

“Called by a Holy God”

Isaiah 6.1-13 (2 Chronicles 26)

ISAIAH tells his Call to Ministry > Powerful Encounter with HOLY GOD  
 Ministry for LIVING God not ABOUT US > We decrease, He Must Increase  
 6 yrs Friend & Colleague: Favour more Responsibilities – Wife, Kids, Pastor  
 Each Step MORE EVIDENCE of Hand of God on his Life and Ministry  
 Great Expectations for Favour – Life of Gospel Ministry – Knows Holy God

Classic Passage HOLINESS OF GOD - CALL OF ISAIAH TO MINISTRY

ISAIAH ONLY OT PROPHET TO CALL GOD "the Holy One of Israel"

MOST MENTIONED Attribute of GOD IN BIBLE Holy, Holy, Holy

Hard for us to UNDERSTAND what HOLINESS Really is...

BASIC MEANING - “Holy” = SEPARATE, SET APART, UNIQUE, ALONE

HOLINESS is NOT JUST ONE Attribute among God’s Many Attributes

HOLY in All He IS & DOES - Goodness & Grace / Righteousness & Wrath

### 1. Our Holy God is Majestic

VISION OF ISAIAH // THRONE ROOM OF GREAT KING

v. 1 “high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple”

MAJESTY connects HOLINESS to SOVEREIGNTY - Great Authority

a. TEMPLE // SUPER-SIZED Version of Tabernacle >> A Holy Place

1) Sign of God’s Nearness - Placed in Middle Camp / Midst of His People

Greek - could enter any of temples of ancient Greece pray before statue of god

Roman - could freely enter any of temples of Rome

JEW - Could NOT ENTER - Most Holy Place / Only High Priest

once a year - after offering sacrifice for self & people - in Holy Dress  
 ANYONE ELSE WHO DARED ENTER CONSUMED BY FIRE

2) Sign of God's Distance - Transcendence - Separation

HOLY - not because of Special Rocks and Mortar of Construction

HOLY because of WHO LIVED THERE - HOLY, AWESOME GOD

Thick Veil - took 4 men to lift it - between Holy Place & Most Holy Place

VEIL = means "to separate" or "to hide"

ANOTHER VEIL BTWN HOLY PLACE & OUTER COURTYARD

ANOTHER VEIL BTWN COURTYARD AND CAMP OF PEOPLE

IN ALL THIS WE SEE - Holiness of God - SEPARATION

b. SERAPHIM - Sinless Creatures v. 2 "w/ 2 wings covered their faces"

WHY? - NOT for MORAL IMPERFECTIONS / MERE CREATURES

6.1 "seated on a throne, high and exalted" - TRANSCENDENT MAJESTY

Transcendence, Greatness, Unapproachableness – HOLY One fills the Heavens

RED SEA - opened Walked on Dry Ground - Closed Destroyed Enemies

"Who among the gods is like you, O Lord? Who is like you - majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?" Exodus 15.11

God answered Hannah's prayer - gave her son - Samuel

"There is no one holy like the Lord; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God." 1 Samuel 2.2

## 2. Our Holy God Leads Us

HOLY GOD is PERSON who HAS A PURPOSE, PLAN, WILL -

Declaring Himself as the “Holy One” - God’s Delight is His Glory

6.1 "year that King Uzziah died" more than Historical FOOTNOTE

UZZIAH - KING OF JUDAH - reigned from about 791 to 740 BC

Compared to Most of the Kings - UZZIAH WAS A GOOD MAN v. 4

In terms of ACCOMPLISHMENTS - HE WAS A GREAT MAN v. 8

"built towers in Jerusalem and fortified them" ... "livestock...fields...vineyards"

"well trained army..made machines and weapons of war"

AS A RESULT - BECAME A PROUD MAN v. 16

DANGER OF SUCCESS - THINK IT IS FROM OUR OWN HAND

v. 4 "just as his father Amaziah had done" HOW WAS THAT?

“He did what was right in the Lord’s eyes, but not wholeheartedly” 2 Chronicles 25.2

NOT GOOD ENOUGH - SAD LEGACY OF PARENT

UZZIAH's Courtisans FLATTERED HIM WITH THEIR FALSE PRAISE

Heaven’s KING SURROUNDED BY SERAPHIM - FIERY ANGELIC

BEINGS - NEVER STOPPED SINGING THEIR PRAISE

NEVER STOP SINGING PRAISES OF HIM WHO ALONE IS WORTHY

“God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne” Psalm 47.8

Uzziah’s WRONG Approach to God - Insistence

UZZIAH BRASHLY ENTERED GOD'S PRESENCE UNINVITED

EXODUS 30 - only Levitical Priests - Offered Sacrifice

UZZIAH WANTED TO BE LIKE PAGAN KINGS AROUND HIM  
 KINGS & PRIESTS - SOME WERE CONSIDERED GODS / Emperor JAPAN  
 HIGH PRIEST in GOD'S PRESENCE WORE HAT / MITRE / TURBAN  
 PRECIOUS STONE OVER FOREHEAD INSCRIBED "Holy to the Lord"

