

2 CORINTHIANS 3:18 (AMP)

INTRODUCTION: God loves us as we are, but He loves us too much to leave us as we are. He wants to change us until we are aglow with His Spirit and full of His glory. This change comes not by good works, but by being in His presence.

ISAIAH 6:1

At the time of his experience, Isaiah was facing a crisis. Uzziah, who ruled Judah over 52 year's had died. Remember the impact President Kennedy's death had on our nation? This was worse. David's throne was vacant, Assyria was marching toward Judah and everyone was gripped by fear and terror. Just as it seemed Isaiah's world was coming apart, he saw the Lord. What he saw changed him, and can change us as well. He saw some things we must see – that God:

1. Is alive. **ISAIAH 6:1**
 - A. The king may be dead, but God is alive. **PSALMS 90:1-2** Kings will live and die, but God has always been and will always be alive. He never had a beginning and depends on nothing for his existence.
2. Rules from His throne. **ISAIAH 6:1**
 - A. He wasn't running a crane, cutting grass or driving a truck. He wasn't at wits end, falling apart or nervous over Isaiah's crisis. The problem wasn't beyond the scope of His power.
3. Is all powerful. **ISAIAH 6:1**
 - A. His throne is higher than any other. His authority and power are superior to every power, might, dominion or name. **DANIEL 4:35** We marvel at His power and nonbelievers are terrified.
4. Is majestic. **ISAIAH 6:1**
 - A. His train fills the entire temple. He is regal in majesty, and His splendor is a wonder to behold. **PSALMS 93:1-2**
5. Is revered. **ISAIAH 6:2-4**
 - A. These Seraphim are not chubby babies with wings. They are magnificent creatures that cover their faces and feet out of reverential fear. Their voices shake the thresholds of heaven.
6. Is holy. **ISAIAH 6:3**
 - A. God's holiness separates Him from all earthly persons and things. The Bible speaks of Holy Ground, assemblies, garments, men, women, and a Holy City. All these are made holy when they are separated from common use and devoted to God. **HABAKKUK 2:20, 1 PETER 1:13-16**
7. Is glorious. **ISAIAH 6:3**
 - A. God's glory is His holiness in manifestation. **EXODUS 15:11, LEVITICUS 10:3**

ISAIAH WAS CHANGED

Isaiah's whole life was changed by being in the presence of the Lord. We can summarize Isaiah's experience with four words.

1. Clarity. He saw the splendor, majesty and holiness of God.
2. Conviction. He saw his shortcomings "unclean lips." **ISAIAH 6:5**
3. Cleansing. The coal is symbolic of Christ's greater sacrifice. **ISAIAH 6:6-7**
4. Commission. Isaiah was equipped and ready to face whatever challenge came his way. **ISAIAH 6:8**

CONCLUSION: Change doesn't come by wishful thinking. It comes when one is pierced by God's presence, majesty and holiness. When we see Him high and lifted up far above every created thing or being, and long to be conformed to His image and become the person He died for us to be!