THINGS THAT MAKE GOD SICK

**DATE:**

**TEXT: Isaiah 1:10-15**

**INTRODUCTION**

Have you ever had to deal with someone who did or said something that was disgusting or made you sick?

As a boy, I remember the kids in school that would do stupid things to gross out the girls or play pranks on other people

They were so disgusting that I don’t even want to talk about what they did!

We’ve all met people who’ve disgusted us because of their selfishness, insensitivity, hypocrisy, or harshness

You might say, their Nonsense Nauseated you

As we continue our study in this first chapter of Isaiah,

We find that God could not stand what the people of Israel were doing

He more or less *had it* with them, and was disgusted with their spiritual hypocrisy

The fact that the Lord was disgusted with His people and made no bones about it …

Ought to grab our attention and cause us to sit up and take notice of what was infuriating God

What in the world did Israel do that nauseated God?

That is where we are going to focus our attention

We will also see that we are very capable of making the same mistakes ourselves (If we are not careful)

The Mistake of making God sick and disgusted with us

… If, like Israel, we follow the same path

We will find that we can be faithful to church every Sunday,

But still nauseate the Lord by neglecting the right attitudes that God considers to be important

We will find that our spiritual rituals don’t amount to a hill of beans to God …

If our worship is void of those things that God considers to be absolutely crucial

Let's begin and see what we can learn from Israel's mistakes and the nonsense in their lives that nauseated God

Why? That we might avoid them!

Let’s pray and then look at …

**“The Things that Made God Sick”**

**~~~Prayer~~~**

First, let’s look at …

**I. THEIR “INDIFFERENCE TOWARD GOD’S WORD” – v. 10**

***“Hear the Word of the LORD, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah”***

Israel had become indifferent toward God

Because they didn’t care what God had to say

They were Out of Touch with God

**A. Their ‘Perversity’**

God was so fed up with the wickedness of His people

… That He likens Israel to Sodom & Gomorrah

***“ye rulers of Sodom”*  *“ye people of Gomorrah”***

The fact that Israel was compared to these two wicked cities demonstrates the extent of their perversion

Undoubtedly, homosexuality had become a part of the culture

Perversity was Prominent in Israel and it made God sick

The people were filthy, yet, they put on a spiritual front as they offered their offerings to God

We see that going on today …

-- Log Cabin Republicans (LGBT)

-- Main Line Denominations

-- Emerging Church and modern (so-called) worship

-- Religious but lost

**II Timothy 3:5 *– “Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away”***

**Their ‘Perversity’**

**B. Their ‘Practice’**

Isaiah says here …

***“Hear the Word of the LORD,” “give ear unto the law of our God,”***

Their Practiced was to **Not** Listen to what God had to say

Isaiah tells them to - ***“Hear the Word of the LORD!”***

Listen up people! It was obvious they weren’t

The word *“****Hear****”* is a command that not only means *to listen* but it means *to listen and obey*

God's people needed to listen to what God was saying and then live it!

They were unwilling to do this, which in turn created a lifestyle that made God sick

It’s not enough to come to church and hear sermons

I’m glad that you come, but the question we should be asking ourselves is why I come

If you come but don’t put the Bible into practice,

God is not impressed …

And you have not benefitted from what you have heard

Listening is not enough

There must be practical application of what is heard

Failure to do so is a waste, and an indication of a person's true attitude toward God

The Bible addresses this issue in other places

[**James 1:22**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jas+1%3A22) **– *“But be ye doers of the Word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves”***

[**Luke 6:46**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lk+6%3A46) **– *“And why call ye Me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?”***

[**Luke 11:28**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lk+11%3A28) **– *“But He said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the Word of God, and keep it”***

[**Luke 12:47**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lk+12%3A47) **– *“And that servant, which knew his lord's will, and prepared not himself, neither did according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes”***

[**John 13:17**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jn+13%3A17) **– *“If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them”***

[**Roman 2:13**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ro+2%3A13) **– *“For not the hearers of the law are just***

***… before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified”***

[**I John 2:3**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Jn+2%3A3) **– *“And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments”***

A lot of people come to church, never intending to do anything with what they hear

