

**I. God's Glory - Is. 6:1-4**

1. Uzziah died in 740 BC (**verse 1**)
2. When leadership changes the people get afraid or nervous
3. His vision
  - saw the Lord high and lifted up
- Rea
  - actually doesn't say he saw a vision - the prophet's job is to report what he sees - prophets were often called "seers"
4. What he saw: (**verse 2**)
  - A. Lifted up
  - B. Train filled the Temple
  - C. Seraphim with six wings
    - wings over face shows deference to God/ reverence
    - fly
    - covered feet - humble
  - D. Holy, Holy, Holy
  - E. Smoke
5. Results:
  - A. Isaiah himself is afraid
  - B. Temple is shaken
  - C. Isaiah is shaken
6. "Seraphim" - root word means to "burn"
  - we don't know if they burned
- Rea
  - others have seen this as flying snakes - ??
7. "Holy" - the whole earth is full of it (**verse 3**)
- Rea
  - so glory is defined... as "holiness"
- Rea
  - what "IS" God's glory? - His holiness
8. Doorposts shook (**verse 4**)
- Rea
  - one of the most secure places in any home is the threshold... that's the reason during a tornado weathermen sometimes recommend we get under a doorway
- Rea       **Ideas and Questions:**
  1. Discuss responses to the "presence" of God
    - do you experience His presence...at church, at home, ever?
    - compare Exodus 19-20 as God gives the Ten Commands
    - compare John's experience in Revelation one when he saw the Lord
  2. Moses experienced God at the burning bush and was to take off shoes... why?
  3. Note that these experiences were not part of a grandiose worship service
  4. It seems to me that God is very particular who gets to "see" Him

**II. God's Forgiveness - Is. 6:5-7**

1. Woe to me (**verse 5**)
  - Isaiah's response
  - why woe? - he is ruined because he is sinful
- Rea
  - seeing God's holiness makes us feel sinful
2. His lips are unclean

- what comes out of the heart comes across the lips
- Rea -Jesus said out of the heart, the mouth speaks
- 3. A live coal from the altar (**verse 6**)
  - the altar is for sacrifice... purification
- Rea -so the sacrifice serves to purify him just as Jesus' blood purifies us (by His sacrifice on the cross)
- 4. His sin was "atoned" for (**verse 7**)
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
  1. The "lips" are the instrument that a prophet uses to do his work
  2. We want to see God, but we often don't - why is that?
  3. He was in the Temple - so he was already seeking God
  4. Most see Isaiah 6 as Isaiah's call experience
    - such an experience is something that he probably never got over

### III. God's Call - Is. 6:8-10

1. The voice of the Lord (**verse 8**)
  - a question - whom shall I send
  - Isaiah jumps at the opportunity - send me
- Rea -in the Baptist church the nominating committee has to pull teeth to get folks to serve - almost never is there a volunteer - we just crawl in and out on Sundays
2. Go and tell (**verse 9**)
  - A. Be ever hearing
  - B. Be ever understanding
  - C. Be ever seeing
  - D. But never perceiving
3. Make them calloused (**verse 10**)
  - show them the hopelessness of their situation
- Rea -obviously without God
4. Why would God tell them to be calloused?
  - A. He had seen what their response would be - so he is telling Isaiah ahead of time
  - B. He reveals their heart condition
  - C. They'd already decided
  - D. Their sin must be paid for
- Rea 5. When the message of God comes and is rejected it makes our hearts more calloused and hardened
  - the mode of operation for God is always mercy - but His mercy is often rejected
  - so as God's spokesman Isaiah is to ratify and solidify (no pun intended) the condition of their hearts
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
  1. He sends Isaiah to make them even more hard
    - in the New Testament Jesus comes as God's final word... once they reject Him, what more can anyone expect God to do
  2. Knowing that the message would be rejected (from the very beginning) helps a prophet to simply do his job
  3. But... by sending Isaiah God has been just and fair to all -even though He knows they

will not respond

4. We often say “they will not respond” - so we don’t witness. That may be true, but our job is to give them the opportunity

#### **IV. God’s Persistence - Is. 6:11-13**

1. How long do I have to do this? (**Verse 11**)
  - the job would be miserable... to prophecy to a stubborn people
- Rea      -just how long to I have to do this?
2. God gives him a legitimate answer
  - until cities are ruined
  - until houses are uninhabited
  - until crops are deserted and ravaged
  - until everyone has been sent far away (**verse 12**) - carried away in exile
3. A tenth will remain (**verse 13**)
  - like the stump of an oak
  - a remnant will return

#### **Rea      Ideas and Questions:**

1. Punishment says any number of things:
  - it says that God cares enough to discipline
  - it says that God’s justice will always prevail
  - it says that our sins will find us out - we bear responsibility for our sins
  - it shouts that it is God who runs the show
2. Wide is the gate that leads to destruction
  - narrow is the way to life (a remnant)
  - this is the teaching of Jesus
3. We expect our churches to be full, and we will get rid of any preacher who doesn’t fill ‘em up - but, in truth God tells us to expect rejection... “few” there will be who will find the narrow way. Is it possible that the preacher is doing the right thing and preaching the right thing and people reject the message?
  - we expect our witness to always show people the way and turn the light on - and people will be right with God. That might be a bit of our day-to-day mindset that education will turn people around. Just because people know the way does not mean they will “do” the right thing. Jesus was more into “obeying” that He was into “knowing.” If you don’t do the right thing - then you never “knew” Him.