

Called to Serve your Christ King

The Life Changing Vision and Challenge of Isaiah

Isaiah 6

Guy Gray

The Book of Isaiah

If you want to see the Glory of Christ revealed, turn to the Book of Isaiah. Isaiah lived and proclaimed his prophetic word 790 years before the birth of Christ—yet he saw and spoke of the glory of Jesus Christ and the power of his ministry with stunning clarity. No doubt this is why the New Testament has more references to the Book of Isaiah than to any of the other Old Testament Prophets. The Book of Isaiah is powerful because it reveals both the glory and the heart of Jesus our King and the character of the Kingdom that He is working to establish in our broken world. That is why we are going to focus on this amazing Book for the next several weeks. This is far more than a series of sermons though. This is a call for each of us to serve Christ our King and to be used by God to extend His kingdom in this broken world.

Who is Your King? What is His Plan?

The first 5 chapters introduce us to all the major themes of the Book of Isaiah. Chapter 6 goes back to the moment Isaiah was first called by God to His amazing ministry. Everything goes back to this initial vision. It is a vision that confronts us with a question... Who really is your king and what does HE want to do in this world? 6:1 begins, "In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of His robe filled the temple." King Uzziah had ruled in Jerusalem for 52 years. His reign was a time of great prosperity and security for the nation. Those years were also a time of great moral decline and injustice. At the time of Uzziah's death, Isaiah the prophet was given a stunning vision of another king—a higher King. He saw the true King, the Lord God Almighty, seated upon His throne. We learn from the New Testament that what he actually saw was the glory of Jesus Christ our Lord and King (John 12:40-41). In that moment everything changed for Isaiah. In that moment he realized that the kingdom that Uzziah was built was a flawed kingdom that had abandoned the way of God and the calling of God's people. Isaiah was shaken to his core. That was the beginning of one of the most amazing and powerful ministries of all time. The pattern holds true for our lives as well.

What is your vision of God?

Who really is your king?

What is His heart and His plan?

How does it challenge the values and practices of the kingdom of this world?

Do you see that Christ is your true King?

Do you know that He has a plan? Do you see that He is at work to extend His kingdom in this broken world?

Have you answered His call to serve Him as king and to work for His kingdom?

The Crucial Step of Repentance and Renewal

All of this is overwhelming to Isaiah. He sees his sin in the light of God's glory and confesses his guilt. God extends His redeeming grace and Isaiah is made clean. Isaiah finds renewal and now he is ready to serve. Do you know that to serve Christ your King you must first be touched by His redeeming grace? To do that you must first see and acknowledge your guilt—your need. This is repentance **and** renewal! This opens the door to walking with Christ and serving Him—making a difference for Christ in this broken world.

Answering the Call of Christ

God said "Who will go?" Isaiah said "Here I am, send me." Isaiah answered the call to serve Christ his King. This is the need of our times—men and women who will answer

the call of Christ our King. Men and women who will catch a true vision of the glory of Christ and the character of the Kingdom He is working to extend in this broken world—men and women who are unwilling to live with the status quo of this troubled world. Where are the people who recognize the pain and injustice of our world and who resonate with the heart of God, our King, who wants to bring His salvation to hurting lives? Where is the grief and repentance for sin? Where is the power of God? Will you pray and listen as we study in Isaiah? May the Word of God transform our lives and our church! And may the Kingdom of Christ come—on earth as it is in heaven! Amen.

Questions for Discussion & Reflection

Read the first 6 chapters in Isaiah.

Reflect and journal your thoughts on the questions in the notes this week.

River West Happenings

Sunday, May 25th

El Salvador Presentation

7:00pm @ River West

Come hear the stories, see the pictures and share the vision from our two groups who have just returned from El Salvador. Contact Pastor Chris for more info at 699.2226 or chris@riverwest.org

***Note Date Change!**

Friday, May 30th

4th & 5th Grade Bowling

6:30 @ Wilsonville Lanes

Don't miss your chance to show off your bowling skills! Invite a friend or two to this fun event! \$12.00 & medical release form. Contact Lindsie at 699.2226 or lindsie@riverwest.org

Single Women Game Night & Activities

Join the fun with other single women every other Saturday night. Potluck, games and outings. Contact Lori Pyzik 654.5232 for more information.

Wednesday, May 28th

Global Missions Prayer Group at the Nave's Home @ 7pm

This is the perfect opportunity to impact how God is reaching out to other parts of the world through River West. Join Pastor Chris and others at the Nave's home on the last Wednesday of each month. Contact Pastor Chris at 699-2226 or chris@riverwest.org

Women's Summer Bible Studies Coming Soon!

We have 2 studies starting this summer for women. We will have a study on 1 John that will be on Tuesday nights and just for young moms there will be a study on Tuesday evenings. Stay tuned...More information coming soon!