

## God Has A Plan > Isaiah 6:1-13

**6:1-5** The chapter opens with a stunning display of God's glory, presented to Isaiah in the form of a vision. Yet, highlighting God's glory shows how utterly sinful Isaiah is.

**6:6-7** However, the Lord's grace is greater than we might expect: an angel speaks of what the Lord has done – atoned for the sins of those who trust Him.

**6:8-13** The Lord doesn't simply redeem Isaiah for his own sake. Instead, Isaiah is given a mission: he will proclaim God's judgment to a wayward people. These people will largely ignore Isaiah's preaching, which leads to downfall and exile. But there is hope even here: a stump and a seed remain.

**Context:** The Book of Isaiah revolves around God's holiness and Israel and Judah's wickedness. Scenes of God's judgment are common, yet those who are faithful to the Lord are never left without hope for how He will give purpose and life.

**Aim:** Even in His holiness, God uses sinful people to ultimately bring about His plans and His worship.

**Gospel:** Oftentimes, Jesus Himself quotes from these words – those who refuse to hear and consider will remain blind and deaf in their sin. Yet the good news is that those who respond shall be healed – God saves sinners!

**Applications:** We need to grab hold of a bigger picture of God's holiness and our own sinfulness. Do you trust in a God who is this powerful, yet also good and kind? Do you believe that this merciful God uses sinful people to accomplish His plans? Do you trust that He is using you?

**Here is how I will apply these truths:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Announcements**

If you are interested in helping with our DiscipleQuest mailings for children this fall, please see Terry Hinders. Also: if you have/care for children who would like to be on the mailing list (and haven't signed up for DQ before), please let the office know and we'll add them to the mailing list.

A reminder: we would like to grow our list of ushers so that we can have a rotating team each Sunday. If you are interested in finding out what part you could play in that ministry, please see Lee Hinders for more details.

## **Prayer**

Lord, we tremble to think of the three parts of the good seed that fell upon the bad ground.

Let not our hearts be like the highway. Through hardness and want of true understanding, it does not receive the seed, so the evil one comes and takes it away.

Let not our hearts be like the stony ground, which hears with joy for a time, but falls away as soon as persecution arises for the gospel's sake.

Let not our hearts be like the thorny ground, which chokes the word and makes it altogether unfruitful because of the cares of this world and the deceit of riches.

Instead, let each of our hearts be like the good ground. Help us to hear your word with an honest and good heart. Enable us to understand and keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience, for your glory and our everlasting benefit. Amen.

(adapted from a prayer originally written by Lewis Bayly)