold, see, we beseech thee, we are all thy people.' The prayer pleads for limited rather than permanent wrath. The Hebrew 'ad-me'od' (very sore) asks for moderation. 'Remember not iniquity forever' asks for forgiveness. The appeal is relational: 'we are all thy people.'

Historical Context

This balance of confession and appeal characterizes authentic prayer. Acknowledging deserved judgment while pleading for mercy reflects covenant relationship.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How do you balance confession of sin with appeal for mercy in prayer?
2. What does it mean to ask God not to 'remember iniquity forever'?

Interlinear Text

אַל	תִּקְנַּצֵּךְ	יְהִי	עַד	מְאֹד	לֹעַד	רַצֵּךְ
H408	Be not wroth	O LORD	H5704	very sore	H408	for ever
	H7107	H3068		H3966	H5703	H2142
עַוְנָה	בְּאָתָה	בְּאָתָה	עַמְּךָ	עַמְּךָ	כָּלָנוּ	
iniquity	H2005	behold see	H4994	we beseech thee we are all thy people		H3605
H5771	H5027			H5971		

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 79:13 (Parallel theme): So we thy people and sheep of thy pasture will give thee thanks for ever: we will shew forth thy praise to all generations.

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