CRAWFORD BIBLE COMMENTARY

BIBLE STUDY

Isaiah Chapter 59 — Sin Separates, But the Redeemer Saves

A Verse-by-Verse Bible Study from the Crawford Standard Bible

Introduction

Isaiah Chapter 59 answers an important question:

Why does God sometimes seem:

Distant?

Why does prayer seem:

Unanswered?

Why does justice appear:

Absent?

Why does darkness seem:

So deep?

The chapter begins by immediately rejecting one explanation:

God is not:

Weak.

His arm is not:

Too short.

His ear is not:

Too dull.

The problem is not:

God’s inability.

The problem is:

Human sin.

Verse 2 gives the diagnosis:

“Your sins have separated you from your God.”

Sin damages:

Fellowship.

Prayer.

Justice.

Truth.

Peace.

Community.

The chapter then describes the spread of wickedness through every part of life.

Hands:

Bloodstained.

Fingers:

Guilty.

Lips:

Lying.

Tongues:

Wicked.

Feet:

Running toward sin.

Thoughts:

Evil.

Roads:

Crooked.

The picture is comprehensive.

Sin reaches:

Hands.

Mouth.

Mind.

Feet.

Society.

Justice system.

Public streets.

The result is:

No peace.

Isaiah then uses striking images.

Viper eggs.

Spider webs.

Crooked roads.

Darkness at noon.

Blind people feeling along walls.

Growling bears.

Mourning doves.

Truth stumbling in the street.

These images show that sin does not produce:

Freedom.

It produces:

Poison.

Fragility.

Confusion.

Darkness.

Restlessness.

Injustice.

Then something changes.

The language moves from:

“They.”

To:

“We.”

The people begin to:

Confess.

“Our offenses are many in Your sight.”

“Our sins testify against us.”

“We acknowledge our iniquities.”

This is an important movement.

Real revival begins when people stop talking only about:

Their sins.

And begin confessing:

Our sins.

Then God looks at society.

Justice has been:

Driven back.

Truth has:

Stumbled.

Honesty cannot:

Enter.

The person who avoids evil becomes:

A target.

God sees:

All of it.

Then verse 16 gives the great turning point:

“He saw that there was no one.”

No adequate human:

Intercessor.

No sufficient human:

Savior.

No righteous human solution.

So:

“His own arm worked salvation for Him.”

This is the answer to verse 1.

Verse 1:

God’s hand is not too short to save.

Verse 16:

God’s own arm works:

Salvation.

Then God appears as:

Warrior.

Righteousness:

Breastplate.

Salvation:

Helmet.

Vengeance:

Garment.

Zeal:

Cloak.

This imagery later echoes strongly in:

Ephesians 6.

But here the armor is worn first by:

God Himself.

He comes to:

Judge evil.

Defend righteousness.

Bring salvation.

Reveal His glory.

Then comes:

The Redeemer.

“The Redeemer will come to Zion.”

And the Redeemer comes to those who:

Turn from sin.

Finally the chapter ends not with:

Separation.

But with:

Covenant.

Spirit.

Word.

Generations.

The Spirit remains.

The Word remains.

Children receive it.

Descendants receive it.

God’s covenant reaches:

Forward.

The chapter therefore moves from:

Sin separating.

To:

Confession.

To:

God seeing.

To:

God acting.

To:

The Redeemer coming.

To:

The Spirit remaining.

The central truth of Isaiah 59 is:

Human sin—not divine weakness—creates separation, darkness, injustice, and lack of peace; when humanity has no adequate savior or intercessor, God Himself acts in righteousness, judges

evil, reveals His saving arm, sends the Redeemer to those who turn from sin, and establishes an enduring covenant of His Spirit and Word from generation to generation.

I. GOD’S HAND IS NOT TOO SHORT

Isaiah 59:1 — God Has Not Lost the Power to Save

> **“Surely the Lord’s hand is not too short to save, nor His ear too dull to hear.”**

The problem is not:

God’s arm.

The problem is not:

God’s hearing.

God remains:

Able.

Attentive.

Powerful.

Cross References

Numbers 11:23

The Lord challenges Moses’ doubt by asking whether His power has somehow become limited and promises that His word will prove true.

Isaiah 50:2

God previously asked whether His hand had somehow become too short to redeem or whether He lacked power to deliver.

Isaiah 63:5

God looks and finds no adequate human helper, so His own arm brings salvation.

Spiritual Principle

God has not become:

Weaker.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When heaven seems silent, do not begin by assuming God has lost His power.

II. GOD’S EAR IS NOT DULL

He hears:

Perfectly.

Spiritual Principle

Divine silence does not mean:

Divine deafness.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s silence may have reasons, but inability to hear is never one of them.

III. SIN CREATES SEPARATION

Isaiah 59:2 — The Real Barrier

> **“But your sins have separated you from your God; your iniquities have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear.”**

Here is the diagnosis:

Sin.

Not divine weakness.

Cross References

Genesis 3:8

After sin, Adam and Eve hide from the presence of God, showing how rebellion disrupts fellowship.

Habakkuk 1:13

God’s eyes are too pure to look approvingly upon evil, emphasizing His holiness.

Micah 3:4

Persistent wickedness can result in God refusing the cries of those who repeatedly reject His ways.

Spiritual Principle

Sin damages:

Fellowship.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The wall is not built because God moved away in weakness; the wall is built by sin.

IV. “YOUR GOD”

Even while rebuking them, Isaiah says:

Your God.

Spiritual Principle

Broken fellowship does not mean God has become:

Less holy.

V. SIN HIDES GOD’S FACE

This is covenant language.

The face of God represents:

Favor.

Presence.

Fellowship.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

One of sin’s greatest losses is not merely consequences—it is diminished fellowship with God.

VI. BLOODSTAINED HANDS AND LYING LIPS

Isaiah 59:3 — Sin Reaches Hands and Mouth

> **“For your hands are stained with blood, your fingers with guilt; your lips have spoken lies, and your tongue mutters wickedness.”**

Hands:

Violent.

Fingers:

Guilty.

Lips:

False.

Tongue:

Wicked.

Cross References

Isaiah 1:15

Earlier Isaiah said the people’s hands were full of blood, making hypocritical worship unacceptable.

1 John 1:8

Anyone claiming to be without sin deceives himself and rejects the truth.

Psalm 5:9

The wicked mouth contains no truth; speech becomes destructive and deceptive.

Spiritual Principle

Sin expresses itself through:

Actions.

Words.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The same hands lifted in worship cannot be ignored when they are stained by injustice.

VII. THE TONGUE PARTICIPATES IN SIN

Lying.

Muttering.

Deceiving.

Spiritual Principle

Speech reveals:

Moral condition.

VIII. JUSTICE IS NOT SOUGHT

Isaiah 59:4 — Lies Give Birth to Evil

> **“No one calls for justice; no one pleads truthfully. They rely on empty arguments and speak lies; they conceive trouble and give birth to evil.”**

Justice is:

Ignored.

Truth is:

Abandoned.

Arguments become:

Empty.

Lies become:

Normal.

Cross References

James 1:15

Sinful desire conceives and gives birth to sin, which when mature produces death.

Job 15:35

The wicked are pictured conceiving trouble and producing deceit.

