

ISAIAH 6

- THE
 - o The
 - It
 - on
 - o Bad
- o The

VINEYARD...
inspection...

- Isaiah was given a SONG [שִׁיר] the LORD sang [cohortative] for His BELOVED [דָּוִד] was about the VINEYARD He put a fruitful hill [Jerusalem]
- But rather than GOOD fruit - Judah was ROTTEN! fruit...
- The people were GREEDY - in their real estate purchases...
- They only wanted to have FUN [parties] - but IGNORED the work of God...
- The result was HELL needed to EXPAND to hold those who were heading that way! Woes...
- Woe to those who demand to see the WORK of God - because they do NOT know God...
- Woe to those who call GOOD evil - and

EVIL good [backwards]

- Woe to those who are WISE in their own eyes - but are really FOOLS - **Romans 1:22**
- Woe to those who like to DRINK - because they have no discernment...
- Therefore - God will pour out His WRATH on them [the hills will shake]
- Judah would be CONQUERED by a foreign army - then they would SEE the work of God!

● **1st - SEEING THE LORD... vs. 1-7**

o **1st - King Uzziah... vs. 1**

- Good King...
 - In the year that King Uzziah died!
 - There were a total of FORTY kings in Israel and Judah [twenty in each]
 - TWELVE kings did EVIL in the sight of the Lord [as well as all TWENTY in Israel]
 - But King Uzziah [Azariah] was one of EIGHT good kings from Judah - **II Chronicles 26:4**
 - He also had the SECOND longest reign of ANY king [52 years]
 - Meaning for more than HALF a century Israel was governed by a GODLY man...
 - The result was there was great PROSPERITY and the nation was BLESSED!
 - **II Chronicles 26:4** - "His fame spread... for he became exceedingly strong."
 - But there was a down side to the BLESSING that came from a Godly king...
 - When there is a GOOD leader in POWER - people tend to look to that MAN...
 - Because it is easier to put TRUST in someone we can SEE - than an UNSEEN God...
 - This may be why Isaiah did NOT see the Lord - UNTIL Uzziah died!
 - We need to be careful NOT to put anyone on a PEDESTAL...
 - Our hope and confidence CANNOT be in a MAN - no matter how GODLY they might be...
 - Because we are all still SINNERS - and will make MISTAKES...
 - Our goal should be to always make sure we are pointing others to the ONE answer!
- Bad end...
 - **II Chronicles 26:16** - "When [Uzziah] was strong his heart was lifted up to his destruction."
 - In his later years Uzziah thought he could be both KING and PRIEST...
 - He went into the Temple to offer INCENSE to the Lord [job of the priest]
 - But the LORD struck him with leprosy - he was kicked out of the Temple - and he DIED!
 - God had divided the responsibilities of ministering to His people...
 - The King was to protect and provide for the people PRACTICALLY...
 - The Priests were to act as guides to lead the people SPIRITUALLY...
 - That way the people would never learn to depend on ONE man...
 - And through the FALL of Uzziah - Isaiah was finally able to look up!
 - There is ONE who is both KING and PRIEST - Jesus - **Hebrews 7:1**
 - Because He is the ONE and ONLY answer to every question...
 - I have often been accused of giving people the SAME answer...
 - No matter what the question - my response does NOT change - Jesus!

o **2nd - The Throne... vs. 1**

- I saw the Lord sitting on a throne high and lifted up - the train of His robe filled the temple!
- [Sequential] - because of the death of King Uzziah...
- Isaiah SAW [רָאָה] the MASTER [אֱלֹהִים] - sitting on a TALL throne that lifted Him up [niph'al]
- And His ROBE [שָׂרָד] - that of the High Priest - filled the whole TEMPLE - **Exodus 39:24**
- Isaiah might have been wondering - now that Uzziah is DEAD...
- With the king NO longer sitting on his throne - what happens next...
- The answer is the KING never left His THRONE - the MASTER [אֱלֹהִים] is always there!
- **Hebrews 6:20** - "Jesus [our] High Priest forever."
- People will come and go in our lives - our circumstances will always change...

