

Greatness, Guilt, Grace, & Going

Isaiah 6

Main Idea

God is Holy and His Holiness doesn't allow us to be in His presence without an atoning sacrifice for our sin. God in His infinite grace provides grace for sinners who repent as well as the privilege of being on His mission to spread a passion for His glory among the nations.

Overview

- **The Glory of God is of Infinite Worth and Beauty (Vss. 1-4)**
 - The year King Uzziah Died (vs. 1):
 - Marks that the Bible can be traced
 - 2 Chron. 26 tells us of the events of his death:
 - He was proud and did what only priests were supposed to do and burned incense in the Temple and therefore the Lord struck him with leprosy and he died
 - Sitting on a Throne: Designates Authority
 - High & Lifted up: Designates His majesty as well as His authority
 - The Train of His robe filled the Temple: As we see in vss. 3, 4 this is what God does,
 - He fills all that He inhabits
 - The Seraphim: This is the only place they are listed in the Bible:
 - They are praising God to one another
 - The wings are covering their eyes, representing the glory of God as being too great even for angel like beings...same with their feet (cf. Moses and the burning bush: Ex.3)
 - Holy: Set Apart, Transcendantly Pure:
 - The whole earth is full of His glory: This is the desire of the Lord
- **The Glory of God is too great for you (Vs. 5)**
 - Isaiah, a prophet used of God says "Woe" to himself when seen in comparison to God
 - The reason why he called woe on himself is because of his uncleanness and the people that he dwells with being unclean
- **The Glory of God is Gracious (Vss. 6-7)**
 - The Seraphim takes a burning coal from the altar (place of sacrifice) and touches the lips of Isaiah and takes away his guilt by atoning for his sin
 - This reveals our deepest problem...our sin...
 - It also reveals what we need the most...atonement for sin
 - God in His kindness exhibits that He is fully gracious
- **The Glory of God is on a Mission (Vss. 8-13)**
 - When asking who will go for them, Isaiah, having had his sins graciously atoned for, says "Here am I, send me"
 - The mission is to perpetuate the blindness, deafness, and dullness of Judah so that destruction/judgment would come and a "Holy seed" would rise up:
 - Christ was that Holy seed that enabled the Gospel to no longer be limited to Judah, but advance to all nations (Isaiah 2.3) so that the Lord would have Glory in all the earth
 - Judah did not see their need for grace, but thought works would be good enough without repentance and faith: Romans 9.31-32
 - Judah brought this on themselves, but God was also working to bring about a partial

hardening so that the Gospel would travel to the nations (cf. Romans 11.25-26)

Questions

Discussion Starter: In your experience, what does your co-workers, families, friends that do not trust Christ believe about God? Compare that with what we see in Isaiah 6

1. Read Isaiah 6.1-4. What kind of picture is given to us of God? How does that compare to how we functionally think of Him?
2. In verse 3 Isaiah says the Lord is “holy, holy, holy.” This is the only place in Scripture that an attribute of God is elevated to the third degree. What does this tell us about the importance of God’s holiness?
3. Evaluate your prayers, your sin, your obedience/disobedience and discern how you are living before the God of Isaiah 6 and not the one that we imagine.
4. Read Isaiah 6.5. What is Isaiah’s evaluation of himself in light of God’s holiness? What is his deepest problem?
5. Do we typically think the deepest problem about ourselves is what we see in Isaiah? Why or Why not?
6. Why does holiness mean? What does it have to do with our “lostness” and/or our ruin?
7. Read Isaiah 6.6-7. What does this picture of atonement tell us about the Lord? In what way does this passage point us to the cross of Christ?
8. Read Isaiah 6.8-13. Read John 12.36-43. Note the progression of this passage (atonement comes then mission). Why does it appear that Isaiah wants to go?
9. What is his mission? Why would the Lord want to perpetuate their blindness, deafness, and dullness? (Romans 11.25-26)
10. In light of this, how does the Lord feel about people who trust in religious deeds and not repent of sin? Use the text to show. Where do we need to repent of our trusting in works and not the grace of God in Christ?
11. How is Mission connected to the Greatness of God, our Guilt, and Gods Grace?

Accountability: *Discuss (a) Your low/high view of the holiness of God (b) and evaluate your people’s discipleship activity. Pray for boldness in light of the coming day of Gods revelation of His glory.*

Also, spend some time in prayer thanking the Lord for His grace through Christ in Faith.