Psalm 7:14

Those who conceive evil eventually give birth to falsehood and trouble.

Spiritual Principle

Sin has:

A reproductive pattern.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

What the heart conceives, the life eventually gives birth to.

IX. EMPTY ARGUMENTS

People defend:

Wrong.

With:

Words.

Spiritual Principle

A sophisticated argument cannot make:

Evil righteous.

X. VIPER EGGS

Isaiah 59:5 — Sin Produces Poison

> **“They hatch viper’s eggs and spin a spider’s web. Whoever eats their eggs dies, and when one is broken, a viper is hatched.”**

Two images:

Poison.

Fragility.

Cross References

Job 8:14

False confidence is compared to a spider’s web—fragile and unable to support the person trusting it.

Matthew 23:33

Jesus calls hardened religious hypocrites serpents and a brood of vipers.

Matthew 3:7

John the Baptist addresses unrepentant religious leaders as a brood of vipers fleeing from coming wrath.

Spiritual Principle

Sin may begin small.

It still contains:

Poison.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Do not mistake the shell for safety; some things only need time to hatch what was already inside.

XI. SPIDER WEBS

A spider web looks:

Intricate.

But cannot become:

Clothing.

Spiritual Principle

Human schemes may be:

Clever.

Yet useless for:

Covering guilt.

XII. THEIR WORKS CANNOT COVER THEM

Isaiah 59:6 — Evil Cannot Become Clothing

> **“Their webs cannot be used for clothing; they cannot cover themselves with what they make. Their deeds are evil deeds, and acts of violence are in their hands.”**

Human efforts cannot:

Cover.

Protect.

Justify.

Cross References

Isaiah 64:6

Human righteousness polluted by sin cannot establish true righteousness before God.

Job 8:15

The person trusting in fragile supports finds they cannot hold him up.

Job 27:18

The wicked build temporary security like a fragile house or shelter.

Spiritual Principle

Sin cannot manufacture its own:

Covering.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The web you spun to protect your sin will not become a garment when judgment comes.

XIII. THEIR DEEDS ARE EVIL

The problem is not merely:

Mistake.

But:

Moral corruption.

XIV. FEET RUSH INTO SIN

Isaiah 59:7 — Eagerness for Evil

> **“Their feet rush into sin; they are swift to shed innocent blood. Their thoughts are evil thoughts; ruin and destruction mark their ways.”**

Feet.

Thoughts.

Actions.

All aligned toward:

Sin.

Cross References

Romans 3:15

Paul quotes this language to describe humanity’s universal sinfulness.

Proverbs 1:16

The wicked rush toward evil and hasten to shed blood.

Proverbs 6:18

God condemns hearts that devise wicked plans and feet eager to run toward evil.

Spiritual Principle

Sin can become:

Habitual momentum.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The danger is not only falling into sin; it is becoming eager to run toward it.

XV. EVIL THOUGHTS PRODUCE EVIL PATHS

What fills:

The mind.

Eventually shapes:

The road.

XVI. THEY DO NOT KNOW THE WAY OF PEACE

Isaiah 59:8 — Crooked Roads Cannot Produce Peace

> **“The way of peace they do not know; there is no justice in their paths. They have made crooked roads for themselves; no one who walks in them will know peace.”**

Peace has:

A road.

Wickedness chooses:

Another.

Cross References

Romans 3:17

Paul quotes Isaiah to describe sinful humanity:

The way of peace they have not known.

Luke 1:79

The Messiah comes to guide people into the way of peace.

Proverbs 4:19

The path of the wicked is like deep darkness; people stumble without understanding why.

Spiritual Principle

You cannot walk:

Crooked roads.

And arrive at:

Peace.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Peace is not merely a destination; it has a road, and wickedness does not travel on it.

XVII. CROOKED ROADS ARE SELF-MADE

> **“They have made crooked roads for themselves.”**

Spiritual Principle

Some misery is:

Self-created.

XVIII. JUSTICE IS FAR AWAY

Isaiah 59:9 — Darkness Replaces Light

> **“So justice is far from us, and righteousness does not reach us. We look for light, but all is darkness; for brightness, but we walk in deep shadows.”**

The language changes:

They.

To:

We.

This is:

Confession.

Cross References

Jeremiah 8:15

The people look for peace and healing but find terror because sin has produced judgment.

Lamentations 3:2

The sufferer describes being driven into darkness rather than light.

Amos 5:18

Those expecting the Day of the Lord without repentance discover darkness rather than light.

Spiritual Principle

Confession begins when:

Blame becomes ownership.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Revival begins when “their sin” becomes “our sin.”

XIX. LOOKING FOR LIGHT WHILE WALKING IN DARKNESS

They desire:

Outcomes.

Without changing:

Paths.

Spiritual Principle

Light cannot be separated from:

Truth.

XX. BLIND AT NOONDAY

Isaiah 59:10 — Spiritual Disorientation

> **“Like the blind we grope along the wall, feeling our way like those without eyes. At midday we stumble as if it were twilight; among the strong, we are like the dead.”**

Noonday should mean:

Clarity.

Yet they stumble.

Cross References

Deuteronomy 28:29

Covenant rebellion is described as groping at midday like a blind person in darkness.

Job 5:14

Those under judgment may meet darkness even in daylight and grope as though it were night.

Job 12:25

Without light, people stagger and grope like someone wandering in darkness.

Spiritual Principle

Sin creates:

Moral disorientation.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

A person can stand in full daylight and still be spiritually blind.

XXI. “LIKE THE DEAD”

Sin drains:

Life.

Strength.

Direction.

XXII. GROWLING BEARS AND MOURNING DOVES

Isaiah 59:11 — Longing Without Deliverance

> **“We all growl like bears, we moan mournfully like doves. We look for justice, but it never comes; for deliverance, but it is far away.”**

Two sounds:

Growling.

Mourning.

Frustration.

Grief.

Cross References

Isaiah 38:14

Hezekiah describes weak, mournful sounds like a bird while suffering deeply.

Ezekiel 7:16

Survivors mourn like doves in the valleys because of their sin and judgment.

Nahum 2:7

Mourning voices are compared to doves in a scene of collapse and judgment.

Spiritual Principle

Unrepented sin creates:

Pain without peace.

XXIII. DELIVERANCE SEEMS FAR

Not because God’s arm is:

Short.

Because sin remains:

Unaddressed.

XXIV. OUR SINS TESTIFY AGAINST US

Isaiah 59:12 — Honest Confession

> **“For our offenses are many in Your sight, and our sins testify against us. Our offenses are ever with us, and we acknowledge our iniquities:”**

This is:

True confession.

Not:

Excuse.

Not:

Blame.

Acknowledgment.

Cross References

Ezra 9:6

Ezra confesses that the people’s sins have risen overwhelmingly before God.

Jeremiah 14:7

Jeremiah acknowledges that sins testify against the people and appeals to God’s mercy.

Psalm 51:3

David says his sin is constantly before him and openly acknowledges his transgression.

Spiritual Principle

Confession agrees with:

God’s verdict.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

You cannot confess a sin honestly while still arguing that it was not really wrong.

XXV. SINS AS WITNESSES

Sin itself gives:

Testimony.

Spiritual Principle

Guilt does not need:

Fabrication.