Let me ask, *Are you really listening to what the Lord is saying to you?*

If not, your nonsense nauseates the Lord

THEIR **“INDIFFERENCE TOWARD GOD’S WORD”**

Next, let’s look at …

**II. THEIR “INSINCERITY IN WORSHIP” - vs. 11-13 …**

The issue at hand in these verses is the insincerity of God's people in their worship of God

Insincerity, lack of genuine devotion, lack of faith, and a lack of obedience was nonsense that nauseated God

Even though they outwardly went through the motions of worshiping God, inwardly they were still rebellious

Their problem was a problem that continues to grip Christianity today

Christians (so-called) who attend church with hearts of rebellion

Isaiah pointed out that insincerity and a lack of genuine devotion to the Lord lead to a number of problems

Insincerity leads to …

**A. Corruption**

God's people had become rebellious, sinful, and violent

Their hands were full of blood

**v.15 – *“your hands are full of blood”***

We might say – *You have blood on your hands*

They had become so violent and abusive toward one another (To the extent they shed blood)

[**Isaiah 59:3**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Isa+59%3A3) **– *“For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness”***

[**Ezekiel 7:23**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Eze+7%3A23) **– *“Make a chain: for the land is full of bloody crimes, and the city is full of violence”***

Beloved, Wickedness and Worship do not go together and are unacceptable with God

This kind of attitude is nonsense that nauseates God

By continuing in their sin, God's people revealed their true attitude toward God

Insincerity leads to …

**B. Contradiction**

Their outward worship was a Contradiction of what was taking place inwardly

For example,

The Burnt Offering was intended to express *Exaltation*, *Total Surrender* and *Dedication* to the Lord’s will

The Fat in this Offering was an expression of *Giving Someone's Best to God*

Yet, that’s not what they were doing

God was not first at all

He was on the back burner somewhere while other matters were much more important

They were going through the motions with their spiritual rituals

God did not want their bulls, lambs, or goats?

He wanted His people to offer their hearts in faith, devotion, and obedience

He expects the same from all us

Let me add here that it is not enough to be sincere in your worship even though sincerity is important

Many are sincere

They want to pretend to live for God, but never take the steps necessity to surrender to Him

The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak

God wants your heart and your obedience …

That's what impresses God

**1.** He wants us to have a Saintly Walk

[**Micah 6:6-8**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mic+6%3A6-8) **– *“Wherewith shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old?” “Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” “He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?”***

**2.** He wants us to have a Sold Out, Sensitive Heart toward Him

[**Psalm 34:18**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+34%3A18) **– *“The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit”***

[**Psalm 51:17**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+51%3A17) **– *“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise”***

**3.** He wants us to be Submissive to His Word and Will

[**I Samuel 15:22**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Sa+15%3A22) **– *“And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams”***

Insincerity leads to …

**C. Confusion**

*Perplexed, uncertain, no clear direction, disorder*

Confusion about the Truth

Israel had substituted their standard of worship in place of God's standards

They substituted their sacrifices, in place of obedience, thinking this would be acceptable to God

Their numerous offerings were substitutes for repentance to help them feel better about themselves

**v. 11a – *“To what purpose is the multitude of your sacrifices unto Me?”***

God, however, was not impressed with all their sacrifices because they did not offer their hearts to Him as a living sacrifice

Paul spoke about the importance of this

[**Romans 12:1**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ro+12%3A1) **– *“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a***

***… living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service”***

Isaiah pointed out that the Lord considered their trips to the Temple useless

They were wasting their time with their hypocrisy and pretending

**v.12 – *“When ye come to appear before Me, who hath required this at your hand, to tread My courts?”***

Their consecration was counterfeit

It wasn't real, what they were offering was not what the Lord wanted

These insincere people created their own standard of what was acceptable with God

Christians do the same thing today when they think that just attending church makes their lives acceptable to the Lord

If you have not given your whole heart to the Lord, then your worship of Him is a farce

And the guilt and conviction will Not go away until you finally repent, get your life right with the Lord, and truly give Him your all

**Matthew 22:37 *– “Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind”***

Insincerity leads to …

**D. Confrontation**

**Ill.** The Queen Mary was the largest ship to cross the oceans when it was launched in 1936. Through four decades and a world war, she served until she was retired, anchored as a floating hotel and museum in Long Beach, California. During the conversion, her three massive smoke-stacks were taken off to be scraped down and repainted, but on the dock they crumbled. Nothing was left of the 3/4” steel plate from which the stacks had been formed. Why?

