



ShalomAZ Ministries

In Pursuit of Israel's Redemption

"Encountering the Holiness of God"

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Devotion and Discussion Questions

Key Texts: Isaiah 6:1-8; 2 Chronicles 26; Ex. 24:9-11; Isaiah 2:17; 57:15

Isaiah 6 is one of the most familiar and powerful passages in all of Scripture—the call of Isaiah. But sometimes, when we know a passage so well, we can lose our sense of awe. Today, let's ask the Lord to open our eyes afresh, so that we can see what Isaiah saw, feel what he felt, and be transformed the way he was transformed.

Isaiah frames his vision with a time-stamp: *"In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord."* King Uzziah had been on the throne for 52 years. Under his leadership, Judah prospered, expanded, and flourished. But Uzziah's pride led him to defy God's order in the Temple, and he ended his reign in disgrace, struck with leprosy. The year of his death was a year of shaking. Political stability was collapsing, and Assyria was rising in power. The throne in Jerusalem was unstable—but Isaiah saw the true King on the throne in heaven. And what Isaiah saw was not a casual glimpse of God's presence. He encountered the holiness of God—and it changed him forever.

1. WHEN YOU SEE THE HOLY KING, EVERYTHING ELSE SHAKES

Isaiah looked up and saw Adonai—high and lifted up, the train of His robe filling the temple. Seraphim—the fiery ones—covered their faces and feet in reverence, crying out day and night, *"Holy, holy, holy is Adonai Tzva'ot. The whole earth is full of His glory."*

This was not a distant God. This was the Holy One—exalted, unique, incomparable. The shaking of the thresholds and the smoke filling the temple was not chaos; it was the weight of His holiness. When Isaiah saw God in His holiness, everything else—including any focus on Uzziah, the fear of Assyria, the instability of the throne—faded away. That is what happens when we see Him rightly. Our worries shrink. Our pride is exposed. Our idols are dethroned. We realize that God alone is exalted.

2. WHEN YOU SEE THE HOLY KING, YOU SEE YOUR OWN UNHOLINESS

Isaiah's immediate response was not excitement but terror: *"Woe is me! I am undone. I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King."*

The word "undone" means silenced, brought to an end. Isaiah realized in that moment that he wasn't different from the people he'd been pronouncing woes upon. In the blinding light of God's holiness, he saw his own sin. He could no longer compare himself to others—he saw himself as he really was. And that's the gift of God's holiness. It humbles us. It strips away our excuses. It brings us to confession. We stop saying, "Woe to them," and we start saying, "Woe to me."

3. WHEN YOU RESPOND TO THE HOLINESS OF THE KING, YOU ARE CLEANSED AND SET

But God did not leave Isaiah in despair. One of the seraphim flew with a burning coal from the altar, touched his lips, and declared: *"Behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity is taken away, and your sin is atoned for."*

The same fire that would destroy the rebellious purified the repentant. That's what the holiness of God does. It does not just expose sin—it consumes it. It cleanses. It transforms. And immediately after that cleansing came the call: *"Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?"* Isaiah, now forgiven and purified, could only respond: *"Here am I. Send me."* Encountering God's holiness didn't end in fear—it ignited a mission. Cleansed lips became sent lips. A broken man became a burning man.

CONCLUSION

Isaiah's story shows us what happens when we encounter God's holiness: we see Him exalted, we see ourselves humbled, and we are cleansed and commissioned. The Lord is still looking for people who will say, "Here am I, send me." But before He sends, He purifies. Before He purifies, He reveals Himself in holiness.

Have you truly encountered the holiness of God? Not just ideas about Him, not just religious routines, but His holiness that shakes you to the core? Maybe you've been trusting in earthly kings, in stability, in your own strength—like Uzziah. Maybe you've been comparing yourself to others instead of standing in God's light. Today, you can confess like Isaiah did. You can let the fire of His holiness touch your life—not to destroy you, but to cleanse you. If you'll bow before Him, He will lift you up, purify you, and send you out as His messenger. Will you say to Him today: *"Here am I. Send me"*?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How does Isaiah's vision remind us that only God is truly exalted?
2. Why is it important that Isaiah first confessed his own sin before being sent?
3. How do you think the holiness of God both terrifies and comforts us?
4. What does the burning coal from the altar teach us about God's forgiveness?
5. In what ways is God calling you right now to say, "Here am I, send me"?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Abba, we stand in awe of Your holiness. You are high and lifted up, and the whole earth is full of Your glory. Like Isaiah, we confess our uncleanness, our pride, our rebellion. We are a people of unclean lips. But thank You for the fire of Your holiness that cleanses us, not to destroy but to purify. Thank You for Yeshua, the once-for-all sacrifice that atones for our sin. Lord, we hear Your voice asking, "Whom shall I send?" And today, we say, "Here we are. Send us." Use us to bring Your holiness, Your love, and Your truth to a world in need.

In the name of Yeshua our Messiah, Amen.