XXVI. REBELLION AND TREACHERY

Isaiah 59:13 — Turning Away from God

> **“Rebellion and treachery against the Lord, turning our backs on our God, uttering oppression and lies, conceiving and speaking falsehoods from the heart.”**

The confession gets:

Specific.

Rebellion.

Treachery.

Turning away.

Oppression.

Lies.

Falsehood.

Cross References

Jeremiah 5:12

The people deny the Lord’s warnings and speak falsely about His judgment.

Hebrews 3:12

Believers are warned against an evil, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God.

Jeremiah 2:13

God condemns His people for abandoning Him, the fountain of living water, for broken cisterns.

Spiritual Principle

Real confession names:

Specific sins.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Vague repentance often protects specific rebellion.

XXVII. FALSEHOOD FROM THE HEART

Lies begin:

Inside.

Spiritual Principle

Speech problems are often:

Heart problems.

XXVIII. JUSTICE IS DRIVEN BACK

Isaiah 59:14 — Truth Stumbles in the Street

> **“So justice is driven back, and righteousness stands at a distance; truth has stumbled in the streets, honesty cannot enter.”**

This is one of Isaiah’s most vivid pictures of:

Social collapse.

Justice:

Driven back.

Righteousness:

Distant.

Truth:

Fallen.

Honesty:

Locked out.

Cross References

Amos 5:7

Some people turn justice into bitterness and cast righteousness down.

Hosea 4:1

God charges the land with lacking truth, covenant faithfulness, and knowledge of Him.

Micah 7:2

The faithful disappear and social violence increases.

Spiritual Principle

Sin eventually becomes:

Public culture.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When truth stumbles in the street, the problem is no longer merely private morality; the whole community is in danger.

XXIX. HONESTY CANNOT ENTER

The door is:

Closed.

Spiritual Principle

Corrupt systems can become hostile to:

Truth.

XXX. THE PERSON WHO AVOIDS EVIL BECOMES PREY

Isaiah 59:15 — God Sees the Absence of Justice

> **“Truth is nowhere to be found, and whoever shuns evil becomes a prey. The Lord looked and was displeased that there was no justice.”**

When society becomes corrupt:

Goodness becomes:

Dangerous.

Cross References

Micah 7:2

Godly and upright people disappear while violence and selfishness dominate.

2 Timothy 3:12

Those determined to live godly lives in Christ Jesus should expect persecution.

Amos 5:10

The wicked hate those who rebuke injustice and despise people who speak honestly.

Spiritual Principle

A corrupt culture can punish:

Righteousness.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When avoiding evil makes you a target, society has reversed the moral signs.

XXXI. THE LORD LOOKED

Humans may:

Ignore injustice.

God:

Does not.

Spiritual Principle

God sees:

Public evil.

XXXII. THERE WAS NO INTERCESSOR

Isaiah 59:16 — God’s Own Arm Brings Salvation

> **“He saw that there was no one, He was appalled that there was no intercessor; so His own arm worked salvation for Him, and His righteousness sustained Him.”**

No one adequate:

Stood.

So God:

Acted.

Cross References

Ezekiel 22:30

God looked for someone to stand in the gap before Him for the land but found no one.

Isaiah 63:5

God again declares that when no helper was present, His own arm brought salvation.

Ezekiel 22:31

When no intercessor stands, judgment falls upon persistent wickedness.

Spiritual Principle

Salvation ultimately depends on:

God.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When humanity has no savior strong enough to rescue itself, God does not surrender the field—His own arm acts.

XXXIII. NO HUMAN SOLUTION WAS ENOUGH

This is not:

Humanity helping God.

It is:

God saving.

Spiritual Principle

Redemption is:

Divine initiative.

XXXIV. HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS SUSTAINED HIM

God acts according to:

His character.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God does not save by abandoning righteousness; He saves in perfect righteousness.

XXXV. GOD PUTS ON RIGHTEOUSNESS

Isaiah 59:17 — The Divine Warrior

> **“He put on righteousness as His breastplate, and the helmet of salvation on His head;**
> **He put on the garments of vengeance and wrapped Himself in zeal as in a cloak.”**

God appears as:

Warrior.

Armor:

Righteousness.

Salvation.

Vengeance.

Zeal.

Cross References

Ephesians 6:14

Paul later calls believers to put on spiritual armor, including righteousness, echoing Isaiah’s divine-warrior imagery.

1 Thessalonians 5:8

Believers are told to wear faith and love as a breastplate and the hope of salvation as a helmet.

Isaiah 11:5

The Messiah is described with righteousness and faithfulness as defining qualities.

Spiritual Principle

God fights:

Righteously.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God never needs sinful weapons to defeat sin.

XXXVI. RIGHTEOUSNESS AS BREASTPLATE

His actions are guarded by:

Perfect justice.

Spiritual Principle

God’s warfare is never:

Morally corrupt.

XXXVII. SALVATION AS HELMET

The Warrior comes not merely:

To destroy.

But:

To save.

XXXVIII. VENGEANCE AND ZEAL

God’s vengeance is not:

Personal spite.

It is:

Holy justice.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Divine vengeance is not uncontrolled anger; it is righteous judgment against evil.

XXXIX. GOD REPAYS ACCORDING TO DEEDS

Isaiah 59:18 — Justice Reaches the Nations

> **“According to what they have done, so will He repay: wrath to His enemies and retribution to His foes; He will repay the islands their due.”**

God’s judgment is:

Measured.

According to:

Deeds.

Cross References

Romans 2:6

God repays each person according to deeds, emphasizing impartial judgment.

Revelation 20:13

At final judgment, people are judged according to what they have done.

Psalm 62:12

Power and steadfast love belong to God, who repays people according to their works.

Spiritual Principle

God’s judgment is:

Just.

XL. WRATH TO ENEMIES

Grace does not mean:

Evil never answered.

Spiritual Principle

God’s salvation includes:

Judgment against what destroys.

XLI. FROM WEST TO EAST

Isaiah 59:19 — God’s Name Feared Everywhere

> **“From the west, people will fear the name of the Lord, and from the rising of the sun, His glory. For when the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him.”**

The vision becomes:

Worldwide.

West.

East.

Everywhere.

Cross References

Malachi 1:11

God declares that His name will be great among the nations from sunrise to sunset.

Revelation 12:15

Flood imagery appears as a picture of overwhelming hostile attack.

Psalm 113:3

From the rising of the sun to its setting, the Lord’s name is worthy of praise.

Spiritual Principle

God’s glory cannot be contained:

Locally.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The enemy may rise like a flood, but God is not left searching for higher ground.

XLII. THE SPIRIT LIFTS A STANDARD

The picture is:

Divine resistance.

Spiritual Principle

The Spirit is not passive before:

Evil.

XLIII. “LIKE A FLOOD”

Some translations and interpretations punctuate this clause differently, but the core theological truth remains:

God’s Spirit acts decisively when evil surges.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When evil appears overwhelming, do not confuse intensity with sovereignty.

XLIV. THE REDEEMER COMES TO ZION

Isaiah 59:20 — Redemption and Repentance

> **“‘The Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins,’ declares the Lord.”**

The answer to:

Sin.

Is:

Redeemer.

Cross References

Romans 11:26

Paul quotes Isaiah in his discussion of Israel and God’s continuing redemptive purposes.

