

**Study 103: Isaiah, Part 59**

**Isaiah 59**

<sup>8</sup> The way of peace they do not know;  
there is no justice in their paths.  
They have turned them into crooked roads;  
no one who walks along them will know peace.

<sup>9</sup> So justice is far from us,  
and righteousness does not reach us.  
We look for light, but all is darkness;  
for brightness, but we walk in deep shadows.

<sup>10</sup> Like the blind we grope along the wall,  
feeling our way like people without eyes.  
At midday we stumble as if it were twilight;  
among the strong, we are like the dead.

<sup>11</sup> We all growl like bears;  
we moan mournfully like doves.  
We look for justice, but find none;  
for deliverance, but it is far away.

<sup>12</sup> For our offenses are many in your sight,  
and our sins testify against us.  
Our offenses are ever with us,  
and we acknowledge our iniquities:

<sup>13</sup> rebellion and treachery against the Lord,  
turning our backs on our God,  
inciting revolt and oppression,  
uttering lies our hearts have conceived.

<sup>14</sup> So justice is driven back,  
and righteousness stands at a distance;  
truth has stumbled in the streets,  
honesty cannot enter.

<sup>15</sup> Truth is nowhere to be found,  
and whoever shuns evil becomes a prey.  
The Lord looked and was displeased  
that there was no justice.

<sup>16</sup> He saw that there was no one,  
he was appalled that there was no one to intervene; [i.e., none righteous to atone, intercede, or act as a mediator]  
**so his own arm achieved salvation for him,**  
**and his own righteousness sustained him.**

<sup>17</sup> **He put on righteousness as his breastplate,**  
**and the helmet of salvation on his head; [cp. Eph 6:10-17]**  
**he put on the garments of vengeance**  
**and wrapped himself in zeal as in a cloak. [cp. Luke 21:22]**