

## **Vipers' Eggs & Spiders' Webs** **AN X-RAY OF EVIL LEADERS**

**Isaiah 59: 3** For your hands are defiled with blood,

and your fingers with wrongdoing;

Your lips have spoken deceit,

Your tongue ~~mutter~~ **meditates on** wickedness.

- 4** No one sues righteously and no one pleads honestly.  
They trust in confusion and speak lies;  
they conceive trouble and give birth to disaster.
- 5** They hatch vipers' eggs and weave the spider's web;  
the one who eats of their eggs dies,  
and from what is crushed, a snake breaks out.
- 6** Their webs will not become clothing,  
nor will they cover themselves with their works;  
their works are works of wrongdoing,  
and an act of violence is in their hands.
- 7** Their feet run to evil,  
and they hurry to shed innocent blood;  
their thoughts are thoughts of wrongdoing / of doing wrong,  
devastation and destruction are in their paths.

8 They do not know the way of peace,  
and there is no justice in their tracks;  
they have made their paths crooked,  
whoever walks on them does not know peace.

9 Therefore justice is far from us,  
And righteousness does not reach us;  
We hope for light, but there is darkness,  
For brightness, but we walk in gloom.

15 Now the Lord saw,  
~~and it was displeasing~~ and it was **distressing** in His sight that there was no justice.

16 And He saw that there was no one,  
and was amazed that there was not one to intercede;

then His own arm brought salvation to Him,  
and His righteousness upheld Him.

17 He put on righteousness like a breastplate,  
and a helmet of salvation on His head;

and He put on garments of vengeance for clothing  
and wrapped Himself with zeal as a cloak.

18 According to their deeds, so will He repay:  
Wrath to His adversaries, retribution to His enemies;  
to the coastlands He will deal retribution.

21 “As for Me, this is My covenant with them,” says the Lord:  
“My Spirit who is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth shall not depart from your mouth,  
nor from the mouth of your offspring, nor from the mouth of your offspring’s offspring,”  
says the Lord, “from now and forever.”