

ALLIANCE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

What, if anything, troubled you about what you studied this week?

Submitted to Russell Mack

OT651: Isaiah

Spring

by

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Oswalt's ability to bring the content of Isaiah's writings to contemporary significance leaves no one unchallenged on some practical issues. One thing that troubled me in this week reading is a practical situation attached to Isaiah 1: 21-31 and the remarks that; "Now we see the Church increasingly marginalized as a force to change society, even losing its ability to maintain its own identity" (Oswalt 86). This phrase describes the situation laying ahead of the Church in my context.

There seems to be a rushing movement of churches to create schools, hospitals, and all sort of social facilities. The idea advanced by Evangelical churches doing that is, "we want to change society through those activities and evangelize through them". Sadly, enough, there is no change within the church itself and things are even worse inside. When the Church was not having social facilities, it influenced better the society by its upright living and testimony. Now that the church has many social facilities, there is no impact on the society but the Church is struggling to find its own identity. Isaiah has a lot to speak to us.