UZZIAH - NO BUSINESS OFFERING SACRIFICE  
 RECEIVED SYMBOL - OF GOD'S HOLINESS ON FOREHEAD - LEPROSY  
 - DEADLY WASTING DISEASE

LEPER WAS TO CALL OUT ABOUT HIMSELF "unclean, unclean, unclean"

CONTRAST - Angels of God ever praise Him saying Holy, Holy, Holy

### 3. Our Holy God is our Judge

As UZZIAH was BROUGHT LOW - GOD was LIFTED UP

HOLINESS OF GOD IS A THREAT TO MAN

ESSENTIAL PART OF GOD'S HOLINESS - Not like Human Anger

WRATH OF GOD - unlike any Human Emotion / Experience

NECESSARY & PROPER STANCE OF HOLY GOD TO  
 ALL THAT OPPOSES HIM - HE IS SERIOUS ABOUT BEING GOD

MOST TERRIBLE THING ABOUT SIN -

Not what SIN does to People, Families, Children, Society, or Environment

WHAT IT DOES TO GOD - IT MAKES HIM ANGRY - TERRIBLE

"It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" Hebrews 10.31

GOD INVITES ISAIAH WHERE MAN HAS NO BUSINESS BEING

HOLINESS OF GOD MAKES HIM UNDESIREABLE -  
 GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY & HOLINESS Challenge man's Sin & Pride

IN LIGHT of GOD'S HOLINESS ISAIAH SEES HIMSELF

ISAIAH CONSCIOUS OF HIS OWN SIN –

v. 5 “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

EXPOSED BY SEARCH LIGHT OF GOD'S HOLINESS

ISAIAH SEES SELF - LEPROUS LIPS - LIVE AMONG LEPERS

Definite MORAL APPLICATION

Isaiah realized his Sinfulness in presence of God's Holiness

AFTER THE GREAT CATCH OF FISH - Peter had tried and failed

“Go away from me Lord; I am a sinful man!” Luke 5.8

“Your eyes are too pure to look on evil, you cannot tolerate wrong.” Habakkuk 1.13

NOT PLEASANT EXPERIENCE - FACE TO FACE w/ HOLY GOD

HOLY GOD CANNOT CO-EXIST WITH UNHOLINESS

God must destroy the Unholy or Purge out the Sin

If this overwhelming dread is experienced by Righteous Prophets and  
 Chosen Apostles - what hope do we have in His Holy Presence?

#### 4. Our Holy God is Righteous

VERSE OF SCRIPTURE - jumped off page to RC priest - Martin Luther  
 ENGAGED IN A STRUGGLE TO GAIN HOLINESS - Done it all!

After all that - No More Holy - No Greater Experience of God's Peace

APOSTLE PAUL QUOTED FROM HABAKKAK

“For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed, a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: ‘The righteous will live by faith.’”

Romans 1.17

Holy GOD MAKE UNholy SINNERS HOLY RIGHTEOUSLY

SOBERING REALITY - God does Not Lower Standards for those who Come

“Make every effort to...be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord”

Hebrews 12.14

SAVING REMEDY - God meets His own standards for us in Christ

GOD WOULD NOT ALLOW UZZIAH BE BOTH KING & PRIEST

UZZIAH NOT MESSIAH- ONLY JESUS - KING, PRIEST, PROPHET

INTRIGUING “Isaiah saw Jesus’ glory and spoke about Him” John 12.41

DID HE SEE CROSS? HOLY ONE “high and lifted up”

“Day after day every priest stands and performs his religious duties; again and again he offers the same sacrifice, which can never take away sins. But when this priest had offered for all time one sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God...by on sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy”

Hebrews 10.11-13

MOMENT of X's DEATH - VEIL IN MOST HOLY PLACE OF TEMPLE

TORN IN TWO - FROM TOP TO BOTTOM - WAY NOW OPEN

LIVE COAL FROM ALTAR OF GOD - PICTURE OF JESUS

v. 6,7 Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

COAL of ALTAR - SPECIFIC Confession - SPECIFIC Applic of Mercy

Lamb of God - sent from Heaven - Take Away the Sin of the World - John 1.29

**BELIEVER IN CHRIST - MADE HOLY 2 WAYS -**

1) **DECLARATIVE ACT** - being “Set Apart” from World for Lord, made **HOLY**

“To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be holy, together with all those everywhere who call on the name of the Lord Jesus Christ - their Lord and ours”  
1 Corinthians 1.2

word **HOLY** - from Germanic languages / **SAINT** or **SANCTIFIED** from Romance languages - **ROOT MEANING IS IDENTICAL** - “set apart”

2) **PROCESS OF SANCTIFICATION** - being Made more Holy in Christ

“just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: ‘Be holy, because I am holy.’”  
1 Peter 1.15

