



I. Full Hands But Empty Hearts

A. _____ Without God
(Deuteronomy 18:9-12)

Isaiah 2:6 "For you have rejected your people, the house of Jacob, because they are full of things from the east and of fortune-tellers like the Philistines, and they strike hands with the children of foreigners."

Isaiah 8:19 "And when they say to you, 'Inquire of the mediums and the necromancers who chirp and mutter,' should not a people inquire of their God? Should they inquire of the dead on behalf of the living?"

B. _____ Without Peace

Isaiah 2:7a "Their land is filled with silver and gold, and there is no end to their treasures"

1 Timothy 6:17 "As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy."

C. _____ Without Lasting Safety
(Deuteronomy 17:16-17)

Isaiah 2:7b "their land is filled with horses, and there is no end to their chariots."

Psalms 20:7 "Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God."

D. Man-Made _____ Without Power

Isaiah 2:8 "Their land is filled with idols; they bow down to the work of their hands, to what their own fingers have made."

Acts 17:16b "he saw that the city was full of idols."

II. High _____ Meets the Most High

Isaiah 2:9-11 "So man is humbled, and each one is brought low— do not forgive them! Enter into the rock and hide in the dust from before the terror of the Lord, and from the splendor of his majesty. The haughty looks of man shall be brought low, and the lofty pride of men shall be humbled, and the Lord alone will be exalted in that day. For the Lord of hosts has a day against all that is proud and lofty, against all that is lifted up—and it shall be brought low"

Isaiah 2:13-16 "against all the cedars of Lebanon, lofty and lifted up; and against all the oaks of Bashan; against all the lofty mountains, and against all the uplifted hills; against every high tower, and against every fortified wall; against all the ships of Tarshish, and against all the beautiful craft."

Genesis 11:4-5 "Then they said, 'Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth.' And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the children of man had built."

James 4:6b "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

Isaiah 2:17 "And the haughtiness of man shall be humbled, and the lofty pride of men shall be brought low, and the Lord alone will be exalted in that day."

III. Your _____ Cannot Save You
(Matthew 11:28-30; Mark 8:36; Revelation 6:15-17)

Isaiah 2:18 "And the idols shall utterly pass away."

Isaiah 2:19 "And people shall enter the caves of the rocks and the holes of the ground, from before the terror of the Lord, and from the splendor of his majesty, when he rises to terrify the earth."

Isaiah 2:20-21 "In that day mankind will cast away their idols of silver and their idols of gold, which they made for themselves to worship, to the moles and to the bats, to enter the caverns of the rocks and the clefts of the cliffs, from before the terror of the Lord, and from the splendor of his majesty, when he rises to terrify the earth."

Isaiah 46:1-2 "Bel bows down; Nebo stoops; their idols are on beasts and livestock; these things you carry are borne as burdens on weary beasts. They stoop; they bow down together; they cannot save the burden, but themselves go into captivity."

Isaiah 46:4b "I will carry you. I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and will save."

IV. People Make Poor _____

Isaiah 2:22 "Stop regarding man in whose nostrils is breath, for of what account is he?"

Psalms 146:3-5 "Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation. When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish. Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God"

Philippians 2:8-11 "And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."



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BACKGROUND:

Isaiah 2:6-22 warns that pride can lead us to trust in prosperity, power, and religious activity rather than in God. Wealth, achievements, and self-righteousness can become false sources of security, but the Day of the Lord will bring every counterfeit refuge to ruin. As *Isaiah* declares, "The LORD alone will be exalted in that day" (verses 11, 17). It is wise to place our trust in God now, because in the end, He alone will be exalted.

DIGGING DEEPER:

God's concern over Judah's corruption is expressed in verse 6: "They are full of influences from the east; they practice divination like the Philistines and embrace pagan customs and alliances." Like King Solomon before them, Judah had adopted the beliefs and practices of surrounding nations rather than remaining faithful to their covenant relationship with God.

1. What dangers arise when we allow the world to influence us instead of influencing the world for Christ?

2. What are some practical ways ungodly influences can enter our homes or shape our thinking even when we try our best not to let that happen?

Verses 7-8 describe Judah's idolatry. At the heart of all idolatry is the exaltation of self. While most people no longer bow before carved images, modern idols often take more subtle forms.

3. How does verse 5 help us resist the pull towards idolatry (worship of self) instead of true worship of God? Read *Luke 12:13-21*. How can materialism, self-reliance, and a sense of entitlement replace trust in God?

4. What are some common forms of modern-day idolatry? How can we guard our hearts against them?

5. In what ways does God expose idols for what they truly are: powerless, empty, and unable to save?

Isaiah's prophecy declares that proud people will be humbled and that God alone will be exalted (verses 11, 17). Proverbs 16:18 says, "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall." God hates pride, arrogance, and every evil way (Proverbs 8:13). Sinful pride fails to recognize that God alone is worthy of worship because He alone is completely self-sufficient and sovereign.

6. How would you encourage someone to set aside their pride and recognize that God alone is worthy of worship? In what ways do you personally exalt Him?

7. The apostle Paul was given a thorn in the flesh to keep him humble and dependent upon God (*2 Corinthians 12:7-10*). Jesus told Paul, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." In what ways is God's grace sufficient to sustain us? How is His strength displayed through your weakness?

8. Consider Cain (*Genesis 4:1-7*), Lucifer (*Isaiah 14:12-15*), Nebuchadnezzar (*Daniel 4:28-37*), and the people at the Tower of Babel (*Genesis 11:1-9*). What common thread do you see in these accounts? How does God respond to a proud and arrogant heart?

TAKING IT HOME:

A day is coming when God will expose and judge everything that opposes His holiness. The result will be that "the arrogance of man will be brought low and human pride humbled; the LORD alone will be exalted in that day" (*Isaiah 2:17*).

9. Self-importance is the root cause of arrogance. Which attributes of God's character stand in direct contrast to arrogance and in what ways do you need His character to grow in your life?

10. In what ways might God humble a proud individual in order to draw them back to Himself? In what ways/areas do you need to be humbled or do you see God humbling you?

11. What truth from this week's sermon challenged or encouraged you most? How do you plan to apply it in your life this week?