

"Isaiah 6... and the Call to a Generation"

The Ministry of the Prophets

October 26, 2025

Isaiah 6:1-8 ... "Here am I, Send Me"

...Remember where we started our study of "The Prophets" ... ***the prophets arrive in a "particular moment"***—Something is Going on that Needs the Ministry of the Word that they Bring!

Thought : there are moments... And then there are moments in which God decides to act into that moment.

Their Moment... and Ours

Is. 1:2-4, 11-15 ...***A moment of "DISTANCE"*** ..."estrangement" ...of neglect and drift from God!

v. 2-4 ...knowledge & intimacy with God is lost! ...stubborn rebellion prevails

v. 11-15 ...A moment of empty religious observations—'going through the motions'

Is. 1:21-23 ...***A moment of "DESTROYED Values"*** ...The twisted and deeply confused sense of values and priorities that characterize the land!

Is. 2:6-8, 3:16-24 ...***A Moment of "DEEP-Pockets"*** ...There is abundance and prosperity in their lives.

Is. 2:11-18, 22 ...***A moment of "DIVINED-Self"*** ...IT is a time of "Self-Sufficiency" of "Self-Importance" and of "Self-Exaltation" ...man doesn't "look to God" because he doesn't believe he Needs God!!

Is. 3:4-6, 12-15 ...***A moment of DISORDER*** ...

...disORDER = Rejected Roles!!

...***disORDER = Rejected Righteousness!*** - Is. 5:20 "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter."

Our Moment ...Take note ...I believe there are similar aspects among us today! Decades of Declining Church Attendance ...Decades of Shifting Values ...Decades of Prosperity ...Decades of Exalting Self & Hyper Individuality ...Decades of Disorder!

Is. 3:8 ... "the people of God have 'stumbled and fallen' ...HOW? ...by "***defying God's glorious PRESENCE***" ...the intended dwelling presence of God is a Massively Important Definer of Our Purpose and Existence!!

...***God intends to DWELL on Earth! ...This has been a Central Theme that informs and frames what it means to be a people who are living in God's Purpose!***

This is NO SMALL INSIGHT! ...Once you lose the insight of the "Dwelling Presence of God" you will also displace any ideas and understandings of "Holiness"!!!

OUR DAY (Our Moment) – Ours is a Day of Decades of ...

- DISTANCE ...Life Moves Faster & Faster! ...at today's "pace of life"—people don't have time for God! ...We've Bought into a Constant Quest for More! ...Experiencing God is Uncommon! ...We feel more lonely and isolated than ever!

- DESTROYED Values ... morality, definitions, behaviors, attitudes ...the last 60 years are Unparalleled ...It's been "Downhill since Roe v. Wade!
- DEEP Pockets ...Life is Bigger, Fancier, Faster ...We own more, do more, seek more!
- DIVINED-Self ...Decades of Self-Centrality, Self-Definition, Self-Seeking Priorities, Self-Protecting Policies,
- DISORDER ...Rejected Authority! ...Rejected Roles ...Rejected Righteousness

THIS Experiment Reaches for Its 4th GENERATION (Gen Z)!!

Remember... ***Thought : there are moments... And then there are moments in which God decides to act into that moment.***

So ...What is God going to do in that Moment? ...He is going to "Invade/Pierce This Present Darkness"! ...Through a Man!

Isaiah's Going... and Ours

Isaiah 6:8 ...There have been Lots of "Missional/Availability Messages" preached from this passage. Not wrong—but significantly lacking!

...There is a Great NEED—the Conditions "in the year King Uzziah died"!! ...There is a MISSION—"who will go for us" ...BUT, Isaiah's ministry will require something extraordinary—His day is "Unattractive" and "Hostile" and "Slow to respond"!!

NOTICE: Isaiah's Prophetic Ministry (ie, "The Ministry of the Word" through Isaiah)—Does Not Emerge from v. 8 (some Human Self-Determination!) ...It gets launched from v. 1-7

v. 1 ... There was "seeing" (encountering ...experiencing!)

v. 1 ...There was a "piercing revelation of the nature of God!" (man needs to "get God Right!")