Psalm 14:7

The psalmist longs for salvation to come from Zion and for Jacob to rejoice in God’s restoration.

Zechariah 9:9

Zion is told to rejoice because her righteous and saving King comes to her.

Spiritual Principle

Redemption and repentance belong:

Together.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Redeemer does not come to make peace with rebellion; He comes to save people who turn from it.

XLV. “THE REDEEMER”

Not:

Advisor.

Not:

Motivator.

Redeemer.

Spiritual Principle

Humanity needs:

Rescue.

XLVI. “TO THOSE WHO REPENT”

Turning matters.

Spiritual Principle

Grace calls for:

Response.

XLVII. THE COVENANT OF SPIRIT AND WORD

Isaiah 59:21 — A Promise for Generations

> **“‘As for Me, this is My covenant with them,’ says the Lord. ‘My Spirit, who is on you, will not depart from you, and My words that I have put in your mouth will always be on your lips, on the lips of your children, and on the lips of their descendants—from this time on and forever,’ says the Lord.”**

The chapter ends with:

Covenant.

Spirit.

Word.

Children.

Descendants.

Forever.

Cross References

Romans 11:27

Paul connects Isaiah’s covenant promise with God’s removal of sin.

Jeremiah 31:33

God promises to place His law within His people and write it upon their hearts.

Hebrews 8:10

The new covenant includes God placing His laws in minds and writing them upon hearts.

Spiritual Principle

God’s covenant is:

Generational.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s answer to a generation of lies is not silence; it is His Spirit and His Word placed into future generations.

XLVIII. THE SPIRIT REMAINS

God’s presence is:

Covenantal.

Spiritual Principle

The Redeemer does not merely remove:

Guilt.

He gives:

The Spirit.

XLIX. THE WORD REMAINS

Spirit and Word:

Together.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

A Spirit-filled people should also be a Word-filled people.

L. CHILDREN AND DESCENDANTS

The covenant vision extends:

Forward.

Spiritual Principle

Faithfulness should become:

Generational testimony.

LI. ISAIAH 58 AND ISAIAH 59

Isaiah 58

The people complain:

Why does God not answer?

Isaiah 59

The answer:

> **“Your sins have separated you from your God.”**

Key Truth

Isaiah 59 explains the spiritual condition underlying the hypocrisy exposed in Isaiah 58.

LII. ISAIAH 50 AND ISAIAH 59

Isaiah 50:2

> **“Is My hand too short to redeem you?”**

Isaiah 59:1

> **“The Lord’s hand is not too short to save.”**

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God repeatedly rejects the idea that human bondage exists because He lacks strength.

LIII. ISAIAH 52 AND ISAIAH 59

Isaiah 52

God bares:

His holy arm.

Isaiah 59

His own arm works:

Salvation.

Spiritual Principle

The saving arm of the Lord is:

Active.

LIV. ISAIAH 53 AND ISAIAH 59

Isaiah 53

The Servant bears:

Iniquity.

Isaiah 59

Human iniquity separates:

From God.

Key Truth

The Redeemer is necessary because the separation caused by sin cannot be healed by human effort alone.

LV. ISAIAH 57 AND ISAIAH 59

Isaiah 57

“There is no peace… for the wicked.”

Isaiah 59

“The way of peace they do not know.”

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Wickedness does not merely lose peace; it loses the road leading to peace.

LVI. ROMANS 3 AND ISAIAH 59

Paul quotes:

Feet swift to blood.

Way of peace unknown.

As part of his demonstration that:

All are under sin.

Spiritual Principle

Isaiah’s diagnosis becomes part of the New Testament’s universal doctrine of:

Human sinfulness.

LVII. ROMANS 11 AND ISAIAH 59

Paul quotes the promise:

The Redeemer will come.

Spiritual Principle

Isaiah 59 remains significant for understanding:

God’s redemptive purposes.

LVIII. EPHESIANS 6 AND ISAIAH 59

Isaiah:

God wears righteousness and salvation.

Ephesians:

Believers receive armor imagery.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The armor believers wear reflects qualities first displayed perfectly in the Divine Warrior.

LIX. SIN AND SEPARATION

Sin:

Separates.

Spiritual Principle

Sin has:

Relational consequences.

LX. SIN AND PRAYER

Persistent rebellion can disrupt:

Communion.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Prayer cannot be treated as a spiritual escape hatch from a life committed to rebellion.

LXI. SIN AND VIOLENCE

Bloodstained hands.

Spiritual Principle

Sin harms:

Others.

LXII. SIN AND SPEECH

Lies.

Wickedness.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Words can become evidence of inward separation from God.

LXIII. SIN AND JUSTICE

Justice:

Absent.

Spiritual Principle

Personal sin becomes:

Public injustice.

LXIV. SIN AND THOUGHTS

Evil thoughts.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Every destructive path begins long before the feet arrive there.

LXV. SIN AND PEACE

Crooked roads.

No peace.

Spiritual Principle

Sin produces:

Restlessness.

LXVI. SIN AND DARKNESS

Looking for light.

Finding:

Shadows.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

A person cannot continually reject the light and still complain that the road has become dark.

LXVII. SIN AND BLINDNESS

Groping.

Stumbling.

Spiritual Principle

Sin damages:

Perception.

LXVIII. SIN AND CONFESSION

Eventually:

“We acknowledge.”

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Confession is the moment sinners stop editing the diagnosis.

LXIX. SIN AND SOCIETY

Truth stumbles.

Justice retreats.

Honesty excluded.

Spiritual Principle

Sin can become:

Structural.

LXX. SIN AND PERSECUTION OF THE GOOD

Whoever avoids evil:

Becomes prey.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When goodness is punished simply for being good, moral collapse has become visible.

LXXI. GOD SEES

Repeatedly:

The Lord looked.

He saw.

Spiritual Principle

Nothing in society escapes:

Divine sight.

LXXII. GOD IS DISPLEASED BY INJUSTICE

Not indifferent.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God does not watch injustice with moral neutrality.

LXXIII. NO INTERCESSOR

Human insufficiency exposed.

Spiritual Principle

Humanity cannot:

Save itself.

LXXIV. GOD’S OWN ARM

Divine action.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Salvation begins where human adequacy ends.

LXXV. RIGHTEOUSNESS SUSTAINS GOD’S ACTION

He acts:

Consistently.

Spiritual Principle

God’s saving acts never violate:

God’s holy character.

LXXVI. DIVINE ARMOR

Righteousness.

Salvation.

Vengeance.

Zeal.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God enters the battlefield clothed in the very qualities evil lacks.

LXXVII. JUDGMENT ACCORDING TO DEEDS

No partiality.

Spiritual Principle

God judges:

Truthfully.

LXXVIII. NAME FEARED FROM WEST TO EAST

Global recognition.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The God whom sinners ignored locally will be honored universally.

LXXIX. GLORY FROM SUNRISE

Creation itself marks:

The scope.

Spiritual Principle

God’s glory reaches:

Every horizon.

LXXX. ENEMY LIKE A FLOOD

Pressure.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The height of the flood does not determine the height of God’s authority.

LXXXI. SPIRIT RAISES A STANDARD

Resistance.

Spiritual Principle

God responds:

Actively.

