

The background features a central diamond shape with a fine grid pattern. This diamond is set against a larger, multi-colored background of overlapping geometric shapes like triangles and rectangles in shades of green, yellow, orange, and red. The overall effect is a vibrant, abstract composition.

BEHOLD – TAKE A GOOD LOOK!

Isa. 64:9

“Behold, We Beseech You!”

Isa. 64:9 Be not wroth very sore, O LORD, neither remember iniquity for ever: **behold, see, we beseech thee, we *are* all thy people.**



Our theme this year is...

VISION 20/20
HIS VISION. OUR FOCUS.

We are down to the last six weeks of a very challenging year. The COVID-19 pandemic has turned the whole world upside down, and now the election has further divided our nation. We are bombarded with distractions that cause us to focus “under the sun.” How does things look from the heavenly perspective? What would the Creator want us to see? Should not our focus be upon repentance, reconciliation, and restoration?

Isaiah lived in a darker time regarding Israel's spiritual condition and judgment from God. America is paralleling Israel. The last few weeks, we have considered his prayer for Israel as we continued our series on...

BEHOLD – TAKE A GOOD LOOK!

The Prophet Isaiah has been given by God a vision of his nation's destruction by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon. He has warned the people, and in our text he is praying to God for His deliverance.

We need to consider Isaiah's prayer for his nation and take-to-heart the need to pray for our own nation. Isaiah is asking the Lord to return to his people in blessing and power as He had in the past. Our nation has been so blessed in the past, but now, like Israel, we are in desperate need renewal and revival of His presence in our country.

The conclusion of Isaiah's prayer is like the destination of a spiritual journey –

1. **“Behold, We Miss You!”** = we recognize broken fellowship, and separation from God due to sinfulness;
2. **“Behold, We Need You!”** = we recognize helplessness without God;
3. **“Behold, We Wait for You!”** = we recognize a willingness to wait upon His deliverance;
4. **“Behold, We Meet You!”** = we recognize the need for a submissive attitude to meet Him on His terms;
5. **“Behold, We Thank You!”** = we recognize the blessing of being a child of God.

This morning, we consider the last admonition of Isaiah's prayer:

“Behold, We Beseech You!”

6. ***“Behold, We Beseech You!”*** = we recognize the perpetual need to stay dependent upon the Lord.

I. THE FEAR OF GOD – “Be not wroth very sore, O LORD, neither remember iniquity for ever...”

A. Isaiah maintained a conscientiousness of the possibility of chastening from God – “Be not wroth very sore...”

- Isaiah is acquiescing to the chastening, asking that it not be too severe – “Be not wroth very sore...”

Psa. 119:67 **Before I was afflicted I went astray**: but now have I kept thy word. ...

71 **It is good for me that I have been afflicted**; that I might **learn thy statutes**.

Prov. 3:12 For **whom the LORD loveth he correcteth**; even as a father the son *in whom* he delighteth.

Heb. 12:6 For **whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth,** and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

11 Now **no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness** unto them which are exercised thereby.

B. Isaiah was motivated with a conviction of presenting a compassionate plea to God.

- Isaiah acknowledged the sovereignty of God – “...O LORD...”

- Isaiah asked for the mercy of God in NOT recalling sin – “...neither remember iniquity for ever...”

Isa. 38:17 **Behold, for peace I had great bitterness:** but **thou hast in love to my soul *delivered it*** from the pit of corruption: for **thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.**

Psa. 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hath **he removed our transgressions from us.**

Isa. 43:25 I, *even I, am* he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

Heb. 8:12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and **their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.**

II. THE FAMILY OF GOD “...behold, see, we beseech thee, we are all thy people.”

A. Be attentive to our conviction –
“...behold, see...”

- Scrutinize our motive → we are serious about our desire for a relationship that pleases You!
- We come to you on your terms!

B. Be attending to our cry – “...we beseech thee...”

Beseech = To entreat; to supplicate; to implore; to ask or pray with urgency

<http://webstersdictionary1828.com/Dictionary/beseech>

- Our hearts are tender, submissively seeking You and Your will for our lives.

1 Jn. 5:14 And **this is the confidence** that we have in him, that, **if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:**
15 And **if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.**

Psa. 145:18 **The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him,** to all that call upon him **in truth.**

19 **He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him:** he also will hear their cry, and will save them.

20 **The LORD preserveth all them that love him:** but all the wicked will he destroy.

21 **My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD:** and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.

C. Be accepting to our confession – “...we *are* all **thy people.**”

- We recognize the perpetual need to stay dependent upon the Lord.
- We recognize the opportunity to have fellowship via the relationship which is a result of reconciliation made available to us.

Psa. 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. ...

17 The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Psa. 71:18 Now also when I am old and grayheaded, O God, forsake me not; until I have shewed thy strength unto *this* generation, *and* thy power to every one *that* is to come.

Psa. 38:15 For in thee, O LORD, do I hope: thou wilt hear, O Lord my God.

Psa. 86:15 But thou, O Lord, *art* a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.

Summary

The conclusion of Isaiah's prayer is like the destination of a spiritual journey that each of us should independently travel.

1. "**Behold, We Miss You!**" = we recognize broken fellowship, and separation from God due to sinfulness;
2. "**Behold, We Need You!**" = we recognize helplessness without God;
3. "**Behold, We Wait for You!**" = we recognize a willingness to wait upon His deliverance;
4. "**Behold, We Meet You!**" = we recognize the need for a submissive attitude to meet Him on His terms;

5. ***“Behold, We Thank You!”*** = we recognize the blessing of being a child of God.

6. ***“Behold, We Beseech You!”*** = we recognize the perpetual need to stay dependent upon the Lord.

“Behold, We Beseech You!”

Conclusion

Heb. 10:17 And **their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.**

22 **Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith**, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

23 **Let us hold fast the profession of *our* faith without wavering**; (for he *is* faithful that promised;)

24 And **let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works**:

25 **Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together**, as the manner of some *is*; but exhorting *one another*: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.