"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us!" – A.W. Tozer

...He Encountered a THRONE!! ...there was AUTHORITY in his existence!!

...He Encountered TRANSCENDENCE! ... "high & lifted up"

...He Encountered the "ALL-IN-ALL" Dwelling Presence of God ... "filling the temple"

v. 2-3 ...He Encountered "Holiness" and "Creaturely Reaction"! ...An indescribable, incomparable "OTHERNESS"!!
...powerful beings who are "preoccupied with God"!!

v. 4-5 ...He Encountered "The Fear of the Lord"!! ...a inner-emotion that frames our future priorities!

v. 5 ...He Accurately Encountered HIMSELF! ...and he was Not "Self-Exalted"! ...He was "Put in His Place"!! [...in flooded humility, responsiveness, moldability]

v. 5 ...He Accurately Perceived His Surrounding CULTURE! [...He understood brokenness & sin]

v. 6-7 ...He Encountered "God-Initiated & God-Defined CLEANSING & FORGIVENESS"!!

THEN!!!... He is Ready to Go for God on God's Mission! Remember... ***Thought : there are moments... And then there are moments in which God decides to act into that moment.***

...When God "Acts"—He Sends Someone! ...Noah ...Moses ...David ...Solomon ...ISAIAH! ...CHRIST!

...What about THIS MOMENT? (Our Moment) ...Is God about to Pierce Our Darkness?—IF SO, those who Go will be a people 'Marked by His Presence'!!

...What if God is saying—Hey, Gen Z... “Who will go for us?” ...You’re Up! ...Previous Generations have settled for Decades of Distance, Disorder, & Decline ...You’re Up! ...But you will need more than an awareness of need and self-determination—You will need a deeper encounter with God!

“Prayer is conversation with God. However, conversation can remain mere exchanges of information that do not lead to true personal encounter and relationship. We do not want just to know about God, but to know God, to seek his face and presence. ...Conversation with God leads to an encounter with God. ...Prayer turns theology into experience. Through it we sense his presence and receive his joy, his love, his peace and confidence, and thereby we are changed in attitude, behavior, and character.” **Tim Keller**, “Prayer”, p. 66, 80

“In Ephesians 1, Paul teaches that by being united with Christ, they already have the fullness of God in them (Eph 1:22-23). All this leads us to ask: Isn’t Christ already living in Christians? ...Why is he asking God to give Christians things they must surely already have? ...There can be only one answer. At one level, Christians have these things. At another level, they haven’t experienced them. ...It is possible for Christians to live their lives with a high degree of phoniness, hollowness, and inauthenticity. The reason is because they have failed to move that truth into their hearts and therefore it has not actually changed who they are and how they live.

Blaise Pascal was a Christian believer and philosopher, and one of the great minds of history. When he died it was discovered that he had sewn into the inner lining of his coat the description of an experience he had had one night. It read: “in the year 1654, Monday, twenty-third November, from about half past ten in the evening until half an hour after midnight... FIRE... God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—not the ‘God of the philosophers’—he meant he now knew in the heart what he had known in the abstract. Another less famous example is Dwight L. Moody, a prominent Chicago minister and evangelist in the late nineteenth century. He wrote: “One day in the city of New York—oh what a day!—I cannot describe it, I seldom refer to it; it is almost too sacred an experience to name. ...I can only say that God revealed himself to me, and I had such an experience of his love that I had to ask him to stay his hand.”

What is common to all these moments is that you sense the power of what you have been given in Christ so that your attitudes, feelings, and behavior are altered.” **Tim Keller**, “Prayer”, p. 166-168

“...at the heart of the unit is another historical event – the call of Isaiah as a result of his vision of the Lord. ...Isaiah is humbled and convicted of his sin. He repents and is cleansed. He is strengthened and commissioned. He then becomes the representative of what God is willing to do for all his people if they will receive the revelation of his holiness and seek his forgiveness. There has to be a radical shift in the control-centre of their everyday living if they (and we) are to enter into the fulfilment of God’s magnificent, eternal purposes ...” **David Jackman**, Isaiah (from "Teaching the Bible" series)

...Hey, Gen Z, ...You're Up!