

9. Praying with Scriptures Isaiah 1:4-6 Sinful Nation

**Isaiah 1:4-6 (NIV) Woe to the sinful nation, a people whose guilt is great, a brood of evildoers, children given to corruption! They have forsaken the LORD; they have spurned the Holy One of Israel and turned their backs on him. Why should you be beaten anymore? Why do you persist in rebellion? Your whole head is injured, your whole heart afflicted. From the sole of your foot to the top of your head there is no soundness— only wounds and welts and open sores, not cleansed or bandaged or soothed with olive oil.**

**Woe to the sinful nation, a people whose guilt is great, a brood of evildoers, children given to corruption!**

Lord, I realize you were talking to the Israelites through your prophet Isaiah. But it feels like you're talking to us today. We have become a sinful nation. Very few follow you. How did we get here? How did we become so corrupt?

**They have forsaken the LORD; they have spurned the Holy One of Israel and turned their backs on him.**

We have taken you out of our schools, out of our families, out of our government, and out of our hearts. Please have mercy on us Lord.

**Why should you be beaten anymore? Why do you persist in rebellion?**

And look what has happened. Sin has run rampant. Now we live in a world of divorces, abortions, rapes, murders, greed, adultery, deceit, and corruption.

**Your whole head is injured, your whole heart afflicted. From the sole of your foot to the top of your head there is no soundness— only wounds and welts and open sores, not cleansed or bandaged or soothed with olive oil.**

We are a broken people. Our souls are badly wounded. They cry out to you yet we cannot hear them. Forgive us Lord. Please forgive us. I'm so sorry Lord. So sorry for my part in all of this.

Please send your Holy Spirit in a powerful way. Convict us and come into our hearts and lead us. Bring us back to you! May this broken nation repent and follow you once more.

We pray in that powerful name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.