

Life-Changing Words

Isaiah 6:1-8

Theme

A genuine encounter with the holy God transforms how we see God, see ourselves, and see the world, leading us to wholehearted surrender.

A. INTRODUCTION

1. We live in a troubled world.
2. Nations are anxious, morality declines; Truth is increasingly rejected.
3. Many hearts are filled with fear rather than faith.
4. Yet the greatest need is not merely political, economic, or social reform.
5. Our greatest need is **spiritual revival**.
6. We need a fresh movement of God that begins in His own people.
7. Sadly, many Christians live far below the life God intends.
8. They have settled into comfortable routines, busy but spiritually barren.
9. They are active but accomplish little of eternal value.
10. They know about God but have never fully surrendered to Him. What is missing?
11. Many have never experienced the joy and adventure of saying what Isaiah said:
12. **"Here am I. Send me."**
13. These five simple words changed Isaiah's life. They can change ours as well.
14. How did Isaiah arrive at this point of complete surrender?

B. We Must See God As He Really Is (vv. 1–4)

1. Isaiah ministered during one of Judah's darkest periods.
2. God's people had drifted away from Him. Violence and injustice filled the land.
3. Immorality was commonplace. Drunkenness and idolatry were widespread.
4. Then came a national crisis. "In the year that King Uzziah died..."
5. Uzziah had ruled for more than fifty years. He was one of Judah's greatest kings.
6. His death left the nation uncertain and fearful. Human hope had died.
7. Then Isaiah saw something greater.
8. **"I saw the Lord."**
9. When earthly kings disappear, the heavenly King still reigns.
10. While governments fail, economies collapse, cultures change...
11. God remains on His throne.
12. Isaiah's greatest need was not another king; it was a fresh vision of God.
13. Notice what overwhelmed him. God's holiness is His defining perfection.
14. The angels continually cried, "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty."
15. He is perfectly pure, completely righteous, & can't tolerate sin, & never changes.
16. The world continually redefines sin. God never does.
17. The holiness seen in Isaiah 6 is the same holiness revealed at Calvary.
18. The Cross demonstrates that God is both perfectly holy and perfectly loving.
19. Nothing less than the death of His Son could deal with the seriousness of sin.
20. A dirty window never looks dirty until sunlight shines through it.
21. The brighter the light, the more clearly the dirt appears.
22. The brighter our vision of God, the clearer we see reality.

C. **We Must See Ourselves As We Really Are (vv. 5–7)**

1. A vision of God's holiness produced a vision of Isaiah's own sinfulness.
2. Instead of saying, "How sinful everyone else is," he cried, "Woe is me!"
3. Isaiah became painfully aware of his own heart. Notice his confession.
4. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips,
5. ...and I live among a people of unclean lips."
6. Throughout Scripture those who encounter God's holiness respond the same way.
7. Peter: "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man." Job: "I despise myself."
8. Abraham: "I am but dust and ashes." Paul: "The least of all God's people."
9. No one stands proudly in God's presence.
10. One danger today is comparing ourselves with other people,
11. ...instead of with God's perfect holiness.
12. Compared with others we may appear respectable.
13. Compared with Christ we all need mercy.
14. But Isaiah's story does not end with conviction. God provided cleansing.
15. A seraph touched Isaiah's lips with a live coal from the altar and declared,
16. *"Your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for."*
17. God never exposes sin to condemn us, rather so He can forgive and restore us.
18. Today our cleansing comes through Jesus Christ.
19. *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins"* (1Jn 1:9)
20. A surgeon exposes disease not to shame the patient but to remove what would destroy life.
21. God reveals sin because He desires healing, not humiliation.

D. **We Must See the World As God Sees It (v. 8)**

1. Only after Isaiah saw God and experienced cleansing did he hear God's voice.
2. Notice the order here: Vision, Conviction, Cleansing, Commission.
3. God asked, *"Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?"*
4. The cry of God's heart is for people to carry His message out for a lost world.
5. Isaiah didn't ask about salary, comfort, or success, just **"Here am I. Send me."**
6. Those five words redirected the rest of his life. Revival always produces mission.
7. Those who have experienced God's grace cannot remain indifferent to people who do not know Him.
8. Ask God to help you see all people through His eyes.
9. Jesus came *"to seek and to save that which was lost."* Is that our passion?
10. The church exists to shine the light of Christ into a dark world.

E. **CONCLUSION**

1. God's question has never changed. **"Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?"**
2. The only question is how we will answer. Perhaps God is calling you
3. Isaiah discovered that the surrendered life is never a boring life.
4. It is a life filled with purpose, joy, and eternal significance.
5. When your heart is right with God, you are ready to serve Him.
6. May our answer today be the same as Isaiah's: **"Here am I. Send me."**