

Leftover question from Week One (last week):

“Don’t Jews trace their lineage through the mother?”

Matrilineal descent=tracing descent through the mother. Jewish communities have practiced matrilineal descent from at least early Tannaitic (c. 10-70 CE) times and continue today.

Why? Spiritually, it had to do with a soul’s “quickenings,” movement, which the mother helped nurture during pregnancy. Practically, says Dr. Tom Ridenhour, my former Prophets professor at Gettysburg (retired to Concord, NC), it’s much more practical, especially with post-exilic and post-Christian Jewish purity concerns. Simply put (prior to DNA testing of late 20th century CE), one can’t be completely sure who one’s father is, but it’s clear and obvious, presumably with witnesses, who one’s mother is.

Where do atheists donate their money?

Non Prophet Organizations



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1:1 The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

2 Hear, O heavens, and listen, O earth;
for the Lord has spoken:

I reared children and brought them up,
but they have rebelled against me.

3 The ox knows its owner,
and the donkey its master's crib;
but Israel does not know,
my people do not understand.

4 Ah, sinful nation,
people laden with iniquity,
offspring who do evil,
children who deal corruptly,
who have forsaken the Lord,
who have despised the Holy One of Israel,
who are utterly estranged!

5 Why do you seek further beatings?

Why do you continue to rebel?

The whole head is sick,

and the whole heart faint.

6 From the sole of the foot even to the head,

there is no soundness in it,

but bruises and sores and bleeding wounds;

they have not been drained, or bound up,

or softened with oil.

7 Your country lies desolate,
your cities are burned with fire;
in your very presence
aliens devour your land;
it is desolate, as overthrown by
foreigners.

8 And daughter Zion is left
like a booth in a vineyard,
like a shelter in a cucumber field,
like a besieged city.

9 If the Lord of hosts
had not left us a few survivors,
we would have been like Sodom,
and become like Gomorrah.

10 Hear the word of the Lord,
you rulers of Sodom!

Listen to the teaching of our God,
you people of Gomorrah!

11 What to me is the multitude of your
sacrifices?

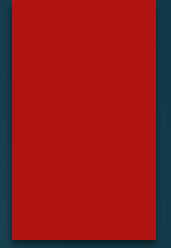
says the Lord;

I have had enough of burnt offerings of
rams

and the fat of fed beasts;

I do not delight in the blood of bulls,
or of lambs, or of goats.

12 When you come to appear before me,
who asked this from your hand?



Trample my courts no more;

13 bringing offerings is futile;

incense is an abomination to me.

New moon and sabbath and calling of convocation—

I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.

14 Your new moons and your appointed festivals
my soul hates;

they have become a burden to me,

I am weary of bearing them.

15 When you stretch out your hands,
I will hide my eyes from you;
even though you make many prayers,
I will not listen;
your hands are full of blood.

16 Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;
remove the evil of your doings
from before my eyes;
cease to do evil,

17 learn to do good;
seek justice,
rescue the oppressed,
defend the orphan,
plead for the widow.

18 Come now, let us argue it out,
says the Lord:

though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be like snow;

though they are red like crimson,
they shall become like wool.

19 If you are willing and obedient,
you shall eat the good of the land;

20 but if you refuse and rebel,
you shall be devoured by the sword;
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

21 How the faithful city
has become a whore!

She that was full of justice,
righteousness lodged in her—
but now murderers!

22 Your silver has become dross,
your wine is mixed with water.

23 Your princes are rebels
and companions of thieves.

Everyone loves a bribe
and runs after gifts.

They do not defend the orphan,
and the widow's cause does not come
before them.

24 Therefore says the Sovereign, the Lord of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel:

Ah, I will pour out my wrath on my enemies, and avenge myself on my foes!

25 I will turn my hand against you;

I will smelt away your dross as with lye and remove all your alloy.

26 And I will restore your judges as at the first, and your counselors as at the beginning.

Afterward you shall be called the city of righteousness, the faithful city.

27 Zion shall be redeemed by justice,
and those in her who repent, by righteousness.

28 But rebels and sinners shall be destroyed together,
and those who forsake the Lord shall be consumed.

29 For you shall be ashamed of the oaks
in which you delighted;
and you shall blush for the gardens
that you have chosen.

30 For you shall be like an oak
whose leaf withers,
and like a garden without water.

31 The strong shall become like tinder,
and their work like a spark;
they and their work shall burn together,
with no one to quench them.

Ch 2 v 1 The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

- 2 In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.
- 3 Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
- 4 He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

I LOVE THIS WHOLE END OF TIMES SECTION, JUST LOSE THIS BIT ABOUT COVID-19 (THAT SEEMS TOO SPECIFIC EVEN FOR YOU) AND WE ARE READY TO PUBLISH.



Arie Van De Graaff

ISAIAH'S EDITOR

Ch 5 Let me sing for my beloved my love-song
concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

2 He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it
with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst
of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it
to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

3 And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of
Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.

4 What more was there to do for my vineyard that I
have not done in it?

When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?

The Call of Isaiah



Chapter 6: The Call of Isaiah

6 In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. 2 Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. 3 And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.”

4 The pivots[a] on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. 5 And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"

6 Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. 7 The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out."

8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,
“Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”
And I said, “Here am I; send me!” 9 And he
said, “Go and say to this people:

‘Keep listening, but do not comprehend;
keep looking, but do not understand.’
10 Make the mind of this people dull,
and stop their ears,
and shut their eyes,
so that they may not look with their eyes,
and listen with their ears,
and comprehend with their minds,
and turn and be healed.”

11 Then I said, "How long, O Lord?" And he said:

"Until cities lie waste

without inhabitant,

and houses without people,

and the land is utterly desolate;

12 until the Lord sends everyone far away,

and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land.

13 Even if a tenth part remain in it,

it will be burned again,

like a terebinth or an oak

whose stump remains standing

when it is felled."

The holy seed is its stump.

Isaiah Gives Ahaz the Sign of Immanuel

Ch. 7:10 Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, 11 Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. 12 But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. 13 Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? 14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

Translation dilemma for Christian history/faith:

In original Hebrew of Isaiah 7:14 the word almah meant a young woman of childbearing age who had not yet given birth. There are two separate Hebrew words which mean "virgin" in the sense of no sexual experience. Neither is used here. However, the Greek translation of the Old Testament, the Septuagint, rendered it as parthenos, which can mean virgin or maiden. Purely academic scholars agree almah in Isa 7:14 has nothing to do with virginity.

Sep·tu·a·gint /'septō̄ə,jint/ noun

a Greek version of the Hebrew Bible (or Old Testament), including the Apocrypha, made for Greek-speaking Jews in Egypt in the 3rd and 2nd centuries BC and assumed authoritative/adopted by the early Christian Churches, including Gospel authors.