

## ISAIAH – Chapter 6

Vs. 1 Isaiah ministered during King Uzziah's reign. Isa. 1:1

Isaiah's vision recorded here occurred within the 12 calendar months before or after the king's death, which occurred in 740 B.C.

Isaiah's vision of God (the King, vs. 5) would be in contrast to what Isaiah saw when looking upon King Uzziah, the man.

- 1) He reigned for 52 years. 2 Chron. 26:3
- 2) He sinned...being struck with leprosy. 2 Chron. 26:16-21
- 3) He was cut off from the house of the Lord. 2 Chron. 26:21

Three things struck Isaiah about the "King of Israel." He was:

- 1) Seated on a throne – rather than on the Ark of the Covenant. Ezk. 1:25-28; Rev. 4:1-3
- 2) High and exalted – do we see Jesus the way He was 2000 years ago or the way He is now?
- 3) The train of His robe filled the temple – a sign of His royalty and majesty.

Vs. 2 Seraphim

- 1) Only mentioned here by name and in Rev. 4:7-8 by description if they are both the same angelic being (Ezekiel saw beings with 4 wings – Ezk. 1:4-14. The angelic beings in Ezekiel are later said to be Cherubim – Ezk. 10:15, 20).

Note: See notes on the angels.

Vs. 3 God's holiness should be appreciated in contrast to the character and actions of Uzziah the King and even Isaiah and the people of Israel (at their best).  
1 John 1:5-10.

Though God "dwelt" between the Cherubim in the Holy of Holies (Ex. 25:17-22), the whole earth cannot contain Him. 1 Kings 8:27 Ezekiel had a similar vision of God (Ezk. 1). Unlike the Cherubim, the number of Seraphs is not given.

Vs. 4 The foundation stones on which the doorposts stood (Amos 9:1) shook at the voice of the Seraphs while the temple filled with smoke. 1 Kings 8:10-13

Vs. 5 Isaiah's response to what he was seeing!

When seen next to the purity of God's holiness, the impurity of man is striking. Similar responses are recorded for:

Ezekiel – "I fell on my face" Ezk. 1:28; 3:23

Job – "I repent in dust and ashes" Job 42:5-6

Peter – "Go away from me Lord, for I am a sinful man" Lk. 5:8

John – "I fell at His feet like a dead man" Rev. 1:17

Under different circumstances Isaiah had pronounced "woes" to the nation of Israel (Isa. 5). Standing in the presence of God, his realization changes to "woe is me"!

Isaiah's response makes it clear that he sees himself as not only a man, but also part of a people – family of Israel.

Vs. 6-7A Seraph's response – Isaiah acknowledged his sin and God responded to that acknowledgement. 1 John 1:9; Ps. 78:38-39

Vs. 8 Us – Gen. 1:26; 11:7. The doctrine of the "trinity" is not explicitly taught in the O.T., but it is there; for God is the same God in both testaments.

Asking the question "who will go" is for Isaiah's sake. Opportunity exists for service and opportunity for Isaiah only requires him responding. His response "Here am I. Send me!" Eph. 2:10

Vs. 9-10 God's commissioning of Isaiah.

Isaiah, in volunteering, probably expected a positive outcome to his ministry. God tells him otherwise.

The people had not listened before and they would not listen now.

The Lord did not delight in judging His people.

Discipline is necessary when disobedience is man's choice.

The people, on hearing Isaiah's message, are going to be even more hardened to the Lord. John 12:37-41

Vs. 11-13     Isaiah was ready to speak whatever God wanted him to say. He did wonder “how long will I have to go on preaching to this non-responsive people?”

Until judgment comes (Babylon carries them off).

Until the people are deported.

Until their cities and fields are ruined.

(All this happened long after Isaiah’s death, meaning “for as long as he lived he preached receiving a negative or no response.”)

The tenth who remained in the land were the poor. 2 Kings 24:14

God then gives Isaiah a word of encouragement:

Though 9/10 of the people will be removed, the remnant will again grow in to a tree.