

I Am Undone

Isaiah 6:3 – 13

++++++

~ If you have prayed for wisdom, judgment, and discernment, and have read the entire sixth chapter of Isaiah in your own personal Bible, then you are prepared to read this commentary from our Spiritual Safari. We covered some important preliminary territory relating to this chapter in our previous report; and, if you have not read our previous report, I suggest you go back and do so now. This very wonderful chapter – after five not so nice chapters – is the call and commission of the prophet Isaiah. Isaiah was called by the Lord at a very dark moment for the nation Israel, and for him personally. Uzziah, the good king, is dead and buried now; and a bad king is taking the throne — and that has left Isaiah in a doleful frame of mind. All Isaiah can envision is that the nation will continue to become worse and worse in their sins; and he was exactly right. So, Isaiah went into the temple; where two amazing surprises awaited him: the Seraphim's and the calling of the Lord.

Our last report closed with, and this report opens with, a picture of the holiness of the Lord God Almighty! God is high and lifted up today; and if more people saw God that way, they would be delivered from their low-levels of living for and easy familiarity they erroneously believe they have in their relationship with God. I see people around this forum on which I teach speak incessantly of Jesus as if He is their drinking buddy, or an errand boy. They seem to think they can live any way they wish, and speak to God any way they want to, while demanding God do this or that the instant they call on Him. Well, it doesn't work that way. We do not rush into the presence of God and start making demands or, worse yet, thinking that we can gather enough praying people to "agree" to some petition of God. He isn't going to be strong-armed into doing something He has no intentions of doing. Those people who espouse such absurdities are fools who have never known God – and God definitely does not know them.

The only approach to God the Father is through Christ Jesus; and *in* Christ Jesus. If you think you merit some favor with God because you are a good

little Sunday school boy or girl who never misses a day of church, then you are woefully mistaken. Jesus made it clear that no man cometh unto the Father but by Him. If we are His child, then we can come with boldness; but what we come to is a throne of grace — grace for our sins — not a throne of wish-granting. God is not your personal Genie in a bottle, friends. If we attempt to come to God on any other basis than the grace He has provided through Christ Jesus, then we will find the doors to His throne room closed, locked and bolted shut – with us on the outside! I can promise you that you will not get anywhere near God with that approach. God is not going to compromise with our sin or evil for a nanosecond.

So, the discovery of these truths had a very real affect on Isaiah. Isaiah was God's man before this experience in the temple; but God revealed Isaiah's condition to him in a way that Isaiah had never really seen before. When Isaiah saw God high and holy and lifted up, he saw himself as wholly unclean and completely undone. The problem with most Christians today is that they do not walk in the light of the Word of God. If they did, they would see themselves exactly as Isaiah saw himself in the temple at the time in which we are studying. John said, *".... if we walk in the light as He is in the light we have fellowship one with another and the blood of Jesus Christ continually cleanses us from all unrighteousness."* See, if you walk in the light, you'll see what Isaiah saw — and is conveying to us now: that we are undone and unclean.

If we feel like we are worthy and highly favored and have some special anointing, and all of that misunderstood delusional pseudo-theological mumbo-jumbo, then I am here to tell you that you have never been born again; because that would be impossible. You and I have no claim on Christ; He has a claim on us – or there is simply nothing. This was also the experience Job had. We have already learned that Job was a self-righteous man; and Job could maintain his integrity in the presence of his acquaintances who were attempting to tear him to shreds. Job's so-called friends badgered him to confess some non-existent sin so that they could stone him to death in a garbage dump on the outskirts of town. Well, as far as Job knew, he was a righteous man – and from his viewpoint, he was absolutely right. However, when Job came into the presence of the Lord, Job saw himself for who he really was. Job quickly forgot about maintaining

his righteousness, and cried out to God, “... *wherefore I abhor myself.*” Well, if you are walking in the light of the Lord Jesus Christ, then you know this is a picture of you – and me. That’s the picture God paints of *ALL* mankind.

Further, many people think they are going to run up and give Jesus a hug and a kiss when they get into His presence – or something like that. Well, when the apostle John – who had been so close to Jesus on earth – was taken up to Heaven in Revelation, he fell at Jesus’ feet as dead, you may recall. That’s how it is going to go with you, too, my friends; when we all see Jesus, it’s going to be just a little bit deeper than a family reunion. When Daniel entered the presence of the Lord, he said there was no strength left in him. Ezekiel and Saul of Tarsus had the same experiences. They all recognized they were individuals who needed a Savior.