LXXXII. THE REDEEMER COMES

Hope.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The chapter does not end with confession; it moves toward the Redeemer.

LXXXIII. REPENTANCE IN JACOB

Turning.

Spiritual Principle

Restoration requires:

Return.

LXXXIV. COVENANT

God binds Himself:

Faithfully.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The God who exposes sin also provides the covenant answer to sin.

LXXXV. SPIRIT

Presence.

Spiritual Principle

God’s solution includes:

Transformation.

LXXXVI. WORD

Truth.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Where lies dominated the beginning of the chapter, God’s Word dominates the end.

LXXXVII. GENERATIONS

Children.

Descendants.

Forever.

Spiritual Principle

The covenant has:

Future.

LXXXVIII. THE GREAT REVERSAL OF ISAIAH 59

Beginning:

Sin separates.

Ending:

Spirit remains.

Beginning:

Lies.

Ending:

God’s Word.

Beginning:

No peace.

Ending:

Redeemer.

Beginning:

No justice.

Ending:

Divine righteousness.

Beginning:

No intercessor.

Ending:

God’s own saving arm.

Key Truth

The chapter begins with everything humanity has ruined and ends with everything God provides.

LXXXIX. WHAT ISAIAH 59 TEACHES ABOUT GOD’S POWER

His hand is:

Not short.

Spiritual Principle

God remains:

Able.

XC. WHAT ISAIAH 59 TEACHES ABOUT GOD’S HEARING

His ear is:

Not dull.

Spiritual Principle

God remains:

Aware.

XCI. WHAT ISAIAH 59 TEACHES ABOUT SIN

Sin separates.

Poisons.

Blinds.

Corrupts.

Destroys peace.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Sin is never merely breaking a rule; it rearranges relationships, perception, conduct, and community.

XCII. WHAT ISAIAH 59 TEACHES ABOUT CONFESSION

“We acknowledge.”

Spiritual Principle

Healing begins with:

Truth.

XCIII. WHAT ISAIAH 59 TEACHES ABOUT JUSTICE

God is displeased when:

Justice disappears.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s people should never become comfortable in a culture where truth has fallen in the street.

XCIV. WHAT ISAIAH 59 TEACHES ABOUT INTERCESSION

No adequate human intercessor was found.

Spiritual Principle

We need:

Divine intervention.

XCV. WHAT ISAIAH 59 TEACHES ABOUT THE REDEEMER

He comes:

To Zion.

To:

Repentant people.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The answer to human separation is not better self-rescue but the coming Redeemer.

XCVI. WHAT ISAIAH 59 TEACHES ABOUT THE SPIRIT

The Spirit:

Remains.

Spiritual Principle

Covenant salvation includes:

Divine presence.

XCVII. WHAT ISAIAH 59 TEACHES ABOUT THE WORD

God puts His Word:

In mouths.

Spiritual Principle

Truth must continue:

Generationally.

XCVIII. WHAT ISAIAH 59 TEACHES ABOUT FUTURE GENERATIONS

Children.

Grandchildren.

Descendants.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

A faithful generation should desire not merely to survive but to put God’s Word into the mouths of those coming after it.

XCIX. HANDS STAINED

Actions exposed.

Spiritual Principle

God sees:

Deeds.

C. FINGERS GUILTY

Even detailed actions matter.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Sin is not vague before God.

CI. LYING LIPS

Truth corrupted.

Spiritual Principle

Falsehood separates:

People.

And dishonors:

God.

CII. WICKED TONGUE

Speech reveals:

Heart.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

One of the fastest ways to diagnose the heart is to listen carefully to the tongue.

CIII. NO JUSTICE

Society compromised.

Spiritual Principle

God cares about:

Fairness.

CIV. NO TRUTHFUL PLEADING

Courts corrupted.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When truth becomes inconvenient, justice soon becomes impossible.

CV. TROUBLE CONCEIVED

Sin begins:

Inside.

Spiritual Principle

Conception precedes:

Birth.

CVI. EVIL BORN

Thought becomes:

Action.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Deal with sin at conception before it grows strong enough to demand a birth.

CVII. VIPER EGGS

Danger concealed.

Spiritual Principle

Sin can look:

Small.

CVIII. SPIDER WEB

False security.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

A fragile refuge can feel strong until weight is placed upon it.

CIX. WEB CANNOT CLOTHE

No true covering.

Spiritual Principle

Human schemes cannot cover:

Guilt.

CX. VIOLENCE IN HANDS

Sin becomes:

Physical.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Violence is where corrupted hearts often become visible.

CXI. FEET RUN

Momentum.

Spiritual Principle

Repeated sin becomes:

Pattern.

CXII. SWIFT TO BLOOD

Urgency toward evil.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

A heart trained in sin eventually stops needing persuasion.

CXIII. RUIN AND DESTRUCTION

Consequences.

Spiritual Principle

Sin leaves:

Damage.

CXIV. NO WAY OF PEACE

Ignorance of:

Shalom.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The road to peace cannot be discovered while refusing the God who built it.

CXV. JUSTICE FAR FROM US

Confession.

Spiritual Principle

Sin creates:

Distance.

CXVI. DEEP SHADOWS

Result:

Darkness.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When truth is removed, darkness does not have to be invited—it arrives.

CXVII. GROPING AT MIDDAY

Moral confusion.

Spiritual Principle

Abundant information cannot replace:

Spiritual sight.

CXVIII. MOANING LIKE DOVES

Grief.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

A sinful society can produce much noise and still have no song.

CXIX. OFFENSES MANY

Honesty.

Spiritual Principle

Confession does not minimize:

Quantity.

CXX. SINS TESTIFY

Evidence.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Sin carries its own witness stand.

CXXI. REBELLION AGAINST LORD

Vertical sin.

Spiritual Principle

All sin is ultimately:

Against God.

CXXII. OPPRESSION AND LIES

Horizontal sin.

Spiritual Principle

Sin against God becomes sin against:

People.

CXXIII. TRUTH STUMBLES

Tragic image.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When truth cannot stand in public, lies have been given too much room.

CXXIV. HONESTY CANNOT ENTER

Door closed.

Spiritual Principle

Corruption excludes:

Integrity.

CXXV. GOOD PERSON BECOMES PREY

Moral reversal.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When righteousness becomes dangerous, courage becomes necessary.

CXXVI. GOD IS DISPLEASED

Divine response.

Spiritual Principle

God has:

Moral judgment.

CXXVII. NO ONE

Human emptiness.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Isaiah strips away every illusion that society can ultimately redeem itself.

CXXVIII. NO INTERCESSOR

No sufficient mediator.

Spiritual Principle

Humanity needs:

Someone greater.

CXXIX. OWN ARM SAVES

Divine sufficiency.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The arm that was “not too short” becomes the arm that accomplishes salvation.

CXXX. BREASTPLATE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Protection.

Spiritual Principle

God’s justice is:

Perfect.

CXXXI. HELMET OF SALVATION

Purpose.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Divine Warrior enters battle carrying salvation as part of His identity.

CXXXII. GARMENTS OF VENGEANCE

Justice.

Spiritual Principle

Evil will not:

Escape forever.

CXXXIII. CLOAK OF ZEAL

Intensity.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God is not apathetic about salvation or justice.