- But the ONE thing that stands true - NEVER changes - is Jesus - **Hebrews 13:8**
- And sometimes God has to take something away - so we look up and see Him!
- o 3rd - The angels... vs. 2-4
 - Cherubim...
 - Above it stood seraphim!
 - ABOVE the throne were SERAPHIM [plural] - we assume there were FOUR...
 - Because this is one of THREE main passages in the Bible describing these ANGELS!
 - FIRST - Isaiah called them the SERAPHIM [שֶׁרָפִים] - meaning the ones who BURN [שָׂרַף]
 - SECOND - Ezekiel called them FOUR living [חַיִּים] - because they are full of LIFE - **Ezekiel 1:5**
 - And would go on to say they looked like BURNING bronze [Seraphim]
 - Ezekiel would also call them CHERUBIM [כְּרוּבִים] - **Ezekiel - 10:20**
 - Like those who were carved over the top of the MERCY seat on the ARK - **Exodus 25:18**
 - THIRD - John called them FOUR creatures [τέτρα] - meaning to be ALIVE - **Revelation 4:6**
 - Their wings...
 - Each one had six wings.
 - With two he covered his face - with two he covered his feet - and with two he flew!
 - Each of the FOUR Seraphim had SIX wings [also] - **Ezekiel 1:6**
 - And those WINGS were full of eyes - **Revelation 4:8**
 - With TWO of the wings they covered [piel] their FACE - to not look at God - **Exodus 33:20**
 - With TWO of the wings they covered [piel] their FEET [humility]
 - With the last TWO they flew around the Throne of God!
 - Their faces...
 - Though Isaiah does NOT describe their FACES - John and Ezekiel do...
 - The Seraphim had FOUR kinds of FACES - lion - cow - man - and eagle!
 - When the TWELVE tribes camped on FOUR sides of the Tabernacle...
 - Each side had its own banner - **Number 2:34**
 - Jewish tradition says: Judah was a Lion - Ephraim an ox - Reuben a man - Dan an eagle...
 - The same imagery also appears in the GOSPELS...
 - Matthew a Lion [Jesus is King] - Mark an Ox [Jesus is the servant of all]
 - Luke a Man [Jesus is the perfect sacrifice] - John an Eagle [Jesus is the King of Kings]
 - What do all of these have in common - God is at the CENTER...
 - The Seraphim circle around the LORD - Israel gathered around the LORD...
 - The GOSPEL message - is all about Jesus - who is the LORD...
 - The point - this life has ONE purpose - and that is to put God at the CENTER - **John 17:3**
 - Their praise... vs. 3-4
 - And one cried to another and said:
 - Holy - holy - holy is the LORD of hosts. The whole earth is full of His glory.
 - The posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out.
 - And the house was filled with smoke!
 - The Seraphim cry out [sequential] to one another saying...
 - HOLY [קֹדֶשׁ] - which they repeat THREE times [Father - Son - Spirit]
 - The angels call God - the LORD [יְהוָה] of HOSTS [צְבָאוֹת] - the armies of heaven...
 - And that the whole [כָּל] world is FULL of His GLORY [כְּבוֹד] - knowledge of Him...
 - As the Seraphim cried - the whole building SHOOK...
 - And the HOUSE [בַּיִת] was filled with SMOKE [שָׁחֵמָה] - **I Kings 8:10**
 - This is the SAME song John heard in his vision of the Lord - **Revelation 4:8**
 - Where the angels called Him FOUR things: First the Lord [κύριος] - He is the MASTER...
 - SECOND - the God [ὁ θεός] - because He is THE one and ONLY God - **Deuteronomy 6:4**
 - THIRD - the [ὁ] Almighty - a compound word meaning ALL [πᾶς] and POWERFUL [κράτος]

