

Putting Our Worldview
into Order

I. Knowing Who God Is (vv. 1-4)

A. The Significance of an Introduction to a Book or Talk

- Sometimes they are long, such as the greatest work of Charles Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities*:
 - It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to Heaven, we were all going direct the other way—in short, the period was so far like the present period, that some of its noisiest authorities insisted on its being received, for good or for evil, in the superlative degree of comparison only.

I. Knowing Who God Is (vv. 1-4)

A. The Significance of an Introduction

- Usually they are short but grab your imagination from the beginning.
- Its not about you. Tim Warren (*The Purpose Driven Life*)
- Life is difficult. M. Scott Peck (*The Road Less Traveled*)
- Call me Ishmael. Herman Melville, *Moby Dick* (1851)
- In a galaxy far, far away . . . Star Wars

I. Knowing Who God Is (vv. 1-4)

A. The Significance of an Introduction cont'd

– This is also true about the Bible.

- In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Gen 1:1)
- In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. (John 1:1)
- In the days that the judges were judging. (Ruth 1)

– The same is true of the first verse of our study today.

- In the year that King Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.

I. Knowing Who God Is (vv. 1-4)

B. The Importance of the Historical Setting to Isaiah's Vision

- Is. 6:1 In the year that King Uzziah died,
 - Two important questions from verse 1 of Isaiah 6:
 - Who is Uzziah, and what is his importance
 - Who is Yahweh, and what is his importance
 - There is a contrast between two kings, Uzziah and Yahweh.
 - Let's first take a look at Uzziah

Prosperity Brought Pride

- 2Kings 15:1 In the twenty-seventh year of Jeroboam king of Israel, Azariah the son of Amaziah, king of Judah, became king.
- 2Kings 15:2 He was sixteen years old when he became king, and he reigned fifty-two years [c. 791–739 B.C.] in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jecholiah of Jerusalem.
- 2Kings 15:3 And he did what was right in the sight of Yahweh, according to all that his father Amaziah had done,

Prosperity Brought Pride

- 2Kings 15:4 except that the high places were not removed; the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places.
- 2Kings 15:5 Then Yahweh struck the king, so that he was a leper* until the day of his death; so he dwelt in an isolated house. And Jotham the king's son was over the royal house, judging the people of the land.
 - *We see why Yahweh did this in 2 Chron 26:16-17

Prosperity Brought Pride

- His domestic policy and military preparedness
- His political and economic concerns relative to his southern and eastern borders
- The settling of the perennial Philistine problems on his western frontier
- He reigned for 52 years (beginning his reign at 16 years old) and had prosperity not seen since the days of Solomon (two centuries earlier)
- His sin in the temple

Prosperity Brought Pride His Sin in the Temple

- 2Chr. 26:16 ¶ But when he was strong his heart was lifted up, to his destruction, for he transgressed against Yahweh his God by entering the temple of Yahweh to burn incense on the altar of incense.
- 2Chr. 26:17 So Azariah the priest went in after him, and with him were eighty priests of Yahweh — valiant men.

Prosperity Brought Pride His Sin in the Temple

- 2Chr. 26:18 And they withstood King Uzziah, and said to him, “It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to Yahweh, but for the priests, the sons of Aaron, who are consecrated to burn incense. Get out of the sanctuary, for you have trespassed! You shall have no honor from Yahweh God.”
- 2Chr. 26:19 Then Uzziah became furious; and he had a censer in his hand to burn incense. And while he was angry with the priests, leprosy broke out on his forehead, before the priests in the house of Yahweh, beside the incense altar.

Prosperity Brought Pride His Sin in the Temple

- 2Chr. 26:20 And Azariah the chief priest and all the priests looked at him, and there, on his forehead, he was leprous; so they thrust him out of that place. Indeed he also hurried to get out, because Yahweh had struck him.
- 2Chr. 26:21 King Uzziah was a leper until the day of his death. He dwelt in an isolated house, because he was a leper; for he was cut off from the house of Yahweh. Then Jotham his son was over the king's house, judging the people of the land.

I. Knowing Who God Is (vv. 1-4)

- Is. 6:1 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.
- Is. 6:2 Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

I. Knowing Who God Is (vv. 1-4)

- Is. 6:3 And one cried to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is Yahweh of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!”
- Is. 6:4 And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.

I. Knowing Who God Is (vv. 1-4)

- A. The Importance of the Historical Setting to Isaiah's Vision
- B. God the Indescribably Holy One

II. Knowing Who We Are (v 5)

- Is. 6:5 So I said: “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; For my eyes have seen the King, Yahweh of hosts.”

II. Knowing Who We Are (v 5)

- A. Personal Reflection as We View God

II. Knowing Who We Are (v 5)

- A. Personal Reflection as We View God
- B. Personal Acceptance of our Sinfulness

III. Knowing Forgiveness Apart from Works (vv 6-7)

- Is. 6:6 ¶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar.
- Is. 6:7 And he touched my mouth with it, and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; Your iniquity is taken away, And your sin purged.”

III. Knowing Forgiveness Apart from Works (vv 6-7)

- A. Recognition of Sin

III. Knowing Forgiveness Apart from Works (vv 6-7)

- A. Recognition of Sin
- B. Undeserved Favor from God

IV. Knowing our Mission in View of Forgiveness (v 8)

- Is. 6:8 ¶ Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: “Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”

IV. Knowing our Mission in View of Forgiveness (v 8)

- A. God's Desire to Interact with His People

IV. Knowing our Mission in View of Forgiveness (v 8)

- A. God's Desire to Interact with His People
- B. Our Need to Follow Forgiveness with Commitment

V. Knowing that Judgment often Precedes Redemption (vv 9b-13)

- Is. 6:9 ¶ And He said, “Go, and tell this people: ‘Keep on hearing, but do not understand; Keep on seeing, but do not perceive.’”
- Is. 6:10 “Make the heart of this people dull, And their ears heavy, And shut their eyes; Lest they see with their eyes, And hear with their ears, And understand with their heart, And return and be healed.”
- Is. 6:11 ¶ Then I said, “Lord, how long?” And He answered: “Until the cities are laid waste and without inhabitant, The houses are without a man, The land is utterly desolate,

V. Knowing that Judgment often Precedes Redemption (vv 9b-13)

- Is. 6:12 Yahweh has removed men far away,
And the forsaken places are many in the
midst of the land.
- Is. 6:13 But yet a tenth will be in it, And will
return and be for consuming, As a terebinth
tree or as an oak, Whose stump remains
when it is cut down. So the holy seed shall
be its stump.”

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