When Our Strength Is Not Enough

Isaiah 6



1 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.

2 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.

3 And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of angel armies; the whole earth is full of his glory!" 4 And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke.

5 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 angel armies!"

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

8 And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me." 9 And he said, "Go, and say to this people..."

9 "Go, and say to this people: 'Keep on hearing, but do not understand; keep on seeing, but do not perceive.' 10 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."

11 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, 12 and the LORD removes people far away, and the forsaken places are many in the midst of the land. 13 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."

13 ... "The holy seed is its stump."

1. Isaiah experiences <u>the failure of a</u> <u>dream</u> as he and his people come to the end of their strength.

"Woe is me! I am undone—for I am unclean and so are all my kind!" 2. In acknowledgement of weakness, Isaiah catches a <u>glimpse of the coming</u> <u>King</u>. He discovers that the death of our effectiveness is the birth of God's glory.

"For my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty, the holy seed sprouting from the stump!"

3. Isaiah experiences the gospel in miniature as something holy is drawn from the very presence of God and comes to impart His purity, wholeness, and life to us.



WILL YOU ACCEPT THIS HOLY TOUCH?

WILL YOU LET JESUS PURIFY YOU, GIVE YOU LIFE, & OPEN THE DOOR TO YOUR NEW VOCATION?