

**Title: Conversations**

**Subtitle: Corrupt Religious Leadership**

**Second Subtitle: Corrupt Religious Leadership**

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Isaiah 1:23 your rulers are rebellious, and companions of thieves; every one pursuing rewards; they do not judge the orphan, nor does the cause of the poor.

Isaiah 3:12 As for my people, children are their taskmasters, and women oppress their people, your rulers cause you to go astray and destroy the way of your peace.

Isaiah 3:14 Jehovah will enter into judgment with the elders of His people; because they have eaten up the vineyard; the spoil of the poor is in your houses.

Isaiah 9:16 For the leaders of this people led them astray; and their guidance is as a snare.

Isaiah 52:5 Now therefore, what have I here, says Jehovah, that My people have said nothing? Those who rule make them howl, says Jehovah; and without ceasing they have blasphemed every day.

Isaiah 56:10-12 His watchmen are blind; they are all ignorant; they are asleep, dreaming, lying down, loving to slumber. (11) Yea, they are greedy enough; and they are shepherds who cannot understand. They all look to their own gain, to his own end. (12) They say, come, Let us take wine, and tomorrow shall be like today, and much more abundant.

Jeremiah 23:1-4 Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of Jehovah. (2) Therefore so says Jehovah, the God of Israel, against the shepherds of the people, You have scattered My flock, and have driven them away, and have not sought them. Behold, I will bring on you the evil of your doings, says Jehovah. (3) And I will gather My flock out of all countries where I have driven them, and will bring them back to their own land; they shall be fruitful and multiply. (4) And I will set up shepherds over them; they shall fear no more, nor be afraid; nor shall they lack anything, says Jehovah.

Ezekiel 34:1-8 And the Word of Jehovah came to me, saying, (2) Son of man, you are a shepherd of the shepherds of Israel. Prophecy and say to them, So says the Lord Jehovah, I have sought for the shepherds of Israel who feed themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the fat and clothe yourselves with the wool; you kill the fat ones, but you do not feed the weak. You have not made the weak strong, nor have you healed the sick, nor have you bound the broken. You have not brought again those driven away, nor have you sought those who were scattered; you have ruled them with force and with cruelty. (5) And they were scattered because there was no shepherd, and they became food to all the beasts of the field when they were scattered; and they wandered through all the mountains and on every high hill. Yea, My flock was scattered because there was no shepherd, and none searched nor sought for them. (7) Therefore, says Jehovah: (8) As I live, says the Lord Jehovah, surely because My flock was scattered because there was no shepherd, I will be a shepherd to them, and I will save them from all hands.

flock became food to every beast of the field, because there was no shepherd to search for My flock, but the shepherds fed themselves and did not feed My flock.

Ezekiel 22:26-27 Her priests have broken My Law and have defiled My holy name by making a difference between the holy and the common, and have not taught between the clean and the unclean, and have hidden their eyes from My sabbaths, and I am defiled among the nations. Her rulers and her midst are like wolves tearing the prey, to shed blood and to destroy the soul.

Micah 7:3 Both hands are on evil, to do it well. The ruler asks for a bribe, and the great man speaks the evil desire of his soul. So they weave it together.

Micah 3:9-12 Please hear this, heads of the house of Jacob, and magistrates who hate justice and pervert all equity. (10) They build up Zion with blood and iniquity. (11) Her heads judge for a bribe, and her priests teach for pay, silver, yet they will lean on Jehovah and say, Is not Jehovah among us? Therefore, on account of you, Zion shall be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem and the mountain of the house into high places of the forest.

Hosea 4:6 My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have despised My Law, you will also reject you from being priest to Me. Since you have forgotten the Law, you forget your sons, even I.

Hosea 8:4 They have set up kings, but not by Me; they have made rulers, but have made themselves idols with their silver and their gold, so that they shall be as chaff.

Jeremiah 5:30-31 An astounding and horrible thing has happened in the land; the prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people do not understand. What will you do at the end of it?

Jeremiah 6:13 For everyone from the least of them even to the greatest of them, from the prophet even to the priest everyone deals falsely.

Jeremiah 10:21 For the pastors have become stupid, and have not sought Me; therefore shall not be blessed, and all their flocks shall be scattered.

Malachi 2:7-9 For the priest's lips should guard knowledge, and they should not be silent; for he is the messenger of Jehovah of Hosts. (8) But you have turned away from the Law, and have caused many to stumble at the law. You have corrupted the covenant between Me and you, says Jehovah of Hosts. (9) Therefore I have also made you despised and low before all the people, because you have not kept My ways but are lifting up faces in the law.

Zephaniah 3:3-4 Her rulers within her are roaring lions; her judges even gnaw bones for the morning. (4) Her prophets are proud, men of deceit; they have despised My Law; they have done violence to the Law.

Zechariah 7:5-14 Speak to all the people of the land, and to the priests, saying, Thus says Jehovah of Hosts, the God of Israel, who have mourned in the fifth and seventh months, even those seventy years, did you fast for Me? (6) And when you ate, and when you drank, was it not for you the eaters and drinkers? (7) Are not these the Words which Jehovah proclaimed by the prophets of your fathers, saying, Thus says Jehovah of Hosts, the God of Israel, that if you would have

Jerusalem was inhabited, and prosperous, and her cities all around her, Shephelah were inhabited? (8) And the Word of Jehovah came to Zechariah, Jehovah of Hosts, saying, Judge true judgment, and practice kindness and brotherly love. (10) And do not crush the widow or the orphan, the alien or the stranger in your heart, of a man against his brother. (11) But they refused to listen with their ear, and made heavy their ears from hearing. (12) And they made their hearts fat, and refused to hear, and they did not hear the Law and the Words which Jehovah of Hosts has sent through his prophets. And great wrath came from Jehovah of Hosts. (13) And it will be said, I did not listen, so they called, and I did not listen, says Jehovah of Hosts, away on all the nations whom they did not know. And the land has been wasted, and is passing and from returning; for they made the land of desire a waste.