

# Sermon Notes – October 24, 2021

## Review

- Isaiah was a spokesman for God about 2,750 years ago, around the year 740 B.C. His name means, “The Lord is Salvation.”
- The first five chapters of Isaiah weave together the two major themes of judgment and hope. We saw that even in seasons of judgment for God’s sinful people, ***“It is not a cruel God who brings those things upon us, and it is not a rejecting God who [sends] us to the fire. Rather it is a loving God who sees no other way to bring us to the place where He can [truly] live in us”*** (Oswalt).
- Last week with Pastor Tyler we visited chapter five, Isaiah’s mournful song, that uses a landowner and a vineyard to tell the story of how God’s people had despised His gracious care.

## Today’s text: Isaiah 6:1-13

Today’s text is one of the most powerful and well-known accounts in the whole book. The scene begins with a hint of a national crisis and moves quickly to God’s throne room where the rest of the drama plays out in glorious splendor.

This week’s text lays the groundwork for what follows in succeeding chapters. Here, God is presented as exalted and glorious and transcendent; in 7-9, He is Immanuel, God with us, the gracious Provider of salvation for sinful humans.

## God, The Living God, Is Presented In All His Glory!

(6:1-4)

- ⇒ God is \_\_\_\_\_. There is a powerful contrast between the long-time-but-now-deceased King Uzziah and the living God. Before any were born, God was, and when all have died, God will be. He alone is the eternal God.
- ⇒ God is \_\_\_\_\_. God is seated on the throne, not running frantically around. His throne is higher than any other, and He alone has every right to sit upon it. **Cf. I Tim 1:17; 6:15-17**
- ⇒ God is \_\_\_\_\_ – “the train of His robe fills the temple.”

The Corrective Power Of God's Overwhelming Glory  
Isaiah 6:1-13  
Pastor Jay Mosser

- ⇒ God is \_\_\_\_\_. The magnificent, holy angels in His presence (“burning ones”) know enough to cover their faces & feet.
- ⇒ God is \_\_\_\_\_ holy. One seraph calls to another, ***“HOLY, HOLY, HOLY is the Lord of Hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!”*** and even inanimate objects know enough to tremble at the shouts of His holiness. (Holy = to cut or to separate; absolute purity; otherness; God is the only truly ultimate, self-sufficient, self-sustaining, non-created Being). There are no “yawns” in this heavenly court! No one is sleeping! No one’s mind is wandering!

## Isaiah, The Sinful Man, Responds In Shame & Humility

(6:5-13)

- ⇒ Isaiah acknowledges deep \_\_\_\_\_ at his true sinfulness. He says, “Woe is me! I am lost...ruined...coming apart at the seams.”
- ⇒ Isaiah needs \_\_\_\_\_ that only God can provide. Without the merciful, action of God, Isaiah will remain in his sinfulness. Isaiah can do nothing to atone for his own sinfulness. Do you see the gospel here?
- ⇒ Isaiah, now \_\_\_\_\_, is eager to be sent, even on a most-difficult assignment.
- ⇒ Isaiah eagerly responds to God’s call for truly God-centered reasons, not to bolster his self-esteem, add a line on his resume, or feel better about himself.

## Responding to God’s Word in Worship & Obedience

- ⇒ God-centered motivation: We often make choices about avenues of service based on self-fulfillment. “You’ll feel good after serving here,” or “Lots of people will recognize & appreciate you.” Once Isaiah sees God as He truly is, he can do nothing else but respond to God’s call! **What motivates you?**
- ⇒ God-centered worship: The text doesn’t say this, but I’m guessing that Isaiah is not too worried here about music that is slightly flat or having some mismatched socks. God has totally captured his attention! **Does God capture YOUR attention as you come to worship?**
- ⇒ God-centered devotion: There’s a story in Luke 7:40-47 about a sinful woman who interrupts a dinner party put on by powerful & influential people. In that context, Jesus says, “The one who is forgiven little, loves little.” We are often horrified by sin, but we are rarely horrified at our own sin. **Have you somehow come to believe that you’re one of the rare “good people” who don’t need much forgiveness?**

# Community Group Notes

## Getting Started

We're now in the middle of our fall season! What things do you enjoy most about this time of the year? Is it pumpkin flavored something? Walking in the leaves? Taking a drive? Hot cider? How do you celebrate this season?

## Talking It Through

1. Review the sermon from Sunday: READ Isaiah 6:1-13 and remember the main points from Sunday. In summary form, what was this week's sermon about?
2. Pastor Jay shared an opening story about a person caught red-handed. Has something like that ever happened to you? How did you respond? Why do you think self-protection is so deeply woven into our beings?
3. What aspect of the throne room scene in Isaiah 6 captures your attention the most? What truths about God are highlighted in this chapter, in addition to His holiness? (As a group, try to come up with at least a dozen!)
4. Think about the cleansing aspect in this text (5-7). What is symbolized by these actions? What is true about Isaiah? What was the altar for? Why doesn't God just say to Isaiah, "Oh come on, you're not that bad"?
5. Now think about the "sending" aspect of this text. Why does God "ask for volunteers," so to speak, when only Isaiah is in the room?

6. What do you think Isaiah was thinking when he asked the question in verse 11? Was he looking for a way out, or simply asking for some clarification of the mission? How do you think he liked God's answer?

## Thinking Deeper & Taking It Home

There's another well-known "sending" scene in Exodus 3-4. What are the similarities and how are they different?

- Which one would you rather be a part of?
- Are you more like Moses ("Send someone else") or Isaiah ("Here am I, send me") in your response to God?
- Can you think of any other "sending scenes" in the Bible? What comes to mind?

## Time to PRAY

(Or do this at the beginning of your group time)

Take time to share prayer requests that relate to the people in your group, and then pray for those needs. Here's a place to list specific prayer needs:

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**Worship Next Sunday: October 31, 2021**

Guest preacher: Dr. Paul Seger