

Israel acknowledge us not: thou, O Lord, art our father, our redeemer;" "Oh Lord, why hast thou made us to err from thy ways, and hardened our heart from thy fear? After all, we are just clay in your hands. You could have made us loyal to you, just as well to let us wander into this sin. Why didn't you do it? Return for your servant's sake. We are your people. "The people of your holiness possessed this land, but a little while. Our adversaries have trodden down your sanctuary." Why do you let this happen? We're yours. "You never bore rule over them. They weren't called by thy name." We are your people. You've got to bless us. Remember what Jeremiah said, "Woe to them that say lying words, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord is Eden. Well, why is it that. But they are lying words because they are making the fact that they are Gods people and this is God's temple a ground for their petition, instead of giving their heart to Him, and looking for His mercy upon them instead of truly trusting Him and following Him and doing His will. Instead of that saying, you've got to help us. We're your people.

So this wonderful prayer, "Oh that thou wouldst rend the heavens, ~~that~~ and that thou wouldst come down." That God, who did these wonderful things in the past ^{and} can do, he says, what wonderful things God has prepared for those that wait for Him and we are waiting. We're waiting. We've sinned. We've done what is wrong. God has punished us. But now why doesn't He come back and protect us. Why doesn't He come back and help us. We've done all these things. He's hid His face from us because of our iniquity, but now Lord, (they don't say anything about repentance. Nothing about turning their hearts to Him. Nothing about following Him, but simply He's theirs. Thou art our father ~~father~~ ~~parent~~, we are the clay. We are the work of your hand. So why don't you help us. We are your people. Why don't you give your assistance to us. "Be not wroth very sore, O Lord, neither remember iniquity for ever." Thy holy cities are a wilderness, Zion is a wilderness, Jerusalem, a desolation. Our holy and beautiful house, where our fathers praised thee, is burned up with fire:" ~~and~~ "Wilt thou refrain thyself for these things, O Lord?" Here you see what is happening to your people, and they are your people. Why don't you come and help them? Well, this wonderful prayer is given. But it is a prayer of the people, who in Isaiah 29, he said ~~to~~ His people, "Draw near to me with their mouth, and with their lips they honour me, but they have removed their hearts far from me.