

**I**'m Having Trouble Hearing You. *Isaiah 59*  
 Listen, the Lord's hand is not too short that it cannot save; neither is his hearing so dull that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have resulted in his face being hidden from you, so that he does not hear. *Isaiah 59:1-2*

**What is the problem? Is it that God cannot hear or that God does not hear? Is he just not listening or is the noise we create too loud for him to hear through? Could he hear through that noise, even, or has he chosen not to hear in order to get our attention?**

**The Weight of the Burden, 59:9-15**

- Depression, 59:9-11: \_\_\_\_\_
- Visible sin: "We have been found out?" 59:12-13: \_\_\_\_\_
- Loss of justice and equality, 59:13-14: \_\_\_\_\_
- The just and righteous have become a prey, 59:15: \_\_\_\_\_

- **The Noise in the World Today: do you think it might be? . . .**
  - Politics and power? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Demands for "justice?" \_\_\_\_\_
  - Demands for "rights?" \_\_\_\_\_
  - Desire for notoriety and success? \_\_\_\_\_
- **Drowning out the sound of**
  - Real people in need? \_\_\_\_\_
  - The need for true justice? \_\_\_\_\_
  - The struggle for righteousness? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Authentic worship? \_\_\_\_\_

**Where did Israel, and specifically Judah, stand?**

- An expansion, or recapitulation, of the judgment of Is. 1:4-15 and 58:1-5.

- "Iniquity:" \_\_\_\_\_
- Corruption: \_\_\_\_\_
- Indolence: \_\_\_\_\_
- With the call of these same chapters to:
  - "Change direction ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) 1:16.
  - Appropriate worship,
    - 1:12-15: \_\_\_\_\_
    - 58:13-14: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Practice justice and righteousness
    - 1:17: \_\_\_\_\_
    - 58:6-7: \_\_\_\_\_
- And the promise of
  - Prosperity, 1:19: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Peace from anxiety and depression, 58:10-11: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Joy, 58:14: \_\_\_\_\_
- **OR**, if these changes don't occur:
  - Judgment, 1:20: \_\_\_\_\_

**But, there has been a change in plan, or at least it appears that way:**

*And He saw that there was no man, and was astonished that there was no one to intercede; then His own arm brought salvation to Him and His righteousness upheld Him. 59:16*

- **3500 years of written history tells us:** \_\_\_\_\_
- **The Biblical record of the nature of organized humanity also speaks of our consistent** \_\_\_\_\_.
- **The Bible also records the attempts of God to urge and guide us toward "correct" behavior:** \_\_\_\_\_.
- **And it repeatedly speaks to God's redemptive purpose, yet mankind has never stopped seeking an alternative, a plan of its own:** \_\_\_\_\_.

*God has made himself known by personally approaching human beings and involving himself in their lives. The history is there for all who wish to see. But no one has to see—now.*  
**Dallas Willard; The Divine Conspiracy.**