

Templates of Truth with Rick Smith
Audio Script – March 04 , 2009

Have you ever had someone explain something to you in such an effective way that your response was, “Oh, I see!” In today’s Templates of Truth, Isaiah sees God in such a way that it forever changes both his view of himself, and the direction of his life.

Carried by the Spirit of God into a supernatural vision, Isaiah was allowed to view the Throne Room of God in heaven. It is a majestic scene that only a few others in Scripture have been privileged to witness and write about (Ezekiel, Daniel, and John). There, Isaiah *saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted* (6:1). The Hebrew word that is translated *saw*, means more than just seeing with the physical eyes. It includes seeing with understanding, discernment and keen perception. Isaiah didn’t just see God, he saw God with a new understanding and awareness. This revelation had three immediate effects on Isaiah’s life.

Upon seeing the holiness of God, Isaiah realized how unholy he was in comparison – *woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts* (6:5). It is the work and power of the Holy Spirit that enables us to see our sinfulness. We are called upon in Scripture to be holy as God is holy. Only the forgiving grace & power of God can remove our unholiness and cover our sinfulness with the shed blood of Christ, cleansing us and justifying us holy in God’s sight – *one of the Seraphim flew to (Isaiah) with a burning coal in his hand...and touched (his) mouth with it and said... ”your iniquity is taken away and your sin is forgiven”* (6:6-7).

Once we have truly beheld God and experienced His transforming grace applied to our life, we hear His voice and come to a clear understanding that He has a work for each of us to do. Isaiah said, *then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?”* (6:8). God needs singers, preachers, teachers, missionaries, educators, administrators, caregivers, servants and laborers – there is a job for every believer in the ministry of the church and work of the Kingdom of God. God needed Isaiah to *go and tell this people* (6:9). When you finally see God as Isaiah saw Him, your only response to God’s call is the response Isaiah had – *here am I; send me!* (6:8).

For the first time in his life, Isaiah really saw God. When he did, he immediately saw his own sinfulness. He experienced the transforming forgiveness of God’s grace and power. He realized there was a role of ministry God wanted him to assume, and Isaiah was compelled to answer that call with passion and priority. When you and I come to really see God, our encounter with God will be very similar.

The problem with too many of God’s people in the church today is that *their eyes are dim* (6:10). They *keep looking, but do not (see) understand* (6:9). Many know that God has a work for them to do, but their mind is too focused on what it is going to require of them. Like Isaiah’s question, they ask *how long?* (6:11). How much is going to cost me? What am I going to have to give up or sacrifice? Where will it require me to go? Almost always, God’s call moves us out of our comfort zone and challenges us into places where we would not otherwise like to go. Believers

who are unwilling to follow this journey of faith are those who have yet to see God the way God wants and desires them to see Him. How is your eyesight today? Do you need to take the blinders off and take a real close view of God? I must warn you. When you do, you will never see yourself the same way again; and what you come to understand and realize will forever change the direction of your life. David issues the invitation: *O taste and see that the Lord is good* (Psalm 34:8).

That's today's Templates of Truth. This is your Bible teacher, Rick Smith, reminding you to attend church this Sunday for Bible study and worship, pray for one another, and always strive to abide. Until next time, have a blessed and glorious day in Christ Jesus.

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