

**Isaiah 6:9-10**

<p>Isa 6:9-10</p> <p>And he said, Go, and tell this people, Hear ye indeed, but understand not; and see ye indeed, but perceive not.</p> <p>10 Make the heart of this people fat, and make their ears heavy, and shut their eyes; <b>lest</b> they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and <b>convert</b>, and be healed.</p>	<p>Mat 13:14-15</p> <p>By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:</p> <p>15 <b>For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed;</b> <b>lest</b> at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should <b>be converted</b>, and I should heal them.</p>	<p>Mark 4:12</p> <p>12b and hearing they may hear, and not understand; That seeing they may see, and not perceive;</p> <p><b>lest</b> at any time they should <b>be converted</b>, and their sins be forgiven them.</p>	<p>John 12:40</p> <p>He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart</p> <p>that they should not see with their eyes,</p> <p>nor understand with their heart, and <b>be converted</b>, and I should heal them.</p>	<p>Act 28:26-27</p> <p>26 Saying, Go unto this people, &amp; say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive:</p> <p>27 <b>For the heart of this people is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have they closed;</b> <b>lest</b> they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their heart, and should <b>be converted</b>, and I should heal them.</p>
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**Lest...they be converted and I should heal them** – because it's too late! Israel's sins have gone too long and too far. The wine cup of God's fury is full to overflowing (Jer. 25:15). It's too late for the nation to avoid God's righteous judgment. For many years her people had ignored the Lord's numerous calls to repentance by His prophets. God manifestly states His case against Israel in 2 Kings 17:6-41.

Note that the New Testament explains and clarifies the Isaiah 6:9-10 passage, which has been difficult for many. Both Matthew 13:14-15 and Acts 28:26-27 (two witnesses, Deu. 17:6; Mat. 18:16) above lay the all the blame for the Lord's blinding their eyes and hardening their hearts as being due to their prolonged sin and rebellion against Him. Our dear patient "slow to anger" Creator has not arbitrarily acted against the people. If He is also truly righteous and just He must also punish wickedness – indeed, all sinfulness or else He is not Holy.

Therefore, in the ninth year of King Hoshea (721 BC) the Lord allowed the Assyrian monarch Sargon II to carry away captive the northern kingdom out of the Promise Land. Nevertheless, through His love and mercy, those individuals who repented were accepted "in the beloved" (Eph. 1:6, note Isa. 6:7). Judah, the southern kingdom, is also warned concerning the Babylonians.

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