

Skin-Deep Religion

Isaiah 58

August 25, 2024

Homework: Isaiah 60-62

The Issue introduced: Skin-deep religion		1-3a
• The prophet is commanded: Make some noise!	1	
• The problem: The Illusion of Piety	2-3a	
○ “Seem” / “As if” / “Seem”		
○ “What a waste of time!”- God has not noticed.		
Clarification & Correction:		3b-5
• Skin-Deep Religion	3b-5	
○ World-class Hypocrisy (see Jesus & the Pharisees!)		
○ Outward Ritual and Inward Decay (see Matthew 23:27-28)		
○ Is that the purpose God intended?		
What Should Be Done & the Results		3b-14
• Cycle 1 Correct Action: True Fasting		6-7
○ Ritual vs. People		
○ Justice, Mercy, Kindness (see Matthew 25:31-46; Luke 3:11 & 8)		
• Cycle 1 Result: Blessing upon Blessing	8-9a	
○ Light! (see Isaiah 49:6; 60:1)		
○ Answered prayer/ Presence of the LORD		
• Cycle 2 Correct Action: Agents of Change	9b-10a	
• Cycle 2 Result: Amazing Transformation	10b-12	
○ Light! (see above!)		
○ Provision and Restoration		
• Cycle 3 Correct Action: Delighting In God	13	
○ Living to please God, not ourselves.		
• Cycle 3 Result: The Joy of the LORD	14	

Keys:

- Are you going through the motions/ putting on a show?
- Delight in the LORD!

Application:

- Love God & love people.