

# The Encounter

**PASSAGE: Isaiah 6:1-7, (NKJV)** *"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. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>And one cried to another and said:*

*"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;*

*The whole earth is full of His glory!"*

*<sup>4</sup>And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>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, The LORD of hosts."*

*<sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>And he touched my mouth with it, and said:*

*"Behold, this has touched your lips;*

*Your iniquity is taken away,*

*And your sin purged."*

## In the year King Uzziah died...

### Reveals the condition of Israel

#### Physically (**2 Chronicles 26**)

##### Israel Had Been Strong Militarily

- † Uzziah began reigning at 16 and reigned for 52 years.
- † They had defeated Philistines, Arabs, and others.
- † They had 300,000 plus army
- † They had built mighty weapons of war.
- † Egypt had begun to feel threatened.

##### Israel Had Been Strong Financially

- † The Ammonites paid them tribute.
- † Uzziah had built city after city
- † He had even dug wells and cisterns and built cities in the desert.

Key phrase: **2 Chronicles 26:15b**, *"...His fame spread far and wide, for the LORD helped him wonderfully until he became very powerful."*

#### Spiritually (**Isaiah 1**)

They had stopped relying on God. (vs. 2-4) <sup>2</sup>*Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth! For the LORD has spoken: "I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against Me; <sup>3</sup>The ox knows its owner and the donkey its master's crib; But Israel does not know, My people do not consider."* <sup>4</sup>*Alas, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a brood of evildoers, children who are corrupters! They have forsaken the LORD, They have provoked to anger The Holy One of Israel, They have turned away backward".*

- † Uzziah became so confident in himself that he entered the temple to perform the duties reserved for the priests. (2 Chronicles 26:16)

They were sick and wounded. (vs. 5-6) *“<sup>5</sup>Why should you be stricken again? You will revolt more and more. The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faints. <sup>6</sup>From the sole of the foot even to the head, there is no soundness in it, but wounds and bruises and putrefying sores; they have not been closed or bound up, or soothed with ointment.”*

- † Uzziah was stricken with leprosy.
- † God describes the nation as wounded with open sores.
- † This indicated the problem was on going.
- † They had sinned and had not repented.

They were desolate and barren. (vs. 7) *“<sup>7</sup>Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire; strangers devour your land in your presence; and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers.”*

- † What they had built up, had been destroyed.
- † They set by and watched it happen.

Their worship had become insincere and offensive to God. (vs. 11-13) *““I am sick of your sacrifices,” says the LORD. “Don’t bring me any more burnt offerings! I don’t want the fat from your rams or other animals. I don’t want to see the blood from your offerings of bulls and rams and goats. <sup>12</sup>Why do you keep parading through my courts with your worthless sacrifices? <sup>13</sup>The incense you bring me is a stench in my nostrils! Your celebrations of the new moon and the Sabbath day, and your special days for fasting—even your most pious meetings—all sinful and false. I want nothing more to do with them.”(NLV)*

They had lost effectiveness. (vs. 21-22) *“See how Jerusalem, once so faithful, has become a prostitute. Once the home of justice and righteousness, she is now filled with murderers. <sup>22</sup>Once like pure silver, you have become like worthless slag. Once so pure, you are now like watered-down wine.”(NLV)*

- † They had no purpose
- † They had no integrity

## A Revelation of God

Isaiah was transformed when he saw a glimpse of who God is.

The Cherubim were incredibly amazing beings yet they covered their face and feet.

This was a sign of utmost respect.

When he realized their reverence in the presence of Jehovah, he immediately saw his inadequacy.

**QUOTE:** *“The church...is not an organization but an organism. It is not an enterprise for Christ but an experience of Christ. It is supernatural and can only meet His standards through supernatural means. Because of that, prayer is indispensable.” – Daniel Henderson*

When Isaiah realized who he was in the presence of, he had the only reasonable response a person should have:

# Woe Is Me (vs. 5) “I am ruined.” (Hebrew – “damah”)

## Meaning 1: “I am Stopped.”

### He could not continue.

When you encounter God, your agendas are irrelevant.  
When you encounter God, you cannot go on the same way.  
When you encounter God, you are forever changed.

## Meaning 2: “I am Mortal.”

### He had no power.

When you encounter God, you realize salvation belongs to Him.  
When you encounter God, you realize strength belongs to Him.  
When you encounter God, you realize victory belongs to Him.

- Anyone who freely talks about what they can do, has not encountered God.
- When will we realize that our efforts are worthless?
- What we can do with our abilities is nothing compared to what God can do it with our surrender.

## Meaning 3: “I am Silenced.”

### He had no arguments.

In the presence of a holy God, there is no defense for our sinfulness.  
In the presence of a holy God, there is no need to explain theology.  
In the presence of a holy God, there is nothing you can say that He doesn't already know

- It is not what we say to Him that matters, it is what He says to us.

When you encounter God, you are left speechless.

## Meaning 4: “I am Destroyed.”

### He had no chance.

When you encounter God, you encounter your own sinfulness as well.  
When you encounter God, you are stripped of everything that is not Him.  
When you encounter God, you realize that the hope is Him.

## What to do?

**Crave it** – Ask God to give you a craving for Him. Then ask God to give you Him.

**Seek it** – Seek it as if your life depended on it.

This also means, make whatever changes in you're the Lord reveals need to be made.

This act of surrender is preparing you to encounter God.

**Keep craving and seeking** – don't stop until it happens.