

ISAIAH 65

All Poetry

Verse 1

A I (was) sought of them, (available to those)
B That asked not for me.

A I (was) found of them, (accessible to those)
B That sought me not.

A I said, "Behold me"; "Behold me," ("Here am I; I am here")
B Unto a nation that (did) not call my name.

Verse 2

A I spread out my hands all the day,
B Unto a rebellious people.

(Who) walketh in way(s) that (are) not good. (ways that break covenants)
(Who) walketh after their own thoughts.

Verse 3

(Who) provoketh me to anger continually to my face,
(Who) sacrificeth in gardens and burneth incense upon altars
of brick.

(Altars of Brick – According to the law of Moses, incense was to be burned only on altars of unhewn stone. Burnt offerings to pagan gods may have been made on rooftops or in the streets, or in the case of incense offerings, bricks may have been heated and then incense sprinkled on the bricks. Ex. 20:24-25; Deut. 27:5-6; Jer. 19:13 UI Pg. 570)

Verse 4

(Who) remain among the graves and lodge in the monuments,
(Who) eat swine's flesh and broth of abominable things in
vessels.

(This statement may refer to an effort to communicate with the spirits of the dead, an action forbidden by the Mosaic law. Lev. 19:31; Deut. 18:10-12; Isa. 8:19 – It also refers to the eating of food sacrificed to other gods or foods forbidden by the Mosaic Law. UI Pg. 571)

Verse 5

(Who) say (think), "Stand by thyself,"
(Who) say (think), "Come not near me, I am holier than thou!"

These are a smoke in my nose,
These are a fire that burneth all the day.

(Smoke in the nose - a constant irritant – constant burning as of trash)

Verse 6

(but)

Behold, it is written before me (decreed), I will not keep silence
(I will not be still) (till I) recompense, even recompense into
their bosom, (their) iniquities and the iniquities of (their)
fathers together, saith the Lord.

Verse 7 (To those who) have burned incense upon the mountains, (who) have blasphemed me upon the hills, I will measure their former work (the payment that has accrued) into their bosom.

(I will not be still – See Isaiah 62:1)

(Into their bosom – This image means close to their heart, where it hurts. The inside front of the garment was used as a pocket to keep money and personal items and payments were kept there (Luke 6:38). UI Pg. 571)

Verse 8 **Thus saith the Lord:**

As the new wine is found in the cluster and one saith, “Destroy it not; for a blessing is in it.”
So will I do for my servants’ sakes, that I may not destroy them all.

Verse 9 (And) I will bring forth seed (offspring) out of Jacob,
(and) I will bring forth out of Judah inheritor(s) of my mountains.

(and) Mine elect shall inherit (them),
My servants shall dwell there.

Verse 10 (And) Sharon shall be a fold of flocks,
(and) The Valley of Achor shall be a place for the herds to lie down in for my people that have sought me.

(Sharon/Achor: Sharon, on the west, was the coastal plain from Carmel south to Joppa (33:9; 35:2). The Israelites marched through the Valley of Achor (perhaps the Wadi Qelt), on the east, to get from Jericho to Judah (Jos. 7:24; 15:7). This expression means that the whole land from east to west will become a place of safety and refuge for the Lord’s people (Hos. 2:15). UI Pg. 574 – See Maps)

Verse 11 **But, (as for):**

Ye that forsake the Lord,
Ye that forget my Holy Mountain.

(and) Ye that prepare a table for that troop (Luck),
Ye that furnish the drink offering unto that number (Fortune).

(“troop” refers to the pagan god Gad, who was “an idol of fortune”; and “number” refers to the pagan god Meni, who was “an idol of fate”. UI Pg. 574)

Verse 12 (Therefore) I will *number* you to the sword,
(and) Ye shall *all* bow down to the slaughter.

(If Israel is going to turn to pagan gods of luck, the Lord is saying, I will *destine* you to destruction by sword. And if Israel is going to bow down to pagan gods, the Lord says, I will yet cause you to bow down to be killed/executed. UI Pg. 574)

(Because)

(For):

When I called, ye did not answer,
When I spake, ye did not hear.

(but)
(and)

(You) did evil before mine eyes,
(You) chose that wherein I delighted not. (what was not my will)

Verse 13

Therefore, thus saith the Lord God:

A Behold, my servants shall eat,
B But ye shall be hungry.

A Behold, my servants shall drink,
B But ye shall be thirsty.

A Behold, my servants shall rejoice,
B But ye shall be ashamed. (dismayed)

Verse 14

A Behold, my servants shall sing for joy of heart,
B But ye shall cry for sorrow of heart and shall howl for vexation of spirit!

Verse 15

(And)
(and)

Ye shall leave your name for a curse, (like Sodom and Gomorrah) (to serve) my chosen, for the Lord God shall slay thee,
He shall call his servants by another name.

Verse 16

(That)
(and)

(They) who (invoke blessings on themselves) in the earth, shall bless (themselves) in the (true God).
(They) who (swear oaths) in the earth, shall swear by the God of Truth.

(Because)
(and)

A The former troubles are forgotten,
B The former troubles are hid from mine eyes.

Verse 17

C For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth:

(and)

A The former (events) shall not be remembered,
B The former (events) shall not come into mind.

Verse 18

(But)

C Be ye glad and rejoice for ever in that which I create:

(The context of this chapter tells us that this renewal refers not to the celestialized earth but to the millennial condition referred to in the tenth Article of Faith: "The earth will be renewed and receive its paradisiacal glory" - see also 2 Pet. 3:10-13; Rev. 21:1-4; D&C 101:23-25. UI Pg. 578)

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| | (For) (and) | A Behold, I create Jerusalem a rejoicing, B I create her people a joy. |
| Verse 19 | (And) (and) | A I will rejoice in Jerusalem, B I will joy in my people. |
| | (and) | The voice of weeping shall be no more heard in her, The voice of crying shall be no more heard in her. |
| Verse 20 | | There shall be no more thence infant ^(s) (alive but a few) days, There shall be no more thence old ^(men) that have not filled (their) days. |
| | (for) (but) | (Those who die young shall be) an hundred years old, (Those who fail to reach an hundred) shall be accursed. |
| Verse 21 | (And) (and) | (When) they shall build houses, (They) shall inhabit them. |
| | (and) (and) | (When) they shall plant vineyards, (They) shall eat the fruit of them. |
| Verse 22 | | They shall not build and another inhabit, They shall not plant and another eat. |
| | (for) (and) | As the days of a tree are the days of my people, Mine elect shall long enjoy ^(outlast) the work of their hands. |
| Verse 23 | | They shall not labour in vain, They shall not bring forth ^(bear children) ^(doomed for calamity) . |
| | (for) (and) | They are the seed ^(lineage) of ^(those) blessed of the Lord, Their offspring ^(posterity) with them. |
| Verse 24 | (And it shall come to pass that) | Before they call, I will answer. While they are yet speaking, I will hear. |
| Verse 25 | | The wolf and the lamb shall feed together and the lion shall eat straw like the bullock; dust shall be the serpent's meat, "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my Holy Mountain," saith the Lord. |