- FOURTH - the God who WAS [past] – IS [present] – and is to COME [future]
 - Everyone KNOWS [whole world] who God is [כבוד] - **Romans 1:20**
 - We KNOW He is our MASTER – who is the ONLY God – who has ALL power...
 - Who has ALWAYS been – and will ALWAYS be forever...
 - Is it no wonder our TRIUNE [holy 3x] God should be worshiped!
- o 4th – Unclean... vs. 5
- Unclean lips...
 - So I said: Woe is me for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips.
 - I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips!
 - [Sequential] as a RESULT of what Isaiah saw - the GLORY of the Lord...
 - [ואמר] He said - WOE [אוי] to me because [כי] I am going to DIE [niphall]
 - FIRST - [כי] because - he had UNCLEAR lips [sinner] - and lived among UNCLEAR people!
 - **Exodus 33:20** - “You cannot see My face - for no man shall see Me and live.”
 - When Moses asked to see the FACE of God - he was told it was NOT possible...
 - No man can look on His FACE and live - there are TWO thoughts on why!
 - God is so HOLY - there is NO sin in him - He is PURE light...
 - When a SINFUL man comes into His presence - **Hebrews 4:13**
 - And the BRIGHTNESS of His glory - exposes every FLAW - ever SINFUL thought...
 - We are left condemned - overwhelmed by our inevitable fate [death] - **Romans 6:23**
 - Lord of Hosts...
 - For my eyes have seen the King the LORD of hosts!
 - SECOND - [כי] because Isaiah saw the KING [המלך] - the LORD [יהוה] of HOSTS [צבאות]
 - Yet he did LIVE - but perhaps did NOT want to go back...
 - Upon seeing our Lord - who would want to go back to their old life!
 - **II Corinthians 12:4** – “[I] was caught up into Paradise and heard inexpressible words which it is not lawful for a man to utter.” [NLT]
 - Paul after seeing PARADISE - saw things so amazing he could NOT even write about them...
 - One has to wonder if this part of why he would go on to say he was TORN...
 - Because he wanted to go HOME - but stayed in order to HELP the church - **Philippians 1:23**
- o 5th - Forgiven... vs. 6-7
- The coal... vs. 6
 - Then one of the seraphim flew to me.
 - Having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar!
 - One of the Seraphim then came over to Isaiah...
 - He brought a HOT coal from off of the ALTAR [of incense]
 - Inside the Tabernacle – next to the veil – was an Altar of INCENSE – **Exodus 30:1-10**
 - The Lord told Moses that He would meet with him there at the Altar...
 - Because even Moses could NOT go inside into the presence of God...
 - But as the INCENSE was burned – it would carry through the veil – into the HOLIEST of all...
 - It is used to describe the PRAYERS of the SAINTS - **Revelation 5:8**
 - Clean... vs. 7
 - And he touched my mouth with it and said.
 - Behold this has touched your lips - your iniquity is taken away and your sin purged!
 - The Seraphim touched the HOT coal to CLEAN the lips of Isaiah...
 - LOOK [הנה] - your CONVICTION [עון] is taken - and your SIN [חטאת] is FORGIVEN [pual]!
 - The cure for SIN - it NOT to burn our lips...
 - Please do NOT run out and look for HOT coals in order to be FORGIVEN!
 - The picture is that through PRAYER - by recognizing our SINFULNESS...
 - And coming to the Lord and asking for FORGIVENESS - we are made CLEAN!

- **I John 1:9** - "If we confess our sins He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

- **2ND - SENT BY THE LORD... vs. 8-13**

- o **1st - Voice of the Lord... vs. 8**

- Plural...
 - Also I heard the voice of the Lord saying: Whom shall I send - and who will go for Us?
 - [Sequential] - because Isaiah had been FORGIVEN [confessed his sin]
 - The Lord [אֲדֹנָי] asked WHO should He SEND [LXX - ἀποστέλλω]
 - And He went on to ask - WHO will go for US [plural]!
 - This is NOT the only time that God refers to Himself in the PLURAL...
 - When God made Adam and Eve He said - let US make them in OUR image - **Genesis 1:26**
 - When men built Babel He said - let US go and confuse their language - **Genesis 11:7**
 - There are FOUR words used in the Bible for God...
 - [אֱלֹהִים] God - is the generic name for god [not a title or description]
 - [אֲדֹנָי] Lord - used over 400x in OT - refers to His AUTHORITY [the master]
 - [יְהוָה] LORD - used over 5300x in OT - refers to His CHARACTER [the I Am]
 - [אֱלֹהִים] God [plural] - used over 2300x in OT - refers to His divine NATURE [three in one]
 - The Rabbis say that it is plural to add emphasis to the name of God...
 - We know better - it is plural because God is triune - three in one!
- Trinity...
 - **Deuteronomy 6:4** - "Hear O Israel: The LORD our God - the LORD is one."
 - Every Sabbath day - in EVERY synagogue - in EVERY nation of the world...
 - This verse is EVERY by every Jew - the statement there is only ONE God...
 - Hear O Israel: The LORD [יְהוָה] our God [אֱלֹהִים] is one LORD [יְהוָה]
 - The word ONE is the Hebrew word [אֶחָד] - properly interpreted united as one...
 - Hear O Israel - YAHWEH our Gods are untied into one YAHWEH!
 - One of the great mysteries of our Faith - there is only One God...
 - Yet God exists in THREE distinct persons: God the Father - God the Son - God the Spirit...
 - The Bible makes NO effort to explain HOW this is true - ONLY that it is a FACT...
 - What makes a religion a cult - rather than a denomination...
 - Is there denial of this KEY doctrine - rejecting the divinity of Jesus Christ!