Only when a man comes to Christ in confession of sins will that man ever truly know God is among us. That’s what Isaiah did; and that’s when the Seraphim took a burning coal from off of the altar where sin was dealt with. That altar speaks of the death of Christ – and Isaiah needed that reality in his own life. The living coal speaks of the cleansing blood of Christ Jesus. Only when Isaiah’s lips were touched was his iniquity taken away and his sins purged. All Isaiah did in this transaction was realize and confess that he was a sinner! God and God’s created intelligences did the rest! That is so important to see, my beloved. In fact, it’s all important. If we confess our sins, then Christ is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. The forgiving and the cleansing and the making righteous is all attributed exclusively to the Lord Jesus Christ – not us.

When this live coal was laid on Isaiah’s lips, and his lips were cleansed by them, it means his heart was cleansed, also; because the bucket of the mouth always brings up what is in the well of the heart – every time. Isaiah cried out, “... *woe is me....*” - and Paul the apostle cried out the same thing by saying, “... *oh, wretched man I am.*” Paul was not some lost sinner when he said that, either; no, he was a saint of God writing an epistle to the saints in Rome. Paul was learning a very definite lesson from God at that time; just as Isaiah is learning at the time in which we are studying. That lesson is that we all need to walk in the Spirit of God; and that we cannot

live for God any other way. Our walk is only ever accomplished by divine grace. The application of grace must be applied to our lives again and again and again – as in, *continuously*.

After we have been cleansed by the blood of the Lamb, then we must wash daily in the pure water of the Word of God. That's when we will hear the call of God; as Isaiah did in verse eight. Interestingly, up until this time, Isaiah had not heard the voice of the Lord. There are Christians today who do not feel they have been called to do anything for the Lord, when they have; and there are those who feel as if they have been called to the Lord's work in some extraordinary way – but they haven't been called – and both of those errors occur simply because they have never been cleansed by the Word of God. These people have never been made aware of their total and complete depravity, and their need of a Savior, so they've never been cleansed; and, my friends, God is *NOT* going to use a dirty vessel in His work – I can assure you of that. He just doesn't use unwashed people who are totally and completely ignorant of the Word of God.

Now, I understand that many people appear to be greatly blessed in some sort of self-appointed ministry but, God will judge them at the appointed time. I see pious-pickles come and go around this forum on which I teach all the time. Well, Isaiah heard the call of God and Isaiah said, “.... *send me.*” Too many people are assuming a leadership role in the church when what they need to do is get their lives straightened out with the Lord. They need to have their lips touched with a living coal. These people haven't made confession of the sins in their lives in years – sometimes decades – *if ever!* Their service is sterile, their understanding is dim-witted, and their Christian lives *ALWAYS* appear to be frustrating; because it is all in vain.

So, God gives Isaiah his commission in verse nine, and that message is, “.... *go and tell.*” That means Isaiah was to go tell Israel. That's what we are to do, also; we go and tell a lost and dying world that they are sinners who need a Savior, and that Christ died for their sins. Verses nine and ten reveal Isaiah's message is a very strange message, indeed; and you need to read this part of this report extremely carefully. “*This people*” means the nation Israel. At first glance, this passage seems to indicate the prophet was being sent to blind, deafened, and hardened people. However, we can safely say,

as we have myriad times previously in our Spiritual Safari, that God *NEVER* hardens hearts that would otherwise be softened to saving grace. Even when the Bible says “... *God hardened Pharaoh’s heart,*” Pharaoh’s heart was *already* hardened – by Pharaoh. God simply forced Pharaoh to reveal what was in his heart in the first place. God never blinds the eyes of those who desire to see His glory; but, apart from His intervention, no blind man would ever see anything, of course.

Only the foolish blaspheme of men in their enmity towards God will argue that God hardens the hearts of men or blinds the eyes of those who truly desire to accept, trust, and obey Christ as their Savior. He just doesn’t do that. Jesus said, “*if the light be therefore darkness, how great is that darkness.*” See, if you take a lantern out to the barn in the middle of the night, the moment you open the door, two things happen: the rats run for cover as quickly as possible and, simultaneously, the birds that have nested in the rafters begin to sing for joy! Light causes one to flee and one to rejoice. The light didn’t make a rat a rat – they were always rats. The light only exposed them – and rats love darkness. The Lord Jesus is the light that came into the world, and He caused the very same things to happen! We, as Christians, are a savor of life unto life to them that are saved, but a savor of death unto death to those who perish!

Who is sufficient for these things? Well, I can only tell you who is *NOT* sufficient for these things: Andrew C. Hunt; I am not sufficient. I am undone. So many people turn in a convert count and boast of all the people they have saved; but all I can boast about is the number of people who have heard the Gospel of Christ Jesus – and, even then, the multitudes only heard from me because God made it happen. All I can do is present these things as simply and clearly as I know how in an educated, sincere, systematic, proper, correct, and complete, Spirit-filled and Spirit-led manner. God is the One Who opens hearts, makes ears to hear, and causes eyes to see – not me. I sow the seed and I do not look back. Whatever grows – great; that which does not grow is not my problem – that’s God’s business. Frankly, I can only thank God for each of you who help me sow ~

++++++