CXXXIV. REPAYMENT

Moral accountability.

Spiritual Principle

Choices matter.

CXXXV. WEST AND EAST

Universal.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s name is too great for one horizon.

CXXXVI. FLOOD OF ENEMY

Threat.

Spiritual Principle

Opposition can be:

Overwhelming.

CXXXVII. STANDARD OF SPIRIT

Divine response.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Spirit of God is never overwhelmed by the size of the attack.

CXXXVIII. REDEEMER IN ZION

Promise.

Spiritual Principle

God comes:

To save.

CXXXIX. REPENTANT JACOB

Response.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Redeemer calls people not merely out of trouble but out of sin.

CXL. COVENANT WITH THEM

Commitment.

Spiritual Principle

God gives:

Relationship.

CXLI. SPIRIT UPON THEM

Presence.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s covenant is not merely written around His people; His Spirit works among them.

CXLII. WORD IN THEIR MOUTH

Witness.

Spiritual Principle

Covenant people become:

Speaking people.

CXLIII. WORD ON CHILDREN’S LIPS

Transmission.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Truth should travel farther than one generation.

CXLIV. FOREVER

Endurance.

Spiritual Principle

God’s covenant purpose has:

Permanence.

CXLV. ISAIAH 59 AS A SIN CHAPTER

Separation.

Blood.

Lies.

Violence.

Crookedness.

Darkness.

Key Truth

Isaiah refuses to treat sin as harmless behavior; it damages every level of human life.

CXLVI. ISAIAH 59 AS A CONFESSION CHAPTER

We.

Our.

Acknowledge.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

There is no national, church, family, or personal restoration without honest ownership of sin.

CXLVII. ISAIAH 59 AS A JUSTICE CHAPTER

Justice far.

Truth fallen.

Honesty excluded.

Spiritual Principle

God cares about:

Public righteousness.

CXLVIII. ISAIAH 59 AS A REDEEMER CHAPTER

No human savior.

God acts.

Redeemer comes.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When the chapter proves humanity cannot save itself, God introduces the One who can.

CXLIX. ISAIAH 59 AS A SPIRIT-AND-WORD CHAPTER

Spirit remains.

Word remains.

Generations receive both.

Key Truth

God’s final answer to a culture of falsehood is a covenant people marked by His Spirit and His Word.

CL. TWELVE GREAT CONTRASTS IN ISAIAH 59

1. God’s Strong Arm → Human Sinful Hands

2. God’s Hearing Ear → Human Separation

3. Truth → Lies

4. Justice → Crookedness

5. Light → Darkness

6. Sight → Blindness

7. Peace → Restlessness

8. Excuse → Confession

9. Human Failure → Divine Intervention

10. Sinful Violence → Divine Righteousness

11. No Intercessor → Redeemer

12. Separation → Covenant Spirit and Word

Key Truth

Isaiah 59 moves from the consequences of human sin to the sufficiency of divine salvation.

CLI. TWELVE GREAT LESSONS FROM ISAIAH 59

1. God Is Still Able to Save

Principle:

His hand has not become too short.

2. Sin Creates Separation

Principle:

The problem is moral, not divine weakness.

3. Sin Corrupts Words and Actions

Principle:

Hands and tongues both reveal the heart.

4. Sin Produces Poison and Fragile Security

Principle:

Viper eggs and spider webs cannot give life or covering.

5. Wicked Roads Cannot Produce Peace

Principle:

Crooked paths lead away from shalom.

6. Confession Must Be Honest

Principle:

The people finally say, “Our sins testify against us.”

7. Social Corruption Matters to God

Principle:

Truth and justice belong in the streets.

8. God Sees When No One Else Acts

Principle:

He is never indifferent to injustice.

9. God Himself Brings Salvation

Principle:

His own arm acts when no human savior is sufficient.

10. God Judges Righteously

Principle:

The Divine Warrior is clothed in righteousness.

11. The Redeemer Comes

Principle:

Hope rests in God’s saving intervention.

12. God’s Spirit and Word Endure

Principle:

His covenant reaches from one generation to the next.

CLII. QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR PERSONAL STUDY

Question 1

Is God’s hand too short to save?

No.

Question 2

Is His ear too dull to hear?

No.

Question 3

What creates separation from God?

Sin and iniquity.

Question 4

How are the people’s hands described?

Stained with blood.

Question 5

How are their lips described?

Speaking lies.

Question 6

What happens to justice?

No one truly seeks or pleads for it.

Question 7

What do evil plans resemble?

Viper eggs.

Question 8

What do false securities resemble?

Spider webs.

Question 9

Why can those webs not help?

They cannot provide real covering.

Question 10

What do the people’s feet do?

Rush toward sin.

Question 11

Do they know the way of peace?

No.

Question 12

What kind of roads have they made?

Crooked roads.

Question 13

What change occurs in verse 9?

The language moves into collective confession:

“We.”

Question 14

What do they look for?

Justice, righteousness, light, and deliverance.

Question 15

What do they experience?

Darkness, shadows, blindness, and distance.

Question 16

What do their sins do?

Testify against them.

Question 17

Do they finally acknowledge their iniquities?

Yes.

Question 18

What happens to truth in society?

It stumbles in the streets.

Question 19

What happens to honesty?

It cannot enter.

Question 20

What happens to someone who avoids evil?

That person becomes prey.

Question 21

What does the Lord see?

That there is no justice and no adequate intercessor.

Question 22

Who then works salvation?

God’s own arm.

Question 23

What does God put on?

Righteousness, salvation, vengeance, and zeal.

Question 24

How does God repay?

According to what people have done.

Question 25

How widespread will recognition of God become?

From west to east.

Question 26

What happens when the enemy rises like a flood?

The Spirit of the Lord raises a standard against him.

Question 27

Who comes to Zion?

The Redeemer.

Question 28

To whom does He come?

Those who turn from sin.

Question 29

What remains upon God’s people?

His Spirit.

Question 30

What remains in their mouths?

His Word.

Question 31

How far does this promise extend?

To children, descendants, and future generations.

CLIII. PERSONAL APPLICATION

Isaiah 59 asks several searching questions.

Have I Ever Blamed God for Something My Own Sin Helped Create?

Have I Said:

Why does God not answer?

Without asking:

Is there something I refuse to repent of?

Do I Really Believe God Is:

Able?

Are My Hands:

Clean?

Is My Speech:

Truthful?

Have I Become Comfortable with:

Lies?

Do I Care about:

Justice?

Am I building anything in my life that resembles:

A spider web?

Complicated.

Impressive.

But unable to:

Hold me?

Is there something poisonous I am allowing to:

Hatch?

Are my feet moving toward:

Righteousness?

Or:

Sin?

Is my mind feeding:

Evil thoughts?

Am I walking a crooked path while asking God for:

Peace?

Have I moved from:

“Their sins.”

To:

“My sins.”

Can I say:

“My sins testify against me”?

Is there a specific sin I need to:

Name?

Confess?

Forsake?

Do I care when:

Truth falls?

Justice retreats?

Honesty is excluded?

Am I willing to stand for truth even if doing right makes me:

A target?

Am I trying to solve spiritually what only:

God can save?

Do I trust:

The Redeemer?

Have I truly turned from:

Sin?

