



Morningside Church

Sermon Discussion Guide

Title: From Woe is Me to Here Am I

Date: April 6, 2025

Scripture Text: Isaiah 6:1-9

Notes:

Many times, we may get distracted by our circumstances or sometimes struggle with what we want compared to what God wants. It's during those times when it's important for us to know where to turn. God is bigger than our circumstances. We need to recognize our need for God's forgiveness if we want to have a relationship with Him. We are not good enough to be in the presence of God because of our sin, but if we are willing to humble ourselves and submit to His purification, through the sacrificial blood of Jesus Christ, we can then have a relationship with Him. Today's message focuses on the prophet Isaiah's calling and his willingness to serve God because he realized, as we should, God is worthy of our service, loyalty and thankfulness.

I. God (Isaiah 6:1-4)

Isaiah has a vision in the year King Uzziah of Judah died, about 740 B.C. He sees God sitting on a throne, high and lifted up. Seraphim, angelic creatures, flew around praising God, "Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory". The majesty and praise God receives reflects how everyone needs to be praising God. His power is demonstrated in vs. 4 as the foundations of the temple are shaken by His voice. He is all powerful, all knowing and all loving!

- What are words and descriptions Isaiah uses that describe God's majesty?
- How have people lost their 'awe' of God?
- How would you describe how people perceive God today? How is it different than what Isaiah saw?
- Why is it important for God's supremacy, majesty, glory, and might to be recognized by Christians?
- How can a proper perspective of God help us realize He is worthy of our praise honor and worship?
- How can a proper perspective of God help us be better servants to Him?

II. Isaiah (Us) (Isaiah 6:5)

When Isaiah realizes he is in the presence of a holy God, he sees his unworthiness to be in there and states "woe is me!". Isaiah felt the weight of his own sinfulness in light of God's holiness. He was shaken with fear because he knew that God did not tolerate uncleanness/sin in His presence.



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- How would you describe Isaiah's response to being in God's presence?
- Have you ever felt unworthy to be in the presence of God?
- Why does Isaiah feel woeful in the presence of God? What is it that separates us from God?

III. God's Response (Isaiah 6:6-7)

In response to Isaiah's uncleanness in the presence of God, God purifies Isaiah with a coal taken from the altar. He touches his mouth, because by Isaiah's mouth he would serve God, by prophetically being God's spokesman to a rebellious people. Similarly, it is through the redemptive work of Christ that we are purified and can effectively serve God.

- Why is God's purifying actions (the redemptive work of Christ) needed for us to have a relationship with God?
- How do our perspectives and desires change as we are purified by God?
- Can we continue to pursue our old desires and still enjoy God's cleansing?
- What is an old desire you continue to pursue even in the midst of accepting God's cleansing (Jesus' sacrifice)?

IV. The Call (Isaiah 6:8-9a)

After Isaiah is reconciled with God by the cleansing God provided, he is qualified to serve God. We should seek to serve God, but we need to make sure we too have been cleansed by accepting the redemptive work of Christ and let our service be an outpouring of that. When we encounter God, we should be in awe of Him and respond in worship.

- Isaiah's natural response to God's call was to respond in submission to be obedient to God's call. How has God called you to serve? How have you responded?
- Describe what it means to be in 'awe' of God?
- How can having a healthy awe of God help us humbly submit, obey and respond to His calls to serve?
- How in awe are you of God?