

**Series: "AWE – A 40 Day Journey"**  
**Sunday Message: "God is Awesome in Holiness"**

January 28, 2024

By Brent Knox

**Icebreaker:**

When were you last called into the office of your chief principal or boss's boss? What for? How did that affect you?

**Sermon in TWO Sentences:**

God's holiness is both alarming and beautiful.

Experiencing God's forgiveness turns the alarm into joy.

**General Discussion [Groups of 4]:**

Read Isaiah 6

1. Imagine you are Isaiah. What do you tell a friend about what you saw, heard, felt, and smelled in verses 1-4?
2. How does this encounter with God illustrate God's greatness?
3. How would you describe the holiness of God? How is God's holiness beautiful?
4. Why is this encounter alarming for Isaiah? See also Exodus 20:19, 33:20.
5. Isaiah's experience illustrates a dilemma: How can sinful people be brought into a relationship with a holy God? God solves this dilemma by touching Isaiah's lips with a burning coal from the altar of sacrifice. Animals were burned on the altar as a substitute for the death of the sinner. What's the significance of Isaiah's lips being touched with coal from this altar? How does this incident foreshadow the more perfect work of Jesus on the cross?

Consider Hebrews 10:14, "*For by that one offering he [Jesus] forever made perfect those who are being made holy.*"

6. How can we be perfect when our experience tells us that we are not perfect?
7. Compare Isaiah's response in verse 8 with verse 5. Why the change?

**Application Discussion.**

8. How does experiencing God's forgiveness motivate you to give yourself to God with joy?
9. How is your experience with God like Isaiah's: Awe-struck? Guilt-ridden? Cleansed? Are you willing to serve anywhere, anytime? How would that look for you?
10. Consider the memory verse for this week: *So you must live as God's obedient children. Don't slip back into your old ways of living to satisfy your own desires. You didn't know any better then. But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy."* 1 Peter 1:14-16, NLT  
How can this verse motivate you to resist temptations?

**Please pray for each other that each person would see the perfect and beautiful holiness of God, experience the joy of daily forgiveness, and be motivated to be set apart in beauty for God.**