

“HEAR AM I! SEND ME”

Isaiah 5-6

Introduction

- 1) **Isaiah** spoke God’s divine word to God’s people in Judah and Jerusalem in a time of unfaithfulness and crisis
- 2) “Isaiah” means “salvation is of the Lord”; he was the son of Amoz (1:1; 2:1; 13:1)
- 3) Prophesied from c.739-690 BC during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah
 - a) Contemporary prophets included Hosea, Amos, and Micah

I) The Disappointing Vineyard (5:1-7)

- A) In the form of a parable, God’s people are pictured as His vineyard (cf. Psa. 80:8-16; Jer. 2:21)
 - 1) Great care given to vineyard, but it produced wild grapes instead of good grapes
 - 2) Vineyard would be destroyed and laid waste (cf. Ezek. 19:10-14)
- B) Prophecy of the coming divine judgment on the sinful nations of Israel and Judah

II) Six Woes on the Wicked (5:8-23)

- A) Woe on greed and covetousness (vv. 8-10)
- B) Woe on opulent and frivolous living (vv. 11-17)
- C) Woe on defiance against God’s judgment (vv. 18-19)
- D) Woe on reversing moral standards (v. 20)
- E) Woe on pride and conceit (v. 21)
- F) Woe on perverting justice and righteousness (vv. 22-23)

III) God’s Anger will Bring the Nations Against Israel (5:24-30)

- A) Anger of the Lord aroused because they rejected His law and despised His word (vv. 24-25)
 - 1) One must not forget the reality of God’s wrath against evil (Rom. 11:22; 1:18)
- B) God will call the nations to come and carry Israel away, as a lion carries its prey (vv. 26-30)

IV) Isaiah’s Call to be Prophet (6:1-13)

- A) In the year King Uzziah of Judah died [c. 739 BC] (v. 1a)
- B) Isaiah sees a vision of the Lord on a throne, with seraphim above it (vv. 1b-4)
- C) Says he has “unclean lips”; seraphim with live coal from the altar touches his lips and cleanses [atones for] his sin – grace and forgiveness of God (vv. 5-7)
- D) Offers his services to the Lord: “Here am I! Send me” (v. 8)
 - 1) With forgiveness comes a sense of responsibility and service
- E) Told to “Go, and tell this people” – but the people’s heart will grow dull to the truth (vv. 9-10)
 - 1) How long? Until the land is laid waste and the people taken away (vv. 11-12)
 - 2) Yet a tenth will remain – a faithful remnant (v. 13a)
 - 3) Stump remains for a holy seed – future Messiah (v. 13b)

Conclusion

Like Isaiah, we need to humbly recognize our unworthiness before God, but be willing and ready to serve the will of God who forgives and strengthens us. A sinful society like Israel and Judah would reap the wrath of God. It will be no different for sinful nations today for God still rules in the kingdoms of men (Dan. 4:17).