

Isaiah – Teaching Notes

(Isaiah 6:1-8; 7/9/17)

Introduction: A key idea in today's Sunday School material is that the Lord sends Isaiah to do a good work for Him. Prayerfully, we will be challenged to go wherever the Lord sends us.

Body:

Read Isaiah 6:1-3

I. So High. Isaiah sees the Lord, in the year that King Uzziah died. The Lord was sitting on a throne. There were more than one seraphim. They each had six wings and were calling to one another about the holiness of the Lord.

Applications –

- **Death is coming.** Notice in vs. 1 that King Uzziah died. In like manner, all of us have a date with death (i.e., unless the Lord returns first). We should make sure we are ready, by taking care of the following: estate planning (e.g., will, gifts to church, insurance, etc.), relational loose ends (e.g., children, parents, siblings, relatives, etc.), and most of all, making sure we are saved. *Let's make sure we are ready for our date with death.*

- **God is great.** Notice in vss. 1-3 that the Lord is pictured as being high, on a throne, His train filling the temple, and so holy that the seraphim declared it three times. God is all of this and more. Therefore, we should live accordingly. It is inconsistent to say that we believe all of this about God and then comfortably rob Him of His tithes, enthusiastic worship, and service. *Let's obey like we believe that God is great.* The core of God's will for our lives is to make sure that we are saved and living lives focused on loving God and others as we love ourselves.

Read Isaiah 6:4-5

II. So Unworthy. Isaiah is concerned. He sees himself as a person with unclean lips. He lives among those with unclean lips. And he believes that he has seen the Lord.

Applications –

- **God's grace.** Notice in vss. 4-5 that Isaiah saw the Lord as being so great and himself as being so sinful. On one hand, the Lord really is great. We cannot adequately describe His greatness. We are sinful. At our best, we still fall short of living up to God's expectations. But on the other hand, the Lord is gracious towards those who strive to live up to His expectations. Some of our shortcomings are a product of our interpretation more than how God sees our situation. Isaiah saw a vision, not the Lord. In like manner, when we think something is sinful, it is sinful to us. *Let's live like we trust the grace of God.* Such living should be noted for respecting God's greatness, doing what we can to live up to God's will, and rejoicing about God's grace being sufficient for our shortcomings.

Read Isaiah 6:6-8

III. So Fitting. Isaiah experiences cleansing. One of the seraphims touched his mouth with a live coal from the altar. The Lord inquires about someone to carry out an assignment. Isaiah volunteers.

Applications –

- **Get right with God.** Notice in vss. 6-7 that the Lord provided a way for Isaiah to be right with Him. We don't need a seraphim to put a live coal on our lips. But we have already had Jesus to die as a substitute payment for our sins. As Isaiah received the live coal, we are called to receive the death payment of Jesus for our sins. *Let's work on making sure that we are saved and striving to help others get saved.*

- **Being willing to go.** Notice in vs. 8 that Isaiah was willing to go where the Lord was going to send him. First, the Lord has good work that He wants to send His people to do. Think about all of the good work that needs to be done in our families, churches, and communities. Second, we should be willing to let the Lord send us wherever He wants to send us. This calls for trusting God with the details and a willingness to forgo our plans to carry out God's will. Third, even though the Lord speaks directly to Isaiah in the text, God often speaks through Pastors, people, circumstances, peace of mind, and surely the Bible today. *Let's work on being willing to go and do whatever the Lord sends us to do, by whatever means the Lord sends us.*

Conclusion: Let's work on going wherever the Lord sends us. God has much for those who obey His will.