**GOD IS HOLY - HEAVEN IS HOLY - THRONE IS HOLY**

those who dwell in His presence must be holy - Only Jesus makes us holy –

“he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight”  
Ephesians 1.4

**COMMANDMENTS ARE HOLY** - Law ethical boundary

**WRITTEN ON OUR HEARTS** - Walk in Holiness - **DWELL w/ GOD**

**GOD RESISTS PROUD BUT INVITES HUMBLE TO RECEIVE GRACE**

**UZZIAH DIED - ISAIAH GRANTED NEW LIFE**

**PROCESS OF BEING MADE HOLY - SANCTIFICATION**

a. **See** “I saw the Lord high and lifted”

**BEHOLD HIM IN PAGES OF SCRIPTURE - WORSHIP - PRAYER**

REJOICE THAT WE ARE HIS - Set Apart from World for the Savior

KNOW THAT PROCESS WILL BE COMPLETED FULLY SOMEDAY

PRAYER JESUS TAUGHT US- Mt 6.9 “Hallowed by your name -

MAY YOUR NAME BE KEPT HOLY”

NT REALITY - HOLY ONE OF ISRAEL is Now

Our Father in Heaven - OUR HOLY FATHER

b. Submit

TERRIBLE ENCOUNTER WITH HOLY ONE – Run Away or Bow Down

GIVE YOURSELF TO HIM - DAILY - FULLY - GREAT STRUGGLE

LEARN TO HATE SIN - opposite of Holiness

REALITY - IN OURSELVES - WE Love Sin and Hate Holiness

BUT IF WE DO NOT HATE SIN, WE WILL HATE GOD

WHO REQUIRES HOLINESS FROM US

GREAT TENSION DURING LIFE OF CHRIST

1) Some saw His Holiness and learned to Hate Sin and Follow Him

2) Others, Saw and grew to Hate Him - eventually Nailing Him to Cross

“For this is what the high and lofty One says - he who lives forever, whose name is holy; ‘I live in a high and holy place, but I am also with him who is contrite and lowly in spirit.’”

Isaiah 57.15

c. Serve - WE HAVE BEEN SET APART FOR SERVICE

v. 8 “Here I am, send me!”

Serve in RESPONSE TO GRACE – Because we have RECEIVED GRACE



CALLED in WORSHIP - Are WE TUNED IN?? LISTENING to God ??

HOLINESS OF GOD - LIFE CHANGING - LIFE SHAPING

NEW PURPOSE - SERVE THE HOLY ONE - He is Calling us Today!

NOBLE PURPOSE in AGE OF APATHY - Heart Stirred by Holy God

#### d. Struggle

vs. 9-10 And he said, “Go, and say to this people: “Keep on hearing, but do not understand; keep on seeing, but do not perceive.’ Make the heart of this people dull, and their ears heavy, and blind their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.”

Words QUOTED by Jesus to DESCRIBE the Impact of his Parables to Crowds  
Parables – Not CUTE STORIES to Make the Masses Happy Clappy Christians  
Instruments of Judgment – Mysterious Providence – Blind & Harden Listeners  
Possible that some of you are EXPERIENCING this Judgment Yourself NOW

Yet, this THRICE-HOLY God sent the Loyal Servant ISAIAH

Knowing – even DETERMINING – the Difficulties he was Going to FACE

Beautiful, Powerful Preaching to Judah – Worship Glorious Holy God

NOT Fear MEN like Nebechadnezzar of Babylon

NOT Fashion Wood and Stone to be you IDOLS

ISAIAH wrote some of Most GLORIOUS Words in all of the Bible

TEST of Ministry was his LOYALTY – Holy and Humble before Great King

Easy be Holy Minister when People Happy – Isaiah was Holy when it was Hard

Probably ENDED his life in a Most INGLORIOUS Way

Among Heroes of Faith....List of those who did not have Victory on Earth..

...who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions...Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even

chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, *they were sawn in two*...of whom the world was not worthy  
 Hebrews 11.33-38

When ARMIES of Alexander the Great marched on an enemy city

HE WOULD BURN A TORCH OUTSIDE THE CITY GATES

Whoever came to Surrender while Torch burned was Spared

After the Torch Burned Out - No More Mercy

HOLY GOD HAS SET LIGHT OF HIS WORD IN THIS WORLD

Gospel Messengers like Pastor Favour faithfully lift that Holy Torch

Time for Surrender - Wants None to Perish - All to Repent & Believe

TORCH WILL BE EXTINGUISHED - Comes with His Holy Angels

Isaiah 6:<sup>1</sup>In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!" <sup>4</sup>And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am

a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”<sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar.<sup>7</sup> And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”<sup>8</sup> And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”<sup>9</sup> And he said, “Go, and say to this people: “Keep on hearing, but do not understand; keep on seeing, but do not perceive.”<sup>10</sup> Make the heart of this people dull, and their ears heavy, and blind their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.”<sup>11</sup> Then I said, “How long, O Lord?” And he said: “Until cities lie waste without inhabitant, and houses without people, and the land is a desolate waste,<sup>12</sup> and the LORD removes people far away, and the forsaken places are many in the midst of the land.<sup>13</sup> And though a tenth remain in it, it will be burned again, like a terebinth or an oak, whose stump remains when it is felled.” The holy seed is its stump.