Is God’s Spirit shaping:

My life?

Is God’s Word on:

My lips?

Am I passing God’s truth to:

The next generation?

CLIV. A CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“God’s Arm Is Not Too Short—But Sin Can Build a Wall”

The problem is not:

Divine weakness.

Principle:

Before accusing heaven of silence, let Scripture examine whether sin has disrupted fellowship.

CLV. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“Crooked Roads Cannot Produce Straight Peace”

They made:

Crooked paths.

Then wondered why:

Peace disappeared.

Principle:

Peace cannot be detached from righteousness.

CLVI. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“Revival Begins When ‘They’ Becomes ‘We’”

The chapter changes:

“They sin.”

To:

“Our sins testify against us.”

Principle:

Confession begins when we stop using other people’s failures to avoid our own.

CLVII. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“When Truth Falls in the Street, God Still Sees”

Justice:

Driven back.

Honesty:

Cannot enter.

God:

Looked.

Principle:

Public corruption may overwhelm human institutions, but it never escapes divine attention.

CLVIII. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“When No One Could Save, God’s Own Arm Moved”

No:

Adequate intercessor.

No:

Human solution.

Yet:

Salvation.

Principle:

Human inability is not divine inability.

CLIX. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“The Chapter Begins with Separation and Ends with Spirit and Word”

Sin:

Separates.

Redeemer:

Comes.

Spirit:

Remains.

Word:

Continues.

Principle:

God’s answer to sin is not merely removing punishment; it is restoring relationship, presence, truth, and future generations.

CLX. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“A Spider Web Is Impressive Until You Need It to Hold Your Weight”

Human schemes may look:

Clever.

Principle:

Anything less than God becomes frighteningly fragile when eternity places weight upon it.

CLXI. ANOTHER CRAWFORD BIBLE STUDY PRINCIPLE

“Truth May Stumble, But It Does Not Die”

Truth falls in:

The street.

But God:

Acts.

Principle:

A corrupt generation can suppress truth publicly without abolishing the God who is truth’s final defender.

CLXII. THE HAND OF GOD

Strong enough:

To save.

Spiritual Principle

God’s ability is:

Undiminished.

CLXIII. THE EAR OF GOD

Able:

To hear.

Spiritual Principle

God is:

Attentive.

CLXIV. THE FACE OF GOD

Hidden because of:

Sin.

Spiritual Principle

Fellowship matters.

CLXV. HUMAN HANDS

Bloodstained.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The contrast is striking: God’s hand saves while sinful human hands destroy.

CLXVI. HUMAN LIPS

Lies.

Spiritual Principle

Sin corrupts:

Communication.

CLXVII. JUSTICE NEGLECTED

No one calls:

For it.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Injustice grows fastest where righteous people stop caring whether justice survives.

CLXVIII. EVIL CONCEIVED

Internal stage.

Spiritual Principle

Guard the:

Heart.

CLXIX. VIPER HATCHED

Mature evil.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

What looks manageable as an egg may become deadly once fully developed.

CLXX. WEB SPUN

False security.

Spiritual Principle

Self-deception can become:

Elaborate.

CLXXI. WEB CANNOT COVER

Failure.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

You cannot hide moral nakedness beneath something God already calls fragile.

CLXXII. FEET SWIFT

Sin practiced:

Eagerly.

Spiritual Principle

Habit forms:

Momentum.

CLXXIII. EVIL THOUGHTS

The mind is:

Involved.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Repentance must reach the thought before the foot can consistently change direction.

CLXXIV. RUIN IN THEIR PATH

Sin leaves:

Tracks.

Spiritual Principle

Actions have:

Consequences.

CLXXV. PEACE UNKNOWN

Tragedy.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

People can spend years searching for peace without ever walking the road where peace lives.

CLXXVI. CONFESSION

The turning point.

Spiritual Principle

Honesty opens the door to:

Restoration.

CLXXVII. DARKNESS

Consequence.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

When people reject truth long enough, darkness begins to feel normal.

CLXXVIII. GROPING

No direction.

Spiritual Principle

Sin reduces:

Clarity.

CLXXIX. MOANING

Emotional consequence.

Spiritual Principle

Rebellion produces:

Grief.

CLXXX. OUR OFFENSES

Ownership.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The word “our” can become one of the most healing words in confession.

CLXXXI. TURNING BACKS ON GOD

Relational betrayal.

Spiritual Principle

Sin is not merely:

Rule-breaking.

It is:

Turning away.

CLXXXII. TRUTH STUMBLES IN THE STREET

Public crisis.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

A society is in serious danger when truth becomes the one thing unwelcome in public life.

CLXXXIII. HONESTY LOCKED OUT

Systemic corruption.

Spiritual Principle

Truth needs:

Space.

CLXXXIV. GOOD PEOPLE BECOME TARGETS

Persecution.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The cost of righteousness rises when wickedness becomes culturally protected.

CLXXXV. GOD LOOKS

Divine attention.

Spiritual Principle

He sees:

Everything.

CLXXXVI. GOD IS DISPLEASED

Moral response.

Spiritual Principle

God is not:

Neutral.

CLXXXVII. NO HUMAN INTERCESSOR

Need exposed.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The human race cannot be both the disease and the complete cure.

CLXXXVIII. GOD’S ARM WORKS SALVATION

Grace intervenes.

Spiritual Principle

God acts:

For redemption.

CLXXXIX. RIGHTEOUS WARRIOR

Holy action.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God can wage war against evil without becoming evil.

CXC. SALVATION AND VENGEANCE

Both appear.

Spiritual Principle

Saving good includes judging:

Destructive evil.

CXCI. REPAYMENT

Justice.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Judge does not forget what victims remember.

CXCII. WEST TO EAST

Universal recognition.

Spiritual Principle

God’s name will be:

Known.

CXCIII. FLOOD

Overwhelming threat.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

A flood is overwhelming only until it meets the One who rules the waters.

CXCIV. STANDARD

Divine rallying point.

Spiritual Principle

God establishes:

Resistance.

CXCV. REDEEMER

Hope embodied.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

Isaiah does not leave sinners with diagnosis; he points them to the Redeemer.

CXCVI. REPENTANCE

Turning.

Spiritual Principle

Grace restores:

Repentant people.

CXCVII. COVENANT SPIRIT

Presence promised.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

God’s salvation is not merely rescue from something but union with Someone.

CXCVIII. COVENANT WORD

Truth promised.

Spiritual Principle

God’s people live by:

Revelation.

CXCIX. CHILDREN

Next generation.

Crawford Bible Study Principle

The Word should not die in our mouths.

CC. DESCENDANTS

Long future.

Spiritual Principle

Covenant faithfulness is:

Generational.

CCI. ISAIAH 59 AS A WHOLE

The chapter moves:

From:

Sin.

To:

Separation.

From:

Separation.

To:

Confession.

From:

Confession.

To:

God seeing.

From:

God seeing.

To:

God acting.

From:

God acting.

To:

Redeemer.

From:

Redeemer.

To:

Spirit and Word.

Key Truth

Human sin creates the crisis, but divine righteousness creates the rescue.

CCII. TEN GREAT MOVEMENTS IN ISAIAH 59

1. God’s Power Is Defended

His hand is not too short and His ear is not too dull.