All that remained were more than thirty coats of paint that had been applied over the years. The steel had rusted away, leaving an empty shell of paint.

This story illustrates what happened to God's people in Israel

They were rotten on the inside

God confronted them for their hypocrisy and fake devotion

**v. 13a - *“Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto Me;”***

He considered their offerings or oblations to be worthless, empty, or vain

The phrase ***“vain oblations”*** means *offerings of nothing*

Their efforts were hollow, empty, and a waste of time

The incense they offered with the sacrifice was to provide a pleasant aroma during the sacrifice

Instead it nauseated God

In fact, it was an Abomination to God and absolutely detesting

It would be a sad day when finally arriving in heaven and finding out all you thought you were doing was honoring God …

When in reality, it was worthless, vain, and empty

Most people don’t like confrontation

**v.13b – *“the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot … away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting”***

God more or less said, *Get it out of here!*

Their special times of worship and celebration of the Sabbaths, the new moons each month, and the solemn feasts during the year had basically become a social, party time

… Instead of a time to get close to the Lord

Beloved, worship is to bring pleasure to God and praise Him

Most people think it is for them

God, however, was not pleased at all with their sham spirituality and phony-baloney beliefs

The Lord told them that He had it with them, Enough!

He says – Don’t offer Me any more of your junk!

Get it out of My face! I have had it with you!

[**Jeremiah 6:20**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jer+6%3A20) **– *“To what purpose cometh there to Me incense from Sheba, and the sweet cane from a far country? your burnt offerings are not acceptable, nor your sacrifices sweet unto Me”***

Insincerity is a …

**E. Consequence of Wrong Priorities**

Insincerity is the consequence of seeking the wrong things

When something else becomes more important to us than our relationship and devotion to God

… We are insincere in our devotion to Him

How does a person become insincere?

What is so important … that the person becomes hypocritical?

Repeatedly in the Bible, we are warned to remove hypocrisy from our lives

It is repeated often because of its constant threat

Hypocrisy in the Christian is nonsense that nauseates God

That’s why it needs to be flushed from our lives

[**I Peter 2:1**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Pe+2%3A1) **– *“Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,”***

The words ***“laying aside”*** mean *to strip off and throw down*

It is a word of intensity and force

This word could be used to describe throwing something down deliberately

We are to avoid, thrust away, or shun hypocrisy in our lives

We are to avoid it like the plague

Here’s why …

**1**. Hypocrisy affects our Profession

**Matthew 15:7, 8 – *“Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying,” “This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me”***

**Isaiah 29:13 – *“Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near me with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me, and their fear toward me is taught by the precept of men:”***

**Ill.** A farmer once related how the best of dogs will sometimes be taken with the desire to kill sheep. The killing was always done at night. The guilty dog would always endeavor to tempt other dogs to go with him and, if possible, …

… lay the blame with them. When this madness of sheep killing is on him, the dog will assume during the day, at the house and around the barn, an unusually genial and friendly air. At night he goes into a fit of slaughter. His outward appearance is fake.

Such is the behavior of the hypocrite

Jonah professed to be a prophet of the Lord, but his devotion was insincere because he ran from God's command

God was so nauseated that He prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah

Ananias and Sapphira professed their devotion to the Lord in their giving, but in reality, they held back what they pledged

They lied about their devotion and they were smitten by the Lord

It wasn’t that Jonah didn’t go, or this couple held back part of the price …

But rather their hypocrisy of Devotion

We are not to be like Delilah who professed an insincere love and devotion to Samson

She was only concerned about herself and her reward

Our devotion to the Lord is to be real

We are to put our *walk* behind our *talk*

We are to be Christ-like in several areas of our lives

-- In our Actions

-- In our Attitudes

-- In our Attire and Appearance

-- In our Articulation

That is, how we express ourselves

[**Philippians 1:10**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Php+1%3A10) **– *“That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;”***

