

## Send Me

Isaiah 6:1-8

April 1, 2006

### Introduction

**ILLUS – Alex’s penetrating question, “Do I like doing what I do?”**

1. While this is a good question, it is not the most important question!
2. The most important question is, “Am I doing what God has called me to do?”
3. Are you? What does God want us to do?
4. Let’s find out by studying a marvelous passage that will bring us into God’s presence so that we can hear His call.

### *Isaiah 6:1-8*

#### I. We Need A True Vision Of God (1-4)

##### A. God is King (1)

1. King Uzziah became king when he was 16 and reigned 52 years over Judah.
2. Judah was blessed because Uzziah walked uprightly
  - a. Financial prosperity
  - b. Fortified cities
  - c. Powerful army of over 300,000 soldiers
3. But when he died Judah felt vulnerable, insecure
  - a. US History, 10 presidents in 52 years
  - b. Isaiah felt insecure, so God gave him a vision!
4. Isaiah “saw the Lord”
  - a. “Lord” – *Adonai* means sovereign, master
  - b. “sitting on a throne” – He is King of kings
  - c. “lofty and exalted” – Transcendent, Eternal
  - d. “train of His robe filling the temple” - Majesty
5. The throne of Judah was vacant, but the throne of heaven was still occupied!

APPLICATION – The problem of putting our security in man...

Psalm 146:3-5, 10, “Do not trust in princes, in mortal man, in whom there is no salvation. His spirit departs, he returns to the earth; in that very day his thoughts perish. How blessed is he

whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God; The Lord will reign forever, Thy God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the Lord!”

6. The Apostle John declared that Isaiah saw Jesus, a preincarnate appearance of God the Son!

**John 12:41, “These things Isaiah said, because he saw His glory, and he spoke of Him.”**

7. The Apostle Paul affirmed Christ’s deity and authority **Colossians 1:16-17, “For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things have been created by Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.”**

##### B. God is holy (2-4)

1. “Seraphim” – means “to burn”
  - a. Only mention of them in the Bible
  - b. They burn in their zeal for God
2. Seraphim have 6 wings
  - a. Two wings cover their eyes – reverence
  - b. Two wings cover their feet – submission
  - c. Two wings to fly – continual service
3. Seraphim proclaim the excellencies of God
  - a. Not only stating facts or speaking truth
  - b. They call out to one another from the heart!
4. “Holy, Holy, Holy”
  - a. “Holy” - “to be set apart, unique, distinct”
    1. Set apart from creation
    2. Set apart from evil

**James 1:13, “Let no one say when he is tempted, ‘I am being tempted by God’; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.”**

- b. Repeated 3 times – without peer, complete
  1. Only word in the Bible that is repeated 3 times in reference to God’s character

2. Holiness is the key attribute for understanding God's character
5. "Lord of hosts" – Lord of the armies is fighting for you
6. "The whole earth is filled with His glory"
  - a. Where then? Temple, Israel
  - b. Where today? The Church

**2 Corinthians 3:18, "But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit."**

7. Foundations trembled, the Temple filled with smoke – now that's a worship service!

*Transition – But the doorposts and thresholds were not the only things shaking. Look at Isaiah!*

## II. We Must Be Cleansed (5-7)

### A. All of us have sinned (5)

1. Isaiah was a righteous man, compared to others
2. In Isaiah 1-5, he pronounced judgment upon Israel because of their sin
3. Now that Isaiah has seen the holy King of Creation notice how he did not respond
  - a. Not – "It is good for me to be here"
  - b. Not – "God, why did you make me this way?"
  - c. Not – "Here's why I belong in heaven..."
4. "Woe is me, for I am ruined!"
  - a. In the presence of others, righteous!
  - b. In God's presence, he cursed himself
  - c. In God's presence, Isaiah declared he was coming apart at the seams! **WHY?**
5. "Because I am a man of unclean lips"
  - a. Isaiah didn't cover up sin or make excuses
  - b. Isaiah confessed his sin openly
  - c. But why this confession?

**Matthew 15:18-20, "But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications,**

**thefts, false witness, slanders. These are the things which defile the man;"**

**ILLUS – Anna has become a self-appointed language officer!**

6. "For my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts"
  - a. Typically, God reveals our sin to us bit by bit
  - b. Here, Isaiah received complete revelation
  - c. At that moment, Isaiah knew 2 things:
    1. God is holy!
    2. He is not!

*APPLICATION – And we are in the same boat with Isaiah!*

**Romans 3:10-12, "There is none righteous, not even one; there is none who understands, there is none who seeks for God; all have turned aside, together they have become useless; there is none who does good, there is not even one."**

### B. All of us need forgiveness (6-7)

1. God did not leave Isaiah to self-destruct
2. God sent a seraphim with a burning coal to cleanse Isaiah
3. Notice there is an altar before the throne!

**Hebrews 4:16, "Let us therefore draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."**

4. Notice how quickly cleansing came after confession!

**1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."**

*APPLICATION – HAVE YOU CONFESSED YOUR SIN TO GOD?  
- HAVE YOUR SINS BEEN FORGIVEN?*

**Romans 10:13, "Whoever will call upon the name of the Lord will be saved."**

### III. We Must Serve (8)

#### A. Volunteer without reservation

1. Isaiah heard God's voice for the first time – now that his sins were forgiven he was ready to hear God's call
2. God was looking for someone to be His ambassador
  - a. Isaiah did not hear a job description
  - b. Isaiah heard an invitation, "Who will go?"
3. Isaiah said, "Here am I. Send Me!"
  - a. No reservation
  - b. No conditions
  - c. Isaiah knew the God he was serving!
    1. King of kings
    2. Lord of the armies of heaven
    3. Holy God
    4. Full of grace and mercy!
  - d. Isaiah knew what God had done for him!
  - e. Isaiah knew he was created and cleansed for this, to serve God

APPLICATION – God cleansed you so that you can serve Him! He will not reject you! (He did not tell Isaiah to sit down and be quiet! He wanted to use him!)

Ephesians 2:8-10, "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

APPLICATION – But you may be wondering, what has God called you to do? Simply this, PROCLAIM JESUS!

Matthew 28:18-20, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

ILLUS – the life & example of Nancy Martinson

#### B. Remain true to the call

1. Isaiah's calling was not easy, read the rest of Isaiah 6.
2. Here's the problem, after we know where God has called us, the greatest difficulty is remaining true to the call
3. Distractions, discouragements, difficulties, failures

**ILLUS – Adam wants to be a pastor!**

4. But success... can also keep us from remaining true to the call

**ILLUS – Uzziah failed to remain true to the call, but Isaiah finished well!**

5. Leave the results to God. Give God the glory!
6. Be faithful even in the little things.
7. Run the race set before you and finish well!

Philippians 3:12-14, "Not that I have already obtained it, or have already become perfect, but I press on in order that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

### Conclusion

*God is calling...*

- that you may know Him
- that you may be cleansed
- that you may serve Him

*Will you answer the call?*