Treasure Hunt

• What historical episode does Isaiah have in mind throughout vv. 8-14?

• In v. 8, God says that the Israelites are “children that will not lie.” What does he mean?

• How is the “angel of God’s presence” or “the angel of the Lord” different from other angels?

• Does God have emotions? If so, what difference does it make?
## Overview of Isaiah 58-66

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Structure of 59:1-15

Accusation (2pl)
59:1 Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: 2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear. 3 For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness.

Description (3pl)
4 None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity. 5 They hatch cockatrice' eggs, and weave the spider's web: he that eateth of their eggs dieth, and that which is crushed breaketh out into a viper. 6 Their webs shall not become garments, neither shall they cover themselves with their works: their works are works of iniquity, and the act of violence is in their hands. 7 Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths. 8 The way of peace they know not; and there is no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace.

Confession (1pl)
9 Therefore is judgment far from us, neither doth justice overtake us: we wait for light, but behold obscurity; for brightness, but we walk in darkness. 10 We grope for the wall like the blind, and we grope as if we had no eyes: we stumble at noonday as in the night; we are in desolate places as dead men. 11 We roar all like bears, and mourn sore like doves: we look for judgment, but there is none; for salvation, but it is far off from us.
12 For our transgressions are multiplied before thee, and our sins testify against us: for our transgressions are with us; and as for our iniquities, we know them; 13 In transgressing and lying against the LORD, and departing away from our God, speaking oppression and revolt, conceiving and uttering from the heart words of falsehood. 14 And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. 15 Yea, truth faileth; and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey:
# A Brief History of Israel

| Prolog | 7 I will mention the lovingkindnesses of the LORD, *and* the praises of the LORD, according to all that the LORD hath bestowed on us, and the great goodness toward the house of Israel, which *he* hath bestowed on them according to his mercies, and according to the multitude of his lovingkindnesses. |
| Gracious Care | 8 For *he* said, Surely they are *my* people, children *that* will not lie: so he was their Saviour. 9 In all their affliction *he* was afflicted, and the angel of *his* presence saved them: in *his* love and in *his* pity he redeemed them; and *he* bare them, and carried them all the days of old. |
| Rebellion | 10 But they rebelled, and vexed *his* holy Spirit: |
| Chastisement | therefore *he* was turned to be their enemy, *and* *he* fought against them. |
| Repentance | 11 Then *he* [Israel] remembered the days of old, Moses, *and* *his* people, saying, Where *is* *he* that brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of *his* flock? where *is* *he* that put his holy Spirit within him? 12 That led *them* by the right hand of Moses with *his* glorious arm, dividing the water before them, to make *himself* an everlasting name? 13 That led them through the deep, as an horse in the wilderness, *that* they should not stumble? 14 As a beast goeth down into the valley, the Spirit of the LORD caused him to rest: |
| Summary | so didst *thou* lead *thy* people, to make *thyself* a glorious name. |
## Isa 63:8-14 and the Exodus

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<td>8 For he said, Surely they <em>are</em> my people, children <em>that</em> will not lie: so he was their Saviour.</td>
<td>God’s solemn decree to choose, sanctify, and deliver Israel</td>
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<td>9 In all their affliction he was afflicted, and the angel of his presence saved them:</td>
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<td>in his love and in his pity he redeemed them;</td>
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<td>and he bare them, and carried them all the days of old.</td>
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<td>10 But they rebelled מרה, and vexed בעצב his holy Spirit</td>
<td>Deut 32:11-13 as an eagle … beareth them on her wings …</td>
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<td>11-14 Then he remembered the days of old, Moses and his people … the sea … dividing the water</td>
<td>Psa 78:40 How oft did they provoke מרה him in the wilderness, and grieve בעצב him in the desert!</td>
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63:8 “Surely”: Wishful Thinking or Solemn Declaration?

Isa 45:14  Thus saith the LORD, The labour of Egypt, and merchandise of Ethiopia and of the Sabeans, men of stature, shall come over unto thee, and they shall be thine: they shall come after thee; in chains they shall come over, and they shall fall down unto thee, they shall make supplication unto thee, saying, Surely God is in thee; and there is none else, there is no God.

Isa 45:23-25  I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear. 24 Surely, shall one say, in the LORD have I righteousness and strength: even to him shall men come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed. 25 In the LORD shall all the seed of Israel be justified, and shall glory.
“Children that will not lie”?

Their promise:

Exo 19:7-8 And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words which the LORD commanded him. 8 And all the people answered together, and said, All that the LORD hath spoken we will do.

Hebrew imperfect as obligation rather than prediction:

Exo 20:13 Thou shalt not kill. 14 Thou shalt not commit adultery. 15 Thou shalt not steal. 16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour. 17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

→ “Children that SHALL not lie.”

NT Echo:

Eph 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.
63:9 “In all their affliction he was afflicted”

The general principle:

Jdg 10:16 And they put away the strange gods from among them, and served the LORD: and his soul was grieved for the misery of Israel.

Zec 2:8 For thus saith the LORD of hosts; After the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.

At the Exodus:

Exo 3:7 And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;
63:9b The Angel of his Presence in the Exodus

Exo 23:20 Behold, I send an Angel before thee, to keep thee in the way, and to bring thee into the place which I have prepared. 21 Beware of him, and obey his voice, provoke him not; for he will not pardon your transgressions: for my name is in him.

Exo 33:14 And [God] said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest. 15 And [Moses] said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence.

Deu 4:37 And because he loved thy fathers, therefore he chose their seed after them, and brought thee out in his sight [בפניו "with his presence"] with his mighty power out of Egypt;
63:9b The Angel of the Lord throughout the OT

Hagar:

Gen 16:7  And the angel of the LORD found her by a fountain of water in the wilderness, by the fountain in the way to Shur. … 13  And she called the name of the LORD that spake unto her, Thou God seest me:

Moses:

Exo 3:2  And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.  3 And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.  4 And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush,

Manoah:

Jdg 13:21  But the angel of the LORD did no more appear to Manoah and to his wife. Then Manoah knew that he was an angel of the LORD.  22 And Manoah said unto his wife, We shall surely die, because we have seen God.

Summary:

Mic 5:2  But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

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63:9 Redemption and Carrying at the Exodus

he redeemed them

Exo 6:6 Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments:

Exo 15:13 Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation.

and he bare them, and carried them

Deu 32:11-12 As an eagle stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings: 12 So the LORD alone did lead him, and there was no strange god with him.
63:10 Vexing the Holy Spirit

Cooccurrence of מרה and עצב:

Psa 78:40 How oft did they provoke מרה him in the wilderness, and grieve עצב him in the desert!

The image of the forsaken widow,

Isa 54:6 For the LORD hath called thee as a woman forsaken and grieved עצב in spirit, and a wife of youth, when thou wast refused, saith thy God.

NT Parallel:

Eph 4:29-30 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. 30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.