**THE**

**PROPHECY OF ISAIAS**

*This inspired writer is called by the Holy Ghost, the great prophet,* (Ecclesiasticus 48:25,) *from the greatness of his prophetic spirit, by which he hat foretold so long before, and in so clear a manner, the coming of Christ, the mysteries of our redemption, the calling of the Gentiles, and the glorious establishment, and perpetual flourishing of the church of Christ: insomuch that he mays seem to have been rather an evangelist than a prophet. His very name is not without mystery; for* Isaias *in Hebrew signifies* the salvation of the Lord*, or* Jesus is the Lord*. He was, according to tradition of the Hebrews, of the blood royal of the kings of Juda: and after a most holy life, ended his days by a glorious martyrdom; being sawed in two, at the command of his wicked son in law, King Manasses, for reproving his evil ways.*

**CHAPTER** **1**

*The prophet complains of the sins of Juda and Jerusalem: and exhorts them to a sincere conversion.*

**1** The vision of Isaias the son of Amos, which he saw concerning Juda and Jerusalem in the days of Ozias, Joathan, Achaz, and Ezechias, kings of Juda.

**2** Hear, O ye heavens, and give ear, O earth, for the Lord hath spoken. I have brought up children, and exalted them: but they have despised me.

**3** The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master’s crib: but Israel hath not known me, and my people hath not understood.

**4** Woe to the sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a wicked seed, ungracious children: they have forsaken the Lord, they have blasphemed the Holy One of Israel, they are gone away backwards.

**5** For what shall I strike you any more, you that increase transgression? the whole head is sick, and the whole heart is sad.

**6** From the sole of the foot unto the top of the head, there is no soundness therein: wounds and bruises and swelling sores: they are not bound up, nor dressed, nor fomented with oil.

**7** Your land is desolate, your cities are burnt with fire: your country strangers devour before your face, and it shall be desolate as when wasted by enemies.

**8** And the daughter of Sion shall be left as a covert in a vineyard, and as a lodge in a garden of cucumbers, and as a city that is laid waste.

**9** Except the Lord of hosts had left us seed, we had been as Sodom, and we should have been like to Gomorrha.

**10** Hear the word of the Lord, ye rulers of Sodom, give ear to the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrha.

**11** To what purpose do you offer me the multitude of your victims, saith the Lord? I am full, I desire not holocausts of rams, and fat of fatlings, and blood of calves, and lambs, and buck goats.

**12** When you came to appear before me, who required these things at your hands, that you should walk in my courts?

**13** Offer sacrifice no more in vain: incense is an abomination to me. The new moons, and the sabbaths, and other festivals I will not abide, your assemblies are wicked.

**14** My soul hateth your new moons, and your solemnities: they are become troublesome to me, I am weary of bearing them.

**15** And when you stretch forth your hands, I will turn away my eyes from you: and when you multiply prayer, I will not hear: for your hands are full of blood.

**16** Wash yourselves, be clean, take away the evil of your devices from my eyes: cease to do perversely,

**17** Learn to do well: seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge for the fatherless, defend the widow.

**18** And then come, and accuse me, saith the Lord: if your sins be as scarlet, they shall be made as white as snow: and if they be red as crimson, they shall be white as wool.

**19** If you be willing, and will hearken to me, you shall eat the good things of the land.

**20** But if you will not, and will provoke me to wrath: the sword shall devour you because the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

**21** How is the faithful city, that was full of judgment, become a harlot? justice dwelt in it, but now murderers.

**22** Thy silver is turned into dross: thy wine is mingled with water.

**23** Thy princes are faithless, companions of thieves: they all love bribes, they run after rewards. They judge not for the fatherless: and the widow’s cause cometh not in to them.

**24** Therefore saith the Lord the God of hosts, the mighty one of Israel: Ah! I will comfort myself over my adversaries: and I will be revenged of my enemies.

**25** And I will turn my hand to thee, and I will clean purge away thy dross, and I will take away all thy tin.

**26** And I will restore thy judges as they were before, and thy counsellors as of old. After this thou shalt be called the city of the just, a faithful city.

**27** Sion shall be redeemed in judgment, and they shall bring her back in justice.

**28** And he shall destroy the wicked, and the sinners together: and they that have forsaken the Lord, shall be consumed.

**29** For they shall be confounded for the idols, to which they have sacrificed: and you shall be ashamed of the gardens which you have chosen.

**30** When you shall be as an oak with the leaves falling off, and as a garden without water.

**31** And your strength shall be as the ashes of tow, and your work as a spark: and both shall burn together, and there shall be none to quench it.