- o **2nd - Here am I... vs. 8**

- Then I said: Here am I! Send me!
- Isaiah heard the QUESTION - and he was NOT shy to answer...
- Here I am Lord [אֲדֹנָי] - You must [imperative] send [ἀποστέλλω] me!
- We have all applied for a Job - we know about job qualifications...
- We prepare our resumé - try to make it look as impressive as we can...
- Because depending on the work - they might require a college degree...
- They may want certain work experience - prior training...
- At certain jobs they are looking for a particular age - or even height [airlines]!
- There is a LONG list of what God does NOT require from those He uses...
- He does NOT require a DEGREE [Bible college is not necessary]
- He does NOT require any prior experience [He does on the job training]
- He does NOT care about our abilities [He is more than able to equip us]
- He does NOT worry about our appearance [we are perfect in His sight]
- The ONE qualification for being used by God - answer His call...
- Because the ONLY thing that can STOP the work of God in our lives is us...
- God will NOT force us to serve Him - He only asks if we are willing!

o 3rd - The Command... vs. 9-10

- Listen... vs. 9
 - He said: Go and tell this people: Keep on hearing!
 - [Sequential] - because Isaiah responded to the CALL of God...
 - God commanded him to GO [imperative] and speak to the people [Judah]
 - He had ONE command - they must [imperative] LISTEN carefully...
 - The word LISTEN [שָׁמַע] is repeated twice - [שָׁמַעוּ] imperative - [שָׁמְעוּ] infinitive!
 - Because the ONLY thing that brings FAITH - is hearing the Word - **Romans 10:17**
 - Therefore God commands Isaiah to go and command them the LISTEN!
- Do not understand... vs. 9
 - But do not understand. Keep on seeing but do not perceive!
 - This is where this gets VERY interesting [pay attention]
 - God told Isaiah to COMMAND the people to LISTEN...
 - BUT [וְ] - God did NOT [אֵל] want [jussive] them to UNDERSTAND [בִּין]
 - He wanted them to SEE [רָאָה] - but [וְ] NOT [jussive] comprehend [דָּע]
 - Do NOT misunderstand - God did NOT want the people to be DEAF and BLIND...
 - But God KNEW - no matter how many times Isaiah told the people to LISTEN...
 - It would NOT help - because God knew the HEARTS of the people!
- Fat Hearts... vs. 10
 - Make the heart of this people dull - and their ears heavy - and shut their eyes.
 - The more Isaiah told them to LISTEN - the FATTER [hiphil] their hearts [לֵב] became...
 - [וְ] AND - because of their CLOGGED [fat] hearts...
 - Their EAR became [hiphil] dull [כָּבֹד] - and their EYES closed [hiphil]!
 - This verse is quoted by Jesus in the Parables - **Matthew 13:14-15**
 - When He gave them powerful spiritual truths [seed and sower]
 - But the people did NOT understand - and walked away confused...
 - Because the PARABLES were a TEST - to see who would ask QUESTIONS...
 - The only ones who inquired what the PARABLES meant - were the DISCIPLES!
 - **Matthew 13:16** - "Blessed are your eyes for they see - and your ears for they hear."
 - There is a DANGER to just sitting and LISTENING to the Word...
 - There are a lot of FAT people in church - full of the WORD...
 - People who sit in church week after week LISTENING to Bible studies...
 - But if we do NOT act on it - if we do NOT obey it - we become calloused to what it says...
 - We convince ourselves that we KNOW the truth...
 - But if that TRUTH is not lived out our daily lives - it has NO power!
 - **James 1:22** - "Do not just listen to Gods word. [We] must do what it says!" [NLT]
- Healed... vs. 10
 - Lest they see with their eyes - and hear with their ears - and understand with their heart.
 - And return and be healed!
 - Because [כִּי] if they could SEE [רָאָה] - and HEAR [שָׁמַע] - their heart would UNDERSTAND [בִּין]
 - [וְ] AND [sequential] - they would REPENT [שׁוּב] and be SAVED [רָפָא]!
 - When someone has HIGH cholesterol [fatty heart]
 - It known as the SILENT killer - because it cannot easily be seen...
 - The ONLY way to know if someone is in DANGER - is to run a TEST!
 - In the same way - if we want to KNOW if we have a HARD heart there is a TEST...
 - When we hear the WORD of God - do we REPENT [שׁוּב]
 - Because if we really SEE and HEAR what the WORD has to say...
 - We will UNDERSTAND we are SINNERS who are bound for DESTRUCTION - **Matthew 7:13**
 - And we will quickly TURN [שׁוּב] around and run to God who will SAVE us!

