

Subject: Requirements For Christian Service

Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-8

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Introduction

The death of King Uzziah was a national calamity. He had been a good king in that he sought the Lord's direction, resulting in the Lord bringing prosperity to him. He was a great warrior in defeating the enemies of Judah. Not only had he built up the national defense from a military standpoint, he had improved living conditions tremendously. King Uzziah was very popular with the people.

At the height of his success something happened that is not common to man. We are told in 2 Chronicles 26:16, "But when he was strong his heart was lifted up to his destruction; for transgressed against the Lord his God, and went into the temple of the Lord to burn incense upon the altar of incense." King Uzziah had become so powerful that he seized the office of the priest, and tried to offer incense in the temple of God. God struck him in the forehead with leprose and he died in disgrace. The nation went into despair with the exception of Isaiah, of which we are told that he saw also the Lord. Have we become modern day Uzziahs? Have we set ourselves up as priest, forgetting God. Do we suffer from spiritual leprose today? We need to see the Lord as Isaiah saw the Lord. This is the requirement for Christian service. Let us observe:

I. THAT CRISES BRINGS CONFRONTATION (VS. 1)

1. When Isaiah Saw The Lord He Was in The Temple The Place Of Worship!
2. We Should Expect An Experience Of Worship In The Lord's House.
3. It Is Said That Those Who Work In A Bakery Loose Their Taste For Bread. Has worship become habitual to you, or do you expect to see the Lord?
4. For Us To Truly Worship The Lord, There May Be Some Uzziah'S That Have To Die. What is your barrier to worship?

II. CONFRONTATION LEADS TO CONVICTION (VS. 5a)

1. When Isaiah Saw The Lord High And Lifted Up He Began To Examine His Own Life. "Woe Is Me!"
 - [Illustration:]
F.B. Meyer, that great bible expositor, was visiting in Scotland for a meeting. He was staying in the home of one of the church members. It was wash day and the lady of the house had the clothes hanging outside on the line. It began to snow, and Meyer commented that the clothes did not look so white against the background of snow. The lady remarked, "Man, what can stand up against God Almighty's white?"
2. We May Consider Ourselves Pretty Good Christians Until We Observe Ourselves With God Almighty's White, Then We See Our Sinfulness.

III. CONVICTION LEADS TO CONFESSION (Vs. 5b)

1. Isaiah Saw It Like It Was, He Told It Like It Was. He confessed that he was a man of unclean lips, living among a people of unclean lips.
2. There Is A Growing Tendency Today To Excuse The Sins Of People. We live in a society of nudity, pornography, homosexuality, drugs, alcohol, and vulgarity of speech.

IV. CONFESSION LEADS TO CLEANSING (Vs. 6-7)

1. Isaiah's Lips Had Been Touched By A Live Coal From Off The Altar. One's speech informs what one is inwardly. What's in the well will come up in the bucket.
2. Lips Of Gossip Need To Be Touched By Fire From God's Altar Today.

V. CLEANSING BRINGS A CALL (Vs. 8)

1. Isaiah's Call Did Not Come Until There Was A Confession And Cleansing.
2. The Confession And Cleansing Did Not Come Until There Was A Confrontation and Conviction.

Conclusion

The requirements of Christian service. Let us put away our modern day Uzziah living and put on Isaiah's life as modern day wardrobe. "Here am I send me!"