Paul prayed that we would all be sincere

This is the first time the word ***“sincere”*** appears in our Bible

The word ***“sincere”*** means *without wax, unmixed or pure*

Ancient dealers of porcelain filled the cracks of damaged porcelain or pottery with wax

An honest dealer would describe a perfect piece with the words “*sin cera”* which means *without wax*

If the customer doubted the dealer's integrity, he would sun-test the pottery by holding it up to the sun to reveal any cracks in the pot

So the word ***“sincere”*** suggests a pure or tested character, genuine, without hypocrisy or falsehood

This is a truth that is found throughout the New Testament

Paul’s prayer is for moral purity, sincerity, and genuineness among Christians

As we expose ourselves to the light of God's Word,

As we are *Son-tested* by Jesus Christ,

We should be found without wax …

Genuine on the inside as well as the outside

Let’s not be hypocrites

**Humor:** One night at a revival meeting, one of the members of a church who had a habit of being hypocritical came to the prayer meeting which took place before the revival each night. He prayed with one of the godly deacons of the church who was very aware of this man's weakness and hypocrisy. The hypocrite began to pray and in his prayer he cried out, *“Lord, fill me! Lord, fill me!”* The deacon who was praying with him could not keep quiet any longer and prayed, *“Don't do it Lord! He leaks!”*

Let me ask - Do you leak?

We are to have a transparent character,

Our lives bearing witness of what is already in the heart

The Christian is to be the opposite of the hypocrite

**2.** Hypocrisy affects our Praying

**Matthew 6:5 – *“And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward”***

**3.** Hypocrisy affects our Pursuit of Wisdom

**Proverbs 4:7 *– “Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding”***

**James 3:17 – *“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy”***

Godly wisdom is ***“without hypocrisy”***

This phrase means *undisguised, sincere, without play-acting, genuine*

A hypocrite in ancient Greece was a person who played the part of an actor

This word refers to a person who acts differently than what he really is

Worldly wisdom is insincere many times, but God's wisdom is characterized by openness, plainness, and honesty

What we ARE is important to the Lord

The wisdom from above causes us to be genuine and the wisdom of this world … hypocritical

To be a Christian, and not live the Christian life, is to be a fake

**4.** Hypocrisy affects the Payment of our Tithe

**Matthew 6:2 – *“Therefore when thou doest thine alms (giving), do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward”***

**5.** Hypocrisy affects our Periods of Fasting

**Matthew 6:16 – *“Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward”***

**6.** Hypocrisy affects our Passion or Love for Others

**Romans 12:9 *– “Let love be without dissimulation. Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good”***

***“dissimulation”*** – means *to disguise or hide true feelings, thoughts, or intentions*

Insincerity or hypocrisy in the life of the Christian, demonstrate that he is either rebellious or he has a serious case of spiritual lukewarmness

Spiritual lukewarmness is nonsense that nauseates God

It is disgusting to Him (literally)

**Revelation 3:15, 16 *– “I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot” “So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of My mouth”***

Israel’s problem was …

**THEIR “INSINCERITY IN WORSHIP”**

**THEIR “INDIFFERENCE TOWARD GOD’S WORD”**

Now we have spent a lot of time on Israel’s Insincerity

So lastly, let’s turn our attention to …

**III. THEIR “IRRITATION OF THE LORD” - vs. 14, 15**

The nonsense of God's people not only nauseated God, but infuriated Him

The feasts and festivals which were for the purpose of honoring God,

Disgusted the Lord / He hated them

**v. 14 – *“Your new moons and your appointed feasts My soul hateth: they are a trouble unto Me; I am weary to bear them”***

They troubled Him because of their Insincerity, Hypocrisy, and Disobedience

He was weary or impatient with their phoniness

If the Lord was impatient and tired of their phoniness,

Don't you think He feels the same way when we behave just like these folks?

You better believe it!

