

When Isaiah Saw Jesus

Is 6:1-9

INTRODUCTION

- A. This church needs to be an evangelistic church.
 - 1. There are many in this community who are lost & on the way to hell.
 - 2. We are the ones who can proclaim the gospel & allow God's gospel to change hearts.
- B. Before we become evangelistic, however, we need to be confronted with God.
- C. Isaiah was confronted with God before he began to prophesy.
 - 1. Many believe this chapter constitutes Isaiah's call.
 - 2. The one Isaiah sees here is Jesus (Jn 12:41).
 - 3. When Isaiah saw Jesus, he saw . . .

A HOLY GOD, vv 1-4

- A. Isaiah saw the Lord exalted, v 1.
 - 1. He saw the Lord on a throne "high and lifted up."
 - a. The Lord was exalted higher than his surroundings.
 - b. The Lord is higher than anything & is exalted.
 - c. The Lord is greater than any other being.
 - 2. His train filled the temple--the hem of his garment filled the temple.
- B. Isaiah saw seraphim in attendance to God, vv 2-3.
 - 1. He describes these seraphim, v 2.
 - 2. He heard them praising God, v 3.
 - a. They took turns praising God--"one cried to another."
 - b. They praised God as holy.
 - 1) Holy is that which is set apart.
 - 2) Here, holy sets God apart from the moral corruption in Judah.
 - 3) God stands above the corruption in our world.
 - 4) This made an impression on Isaiah; 25 times in this book he refers to God as "the Holy One of Israel."
 - c. They said the earth was full of God's glory.
- C. The response in the temple, v 4.
 - 1. The foundations shook.
 - 2. The house was filled with smoke.
 - a. God would occasionally make his presence known through smoke (Ex 33:9).
 - b. God is here making his glorious presence known to Isaiah.
- D. Before we can reach others, we must see God as holy.
 - 1. God is greater than we.
 - 2. God is morally perfect, holy.
 - a. 1 Jn 1:5.
 - b. There is no blemish on God's record.

AN UNHOLY SERVANT, vv 5-7

- A. Isaiah's confession, v 5.
 - 1. Isaiah saw himself as lost.
 - a. Isaiah knew that no one could see God and live (Ex 33:20).

- b. He believed his death was imminent due to the vision.
- 2. Isaiah saw himself as one with unclean lips.
 - a. "Unclean lips" here probably does not refer to sins of the lips.
 - b. "Unclean lips" would rather refer to sin which would keep Isaiah from praising God with the seraphim.
 - c. Isaiah, in essence, says, "My sin prohibits me from praising God."
 - d. Isaiah was willing to confess his sin; we, too, need to be willing to acknowledge our sin.
- 3. Isaiah believed he dwelt among a people of unclean lips.
 - a. Not only would Isaiah's personal sin keep him from praising God, but so would the sin of the people around him.
 - b. Isaiah saw his countrymen as sinners as well as himself.
- B. Isaiah's cleansing, vv 6-7.
 - 1. A seraph took a burning coal from the altar.
 - 2. The seraph touched Isaiah's mouth--his guilt & sin were taken away.
- C. If we are to help people come to Christ, we must:
 - 1. Acknowledge our own sin.
 - 2. Do what God requires for our cleansing.

A HOLY GOD WHO NEEDS HOLY SERVANTS, vv 8-9

- A. Isaiah heard the Lord asking, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"
 - 1. "For us" probably refers to God & the seraphim.
 - 2. God had a message for Judah & he needed someone to deliver that message.
 - 3. God could ask the same question today--He has a message for this community & he needs individuals to deliver that message.
- B. Isaiah said, "Here am I! Send me."
 - 1. He had been confronted with God's majesty & was now ready and willing to be used by God.
 - 2. Once we've been confronted with God, we need to say, "Here am I! Send me."
- C. Isaiah was told what to prophesy.
 - 1. The rest of chapter six tells what Isaiah is to proclaim.
 - 2. The New Testament gives us what we need to proclaim.

CONCLUSION

- A. Isaiah saw Jesus in his majesty, and was cleansed of his sin, and offered himself as God's servant.
- B. God needs men & women who will say, "Here am I! Send me." if you had been Isaiah, would you have said, "Send me" or "Send someone else"?