

New Years: Answering God's Call On Our Lives (Part 1-4)

Isaiah 6:1-8



Isaiah 6:1-8 In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, with the train of His robe filling the temple. 2 Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his

feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory." 4 And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called out, while the house of God was filling with smoke. 5 Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts." 6 Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal in his hand, which he had taken from the altar with tongs. 7 And he touched my mouth with it and said, "Behold, this has touched your lips; and your iniquity is taken away, and your sin is atoned for." 8 Then 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!"

On the very first Christmas Eve, as the newborn Jesus lies wrapped in cloth in a **1) Answering God's Call For Our Lives Starts with a Transformational Encounter with God.** Before Isaiah was called to service as a prophet of God, he first met the One he would serve. Isaiah needed to have the right view of God to sustain him in his call. As Christians, before we can fully answer God's calling on our lives as servants of His will and purposes in the world, we need to experience a transformational encounter with God, one where we see Him as He is,

sovereign, holy, and glorious.

2) Answering God's Call For Our Lives Demands an Honest Appraisal of Ourselves. Once Isaiah fully appreciated the majesty and holiness of God he could not bear to stand in His presence. Isaiah's sin was fully exposed by the reality of God in his life. In our lives, the things that may prevent us from living out our calling in the world is that we do not see ourselves the way God does. There may be things in our lives that we need God to fix so that we can stand confidently in His presence and walk boldly in His calling.

3) Answering God's Call For Our Lives Involves God's Preparing and Equipping. Isaiah discovered that God did not call him as a prophet because he was already equipped for the work. Rather, God prepared and equipped him to do the work. Every Christian is equipped by God in a special way for service in His kingdom. The Holy Spirit is what enables followers of Jesus to do the things God has prepared for their lives. Answering God's call for our lives means we walk in the gifting and the way that He has set before us.

4) Answering God's Call For Our Lives Requires Our Willing and Enthusiastic Participation. Once Isaiah had the right view of God, the right view of himself, and understood that God had done everything required to make Isaiah ready for his calling, he could answer God's call with a willing enthusiasm. The bold confidence Isaiah needed to be God's spokesman in the world all came from God. Today, we can share in this bold confidence if we experience the same things Isaiah did in our lives. Every Christian has a calling on their lives, not just a calling to salvation, but a calling to walk in that salvation as a servant of God, who in every way walks in a manner worthy of the One who calls them.