

Isaiah 6:1–13 – A Vision of God and the Call to Serve

Isaiah chapter 6 records one of the most powerful moments in the Bible: Isaiah's personal vision of God's glory and his call to prophetic ministry.

1. God on the Throne (Isaiah 6:1–4)

"In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple" (Isaiah 6:1, NKJV).

King Uzziah reigned over Judah for fifty-two years. Under his leadership the nation prospered militarily, agriculturally, and economically. He was well-respected, powerful, and popular. But near the end of his reign, he fell into pride, and God struck him with leprosy (2 Chronicles 26:16–21). When Uzziah died, the people were shaken. Their trusted leader was gone, and uncertainty filled the land.

Isaiah points out something important: when the earthly throne was empty, the heavenly throne was still occupied. God was—and is—still ruling. His robe filled the temple, His glory filled the earth, and angelic beings cried out, *"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!"* (Isaiah 6:3).

Application: We live in times of political uncertainty, cultural instability, and personal loss. Leaders come and go. Nations rise and fall. But God never vacates His throne. He reigns over the affairs of the world and the details of your life. When people or circumstances disappoint you, fix your eyes on the One who reigns forever.

2. A True Vision of Ourselves (Isaiah 6:5)

When Isaiah saw the holiness of God, he suddenly saw his own unholiness: *"Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips"* (Isaiah 6:5).

Compared to those around him, Isaiah may have looked righteous. But when exposed to the blazing holiness of God, he saw himself as he truly was—sinful and unworthy.

Application: Many people excuse themselves by comparing with others: *"I'm not as bad as so-and-so."* But the standard is not other people—it is the holiness of God. When we see Him as He truly is, pride melts away, and we confess with Isaiah, *"Woe is me."*

3. God's Cleansing (Isaiah 6:6–7)

A seraph (an angel classification) took a live coal from the altar and touched Isaiah's lips, saying: *"Behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged"* (Isaiah 6:7).

It is important to remember that Isaiah's vision took place before Jesus' death on the cross. The cleansing he received was not his own doing—it was entirely the work of God. Isaiah confessed, and God cleansed. Isaiah acknowledged his sin, and God removed it.

Application: Forgiveness is not earned; it is received. The moment you confess your sin, God is faithful to forgive and to cleanse (1 John 1:9). Like Isaiah, we need the purifying touch of God that comes only through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, who shed His blood to take away our sin.

4. God's Call (Isaiah 6:8)

Isaiah then heard the voice of the Lord: *"Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" And Isaiah responded, "Here am I! Send me"* (Isaiah 6:8).

Cleansed people become sent people. Once God has worked in your life, He desires to work through your life. The world around us is full of people with "unclean lips"—hearts and lives estranged from God. They need to hear the message of His cleansing grace.

Application: God is still asking the same question: *"Whom shall I send?"* The need is great, but the laborers are few. Will you make yourself available to God? Serving Him doesn't always mean going overseas as a missionary—it may mean living faithfully in your home, your workplace, or your community as His representative.

5. A Hard Assignment (Isaiah 6:9–13)

God told Isaiah to go and preach, even though the people would largely reject his message. Their ears would be heavy, their hearts dull, and their eyes blind. Yet Isaiah was to be faithful in delivering God's word until judgment came and only a remnant remained.

Application: Faithfulness does not depend on how people respond, but on obedience to God. Whether people listen or not, we are called to share the truth of Christ. Results belong to God; obedience belongs to us.

Conclusion and Invitation

Isaiah's vision reminds us of four essential steps in the Christian life:

- **See God** – Lift your eyes above the chaos and recognize that God is on the throne.
- **See Yourself** – Acknowledge your sin in the light of His holiness.
- **Receive Cleansing** – Allow God, through Jesus Christ, to forgive and cleanse you.
- **Once cleansed**, we can say with Isaiah, "Here am I, Lord; send me."

Have you seen your need for God's forgiveness? Have you confessed your sin to Him? Have you received His cleansing through Jesus Christ? If not, today is the day. The same God who cleansed Isaiah will cleanse you if you come humbly to Him.

Pray from your heart: *"Lord, I confess I am a sinner. I believe Jesus died for me and rose again. Forgive me, cleanse me, and make me Yours. Here am I, Lord—send me."*

And for those who already belong to Him—live each day in the awareness that God reigns, God forgives, and God sends. Trust Him daily. Follow Him faithfully. And let your life be a witness to the world of His glory and grace.