

# The Book of Isaiah

## Trusting God More #2

The outline is taken from Melissa Spoelstra's book, *Isaiah: Striving Less and Trusting More*.

Objective: To understand following God isn't about striving; it's about trusting God more.

Big Idea for lesson #2: We can trust God because He is holy!

Discussion: When you hear the expression, "God is on the throne" what does that say to you? How does it strengthen your relationship to know God in on the throne? God sits on His throne with power, authority, and sovereignty.

Read Isaiah 6:14

- Seeing the Lord                      Belief

Discuss Isaiah's encounter. Visualize the scene. If you had been Isaiah and witnessed this with your own eyes, how might you have reacted? The One the angels call Holy, Holy, Holy sits on the throne! His countenance filled the temple. God is holy!

In the year that King Uzziah died...King Uzziah had a long and distinguished reign as king. His tenure is described in 2 Chronicles 26 and 2 Kings 15:1-7 (for references only). He began his reign at age 16 and reigned until he was 52 years of age. Read what 2 Kings 15:3 says about him.

- Uzziah sought the Lord and as long as he sought the Lord God made him prosper.
- Uzziah led Israel in many victories over the Philistines.
- Uzziah was considered a strong king, a builder and a planner.

But his life ended tragically. Read the account of his demise in 2 Chronicles 26:16.

So, when you hear the year King Uzziah died, you understand Isaiah had great reason to mourn the life of King Uzziah. The question is where was God in all of this? Read Isaiah 6:1. God was where He had always been. In the beginning of King Uzziah's rule, God was on His throne, and He was on his throne at the end of King Uzziah's rule.

Perhaps God was reassuring Isaiah, Uzziah may no longer be on his throne, but I am on the throne! Lord willing, we will elect the 47<sup>th</sup> President of the United States in our next election. Who will be on the throne? Who has always been on the throne?

Note God's elevated position in Isaiah 1:1-2. Note his attire. His train filled the temple.

The seraphims adored him and yet concealed themselves. They were serving God. Read 3-4. They cried Holy, holy, holy! Isaiah could not cry out Holy, holy, holy because he was a man of unclean lips.

## o Seeing Ourselves                      Belonging

Read 5-7. Do you find it quite interesting that in response to God's holiness, Isaiah recognized his own sinfulness? He saw himself as a sinner!

Daniel had a similar experience in Daniel 10:15-17. o Job did also in Job 42:5-6.

o Peter did as well in Luke 5:8.

Isaiah saw himself and the sinfulness of his people. How should we see ourselves in the presence of God?

How do you feel about Isaiah's confession? Did you notice he did not try to hide or pretend? How do you feel about your own sins in light of the holiness of God? The Lord did not shame Isaiah for his brokenness. Instead, he removed his guilt (the burning coal). This act foreshadowed Jesus' removal of our sins. Read verse 6 and 7. The hot coal touched his mouth. This represented the cleansing Isaiah needed (purification). What was the message to Isaiah? What is the message to us?

### • Seeing our Next Steps Behavior

Once Isaiah had been in the presence of God, convicted of his sin and cleansed from his sin, he was now ready for service. What does this spiritual act say to us on today? Read verse 8. Notice the Lord did NOT ask Isaiah to go? He made the need known and Isaiah volunteered himself for service. God knows the needs we have today. God knows everything! What He wants is for WILLING participants to serve in the kingdom of God!

God wants humble and willing volunteers. Listen to the questions:

Whom shall I send?

Who will go for us?

How did Isaiah respond? What does, "Here I am" say to you?

Isaiah did not hesitate. Isaiah made himself available. His assignment is given in verses 9-10.

In verses 11-13, he is told how long he must prophesy.

Read Phil 2:8. How did Jesus respond to the cross?

Are you willing to go? Do you trust God?