

## I. The Threshold Of Surrendered Desire (1-5a)

- A. The strong desire for God’s presence (1) - “Oh that You would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at Your presence...”
- B. The jealous desire for God’s name (2) - “...as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil - to make Your name known to Your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at Your presence!”
- C. The penetrating desire for God’s power (3-4) - “When You did awesome things that we did not look for, You came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. 4 From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides You, who acts for those who wait for Him.”
- D. The relational desire for God’s affirmation (5a) - “You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember You in Your ways.

## II. The Threshold Of Surrendered Confession (5b-7) {no hedging, full/honest confession}

- A. We have nothing with which to bargain (5b) - “Behold, You were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved?”
- B. We cannot cover our obvious stains (6) - “We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.”
- C. We are guilty of being indifferent (7a) - “There is no one who calls upon Your name, who rouses himself to take hold of You;
- D. We cannot bear to go on apart from you (7b) - “...for You have hidden Your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities.”

## III. The Threshold Of Surrendered Pathways (8-12)

- A. We trust His moving hand (8) - “But now, O Lord, You are our Father; we are the clay, and You are our potter; we are all the work of Your hand.”
- B. We stand in His unbreakable covenant (9) - “Be not so terribly angry, O Lord, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all Your people.”
- C. We mourn the fallout from our failures (10-11) - “Your holy cities have become a wilderness; Zion has become a wilderness, Jerusalem a desolation. 11 Our holy and beautiful house, where our fathers praised You, has been burned by fire, and all our pleasant places have become ruins.”
- D. We surrender in hope of reversal (12) - “Will You restrain Yourself at these things, O Lord? Will You keep silent, and afflict us so terribly?”

Isaiah expressed a confidence in God’s mercy and kindness, even while acknowledging that Israel deserved nothing from God. From this we learn that we must yield ourselves fully to the unchanging character of a good and holy God, who is also the unwaveringly compassionate Father.