A good question to ask ourselves is this …

*Do I irritate the Lord by the way I live?*

**v.15 – *“And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood”***

When these folks offered up their hands in prayer

The Lord told them He would not give them the time of day

He would turn away and not listen

They were more or less a joke to God

**Proverbs 1:26 *– “I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh;”***

Can our prayers still go unanswered today?

Yes they can, and the Lord has given us a number of reasons why (I’ve listed 15)

These aren’t necessarily in any order of importance

Nor are they exhaustive

**1. Refusing to Listen to God's Truth**

Why should God answer your prayers when you have no regard for His Word or commands?

**Proverbs 28:9 *–“He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination”***

**2. Refusing to Humble Ourselves**

[**II Chronicles 7:14**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ch+7%3A14) **– *“If my people, which are called by My Name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My Face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land”***

**3. Rejecting God Rule over Our Lives**

[**II Chronicles 15:2**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=2Ch+15%3A2) **– *“And he went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin; The Lord is with you, while ye be with Him; and if ye seek Him, He will be found of you; but if ye forsake Him, He will forsake you”***

**4. Ruffling the Lord or Reviving His Anger**

[**Deuteronomy 3:26a**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Dt+3%3A26) **– *“But the Lord was wroth with me for your sakes, and would not hear me …”***

**5. Rock-like Heart or Hardheartedness**

Stubbornness toward the Lord stifles His answers

[**Zechariah 7:12, 13**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Zec+7%3A12-13) **– *“Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant (determined) stone, lest they should hear the law, and the Words which the LORD of hosts hath sent in His spirit by the former prophets: therefore came a great wrath from the LORD of hosts” “Therefore it is come to pass, that as He cried, and they would not hear; so they cried, and I would not hear, saith the LORD of hosts:”***

**6. No Regard for the Poor**

[**Proverbs 21:13**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Pr+21%3A13) **- *“Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard”***

**7. Regarding Iniquity in Our Hearts**

[**Psalm 66:18**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Ps+66%3A18) **– *“If I regard (think about, contemplate) iniquity in my heart, the LORD will not hear me:”***

**8. Rotten Reasons or Motives for Praying**

**James 4:3 – *“Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts”***

**9. Reprehensible Treatment of Our Wives**

Be careful how you treat your wife

[**I Peter 3:7**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=1Pe+3%3A7) **– *“Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered”***

**10. Resistance to Belief in the Lord**

Unbelief leads to unanswered prayers

[**Matthew 17:19-21**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+17%3A19-21)**- “*Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out?” “And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you” “Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting”***

[**Matthew 21:22**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+21%3A22) **– *“And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive”***

**11. Reprobate or Sinful Living**

Don't expect to have your prayers answered when you're living an ungodly life

[**Isaiah 59:2**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Isa+59%3A2) **– *“But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear”***

[**John 9:31**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jn+9%3A31) **– *“Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him He heareth”***

**12. Repetitions that are Empty or Vain**

Mere empty words that have no faith or devotion to the Lord are not going to be answered

[**Matthew 6:7**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mt+6%3A7) **– *“But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking”***

**13. Resistance toward the Forgiveness of Others**

An unforgiving spirit will hinder your prayer life

[**Mark 11:25, 26**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Mk+11%3A25-26) **– *“And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses” “But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses”***

**14. Reverence for Yourself or Self Righteousness**

A self-righteous attitude disgusts God and will hinder our prayers

[**Luke 18:9-14**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Lk+18%3A9-14) **– *“And He spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:” “Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican” “The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican” “I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess” “And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner” “I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted”***

**15. Rickety, Unstable Faith**

[**James 1:5-7**](http://www.crossbooks.com/verse.asp?ref=Jas+1%3A5-7) **– *“If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him” “But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed” “For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord”***

Did you notice how each one of those had something to do with God not hearing our Prayers

**CONCLUSION**

Wow! There’s a lot to deal with here

I hope we seriously think about what God had to say to the Nation of Israel

Because God is no respecter of person

Therefore what made God Sick about Israel …

Will also Make God sick about us

Let’s Heed the Warnings!

**THEIR “INDIFFERENCE TOWARD GOD’S WORD”**

**THEIR “INSINCERITY IN WORSHIP”**

**THEIR “IRRITATION OF THE LORD”**