

## A rebel's prayer

*Here is a prayer designed for someone who has acknowledged that they are living a rebellious life...*

Dear God... by the very use of that title I must admit that You are what I have been pretending to be. You are God and I am not.

Please forgive me for thinking, feeling and acting like the world is all about me. I have both consciously and unconsciously acted in rebellion towards you, even from birth.

From my childhood selfishness to my teenage ignorance to my adult disobedience, I am a creature of rebellion and all I can say is I am sorry.

Please forgive me and lead me in a new way. I desire to be different, but I will need your help to get there.

I know longer want to be skeptical, I want to be faithful.

I know longer want to be sarcastic, I want to be real.

I know longer want to be bitter, I want to be better.

I know longer want to be prideful, I want to be humble.

I know longer want to be broken, I want to be whole.

I know longer want to be rebellious, I want to be obedient.

God, please forgive me and give me a fresh start. Please turn this rebel into a soldier. Turn this violator into a volunteer. Turn this wanderer into Your child.

I want to come home...

**In Jesus name, Amen.**

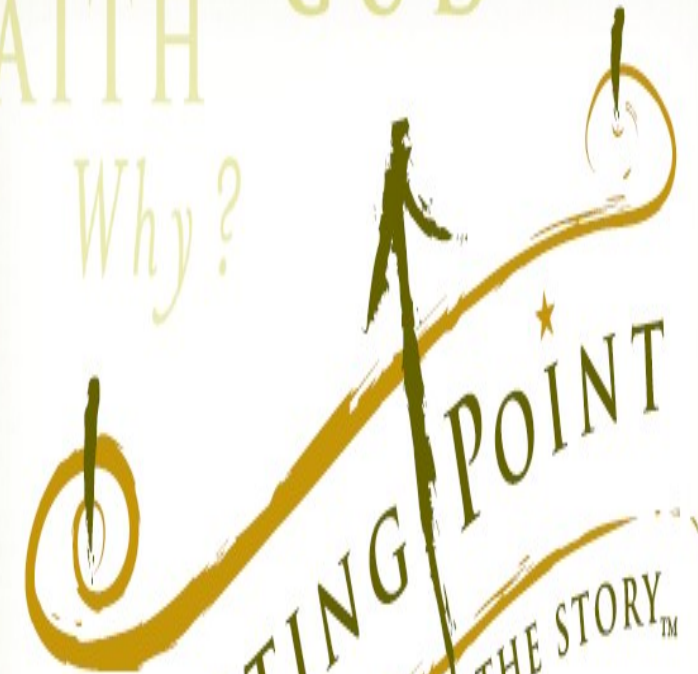


## Week 7 - Chapter 7

COMMUNITY GOD PURPOSE

FAITH

Why?



STARTING POINT

FIND YOUR PLACE IN THE STORY™

REASON

WISDOM

Love PEACE Understanding Contentment

February 21/22, 2009

**Rebellion—**

# Isaiah 1

2 Hear, O heavens! Listen, O earth!  
For the Lord has spoken:  
“I reared children and brought them up,  
but they have rebelled against me.  
3 The ox knows his master,  
the donkey his owner’s manger,  
but Israel does not know,  
my people do not understand.”  
4 Ah, sinful nation,  
a people loaded with guilt,  
a brood of evildoers,  
children given to corruption!  
They have forsaken the Lord;  
they have spurned the Holy One of Israel  
and turned their backs on him.  
5 Why should you be beaten anymore?  
Why do you persist in rebellion?  
Your whole head is injured,  
your whole heart afflicted.  
6 From the sole of your foot to the top  
of your head  
there is no soundness—  
only wounds and welts  
and open sores,  
not cleansed or bandaged  
or soothed with oil.  
7 Your country is desolate,  
your cities burned with fire;  
your fields are being stripped by foreigners  
right before you,  
laid waste as when overthrown by  
strangers.  
8 The Daughter of Zion is left  
like a shelter in a vineyard,  
like a hut in a field of melons,  
like a city under siege.  
9 Unless the Lord Almighty  
had left us some survivors,  
we would have become like Sodom,  
we would have been like Gomorrah.  
10 Hear the word of the Lord,  
you rulers of Sodom;  
listen to the law of our God,  
you people of Gomorrah!

11 “The multitude of your sacrifices—  
what are they to me?” says the Lord.  
“I have more than enough of burnt offerings,  
of rams and the fat of fattened animals;  
I have no pleasure  
in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats.  
12 When you come to appear before me,  
who has asked this of you,  
this trampling of my courts?  
13 Stop bringing meaningless offerings!  
Your incense is detestable to me.  
New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations—  
I cannot bear your evil assemblies.  
I cannot bear your evil assemblies.  
14 Your New Moon festivals and your  
appointed feasts  
my soul hates.  
They have become a burden to me;  
I am weary of bearing them.  
15 When you spread out your hands in  
prayer,  
I will hide my eyes from you;  
even if you offer many prayers,  
I will not listen.  
Your hands are full of blood;  
16 wash and make yourselves clean.  
Take your evil deeds  
out of my sight!  
Stop doing wrong,  
17 learn to do right!  
Seek justice,  
encourage the oppressed.  
Defend the cause of the fatherless,  
plead the case of the widow.  
18 “Come now, let us reason together,”  
says the Lord.  
“Though your sins are like scarlet,  
they shall be as white as snow;  
though they are red as crimson,  
they shall be like wool.  
19 If you are willing and obedient,  
you will eat the best from the land;  
20 but if you resist and rebel,  
you will be devoured by the sword.”  
For the mouth of the Lord has spoken.