2. Sin Is Identified as the Barrier

Iniquity separates people from God.

3. Wickedness Corrupts the Whole Person

Hands, lips, thoughts, and feet become involved.

4. Peace Disappears

Crooked roads lead away from justice and shalom.

5. The People Confess

They acknowledge their offenses and rebellion.

6. Society Collapses Morally

Truth stumbles and honesty cannot enter.

7. God Sees the Crisis

He is displeased that justice has vanished.

8. God Himself Acts

His own arm accomplishes salvation.

9. The Redeemer Comes

Hope appears for those who turn from sin.

10. The Covenant Endures

God’s Spirit and Word remain through future generations.

Key Truth

Isaiah 59 moves from sin’s separating power to God’s redeeming power and ends by replacing lies with the Word, separation with covenant, and hopelessness with the promise of the Redeemer.

CCIII. FINAL APPLICATION

Isaiah 59 begins by correcting:

A false accusation.

Maybe someone says:

God cannot help.

God is too far away.

God does not hear.

God has stopped caring.

Isaiah says:

No.

“The Lord’s hand is not too short to save.”

God has not become:

Weak.

“Nor His ear too dull to hear.”

God has not become:

Deaf.

Then comes:

The difficult truth.

“Your sins have separated you from your God.”

That means before we blame:

God.

We should examine:

Ourselves.

Sometimes we ask:

Why is there no:

Peace?

Why no:

Justice?

Why no:

Light?

Why no:

Answer?

Isaiah says:

Look at:

The road.

The hands.

The lips.

The thoughts.

The feet.

The culture.

Sin is not:

Harmless.

It stains:

Hands.

Corrupts:

Speech.

Poisons:

Thoughts.

Crooks:

Roads.

Destroys:

Peace.

Then Isaiah shows people:

Groping in daylight.

What a picture.

The sun is up.

Still:

Blind.

That is what sin can do.

Then something powerful happens.

The people stop saying:

They.

And begin saying:

We.

> **“Our offenses are many.”**
>
> **“Our sins testify against us.”**
>
> **“We acknowledge our iniquities.”**

That is where:

Hope begins.

Not when we:

Defend.

Minimize.

Compare.

Blame.

But when we:

Confess.

Then Isaiah looks at society.

Justice:

Driven back.

Truth:

Stumbling.

Honesty:

Unable to enter.

Those who avoid evil become:

Targets.

It looks:

Hopeless.

Then:

God looks.

And this is where everything changes.

“He saw that there was no one.”

No adequate:

Human answer.

No strong enough:

Intercessor.

No righteous enough:

Savior.

So:

“His own arm worked salvation.”

That is grace.

Humanity creates:

The problem.

God brings:

The salvation.

Then He puts on:

Righteousness.

Salvation.

Vengeance.

Zeal.

God is not passive.

He moves against:

Evil.

And for:

Redemption.

Then:

“The Redeemer will come to Zion.”

That is hope.

The answer is not:

Try harder.

Build a better web.

Make a straighter-looking crooked road.

Speak better excuses.

The answer is:

Redeemer.

The New Testament ultimately directs us toward:

Jesus Christ.

The One who:

Bears sin.

Brings peace.

Intercedes.

Redeems.

Then the chapter ends with:

Spirit.

Word.

Children.

Descendants.

Forever.

Think about the contrast.

At the beginning:

Lying lips.

At the end:

God’s Word on lips.

At the beginning:

Sin separating.

At the end:

God’s Spirit remaining.

At the beginning:

No peace.

At the end:

Redeemer.

At the beginning:

Human failure.

At the end:

Divine covenant.

So Isaiah 59 asks:

Is there sin separating me from:

Fellowship with God?

Are my hands:

Clean?

Are my lips:

Truthful?

Are my roads:

Straight?

Am I asking for peace while walking:

Crookedly?

Have I confessed:

My sin?

Do I care when:

Truth falls?

Am I willing to stand for righteousness if it makes me:

A target?

Have I realized I cannot:

Save myself?

Do I trust:

The Redeemer?

Is the Spirit of God shaping:

My life?

Is the Word of God on:

My lips?

Am I teaching it to:

My children?

Will it continue after:

Me?

The chapter’s message is clear.

Sin separates.

Sin corrupts.

Sin blinds.

Sin destroys peace.

But God’s hand is still:

Long enough.

God’s ear still:

Hears.

God’s eye still:

Sees.

God’s righteousness still:

Acts.

God’s Redeemer still:

Saves.

God’s Spirit still:

Works.

And God’s Word still:

Stands.

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father,

Thank You that Your hand is not:

Too short to save.

Thank You that Your ear is not:

Too dull to hear.

Father, search us.

Show us every sin that damages:

Fellowship.

Every iniquity we have:

Excused.

Every lie we have:

Spoken.

Every crooked road we have:

Chosen.

Every evil thought we have:

Fed.

Every injustice we have:

Ignored.

Forgive us for blaming:

You.

For things our rebellion has helped create.

Father, bring us to honest:

Confession.

Teach us to say:

Our sins testify against us.

We acknowledge:

Our iniquities.

Keep us from:

Blaming.

Minimizing.

Hiding.

Father, restore:

Truth.

Justice.

Honesty.

Righteousness.

Where truth has stumbled:

Lift it.

Where justice has been driven back:

Restore it.

Where the righteous are targeted:

Strengthen them.

Father, thank You that when no human savior was enough:

Your own arm brought salvation.

Thank You for:

The Redeemer.

Thank You for:

Jesus Christ.

Thank You that He came to deal with:

Sin.

Separation.

Guilt.

Death.

Father, clothe us with:

Righteousness.

Salvation.

Truth.

Give us courage to stand against:

Evil.

When enemies rise like:

Floods—

Remind us that Your Spirit is:

Greater.

Father, let Your Spirit remain:

Upon us.

Put Your Word:

In our mouths.

On the lips of:

Our children.

Our grandchildren.

Those who come after us.

Make us a generation that passes on:

Truth.

Faith.

The gospel.

Your Word.

May the lies of one generation be replaced by:

Truth in the next.

May separation give way to:

Reconciliation.

Darkness to:

Light.

Crooked roads to:

Peace.

Human helplessness to:

Divine salvation.

And may all glory belong to:

You.

In Jesus' name,

Amen.

Key Verse

> **"But your sins have separated you from your God; your iniquities have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear." — Isaiah 59:2**

Central Truth

The Lord remains fully able to save and hear, but human sin creates separation, corrupts actions and speech, destroys justice, blinds hearts, and removes peace; when confession exposes humanity's complete inability to rescue itself, God Himself acts in righteousness, brings salvation through His own arm, judges evil, sends the Redeemer to those who turn from sin, and establishes an enduring covenant in which His Spirit and Word remain with His people through every generation.

Isaiah 59 in One Sentence

Isaiah declares that God’s power and hearing have not failed but that human sin creates separation, lies, violence, crooked paths, darkness, injustice, and loss of peace; after the people acknowledge their guilt and society’s truth and justice collapse, the Lord Himself intervenes as the righteous Warrior, works salvation through His own arm, sends the Redeemer to those who repent, and ends the chapter with a covenant promise that His Spirit and Word will remain with His people and their descendants forever.