- o 4th - Hard work... vs. 11-12
 - How long... vs. 11
 - Then I said: Lord how long?
 - [Sequential] - in response to God saying the people would NOT repent...
 - Their FAT hearts would dull [hiphil] their ears - and close [hiphil] their eyes...
 - Isaiah had ONE question - HOW long Lord [אָדוּנִי]
 - He is NOT rejecting the commission - he is still willing to go [calls God master]
 - But sensing the futility of the call - he wonders how long he has to keep it up!
 - Till the end... vs. 11-12
 - And He answered: Until the cities are laid waste and without inhabitant.
 - The houses are without a man. The land is utterly desolate.
 - The LORD has removed men far away - forsaken places are many in the midst of the land!
 - [Sequential] - the Lord answered Isaiah...
 - Until [עַד] the cities are RUINED [תִּשָּׁאָה] - and there is NO one [אֵין]
 - Their houses are EMPTY - not [אֵין] even one MAN [singular] left...
 - The LAND is completely [niph'al] DESOLATE [תִּשָּׁאָה] - a wasteland [שְׂמָמָה]
 - And [Sequential] - great [גָּדוֹל] will be the RUIN of the LAND!
 - We are NOT called to go out and SHARE the Gospel with a HUNGRY world...
 - We go out to a REBELLIOUS people who do NOT want God...
 - Therefore we should NOT be surprised when MOST people reject the message...
 - It is NOT that they do NOT know the truth - they do NOT want it - **John 3:19**
 - But that does NOT mean we stop preaching - we keep going...
 - Until there is NO one left to preach the MESSAGE to!
- o 5th - The seed... vs. 13
 - The Tenth...
 - [And] yet a tenth will be in it and will return and be for consuming!
 - [וְ] AND - if even a TENTH of the people come back [שׁוֹבִים] to the Land...
 - They will ALSO be BURNED [piel] to the ground!
 - When Judah came back from the SEVENTY years of Captivity - **Jeremiah 25:11**
 - Less than FIFTY thousand came back - **Ezra 2:64**
 - This small number [ten percent?] became the Jews of the New Testament...
 - But even they would NOT last long in the Land...
 - Rome would come and sack JERUSALEM - burn down the TEMPLE [70 A.D.]
 - And finally cast out the remnant and rename it PALESTINE [132 A.D.]
 - Hope...
 - As a terebinth tree or as an oak whose stump remains when it is cut down.
 - So the holy seed shall be its stump!
 - [וְ] BUT - like [כְּ] the stump of a mighty OAK tree with DEEP roots...
 - Can be the SEED that allows the TREE to grow again...
 - Likewise from the REMNANT of Israel - will come the HOLY [קֹדֶשׁ] SEED...
 - The HOLY seed being a reference to Jesus Christ - **Genesis 3:15**
 - This ought to give us GREAT hope - God is working even when we are NOT listening...
 - Yes He will punish us when our HEARTS are hard - to get our attention...
 - But that does NOT mean He will turn His back on us...
 - He is working to try and get us to LISTEN - and TURN to Jesus [Holy seed]
 - He wants to make us into a HOLY [קֹדֶשׁ] people - who live for Him!