

Is sin worth losing the sense of the presence of God? Is the decision you have made, the action that you are about to take, that desire you are about to fulfill, it is worth the intimate awareness of the intimate presence of God? Is it worth it?

I want to talk to you today about the presence of God. I want you to keep in mind everything that you have studied all week long, every scripture that you have gone into, everything that you have discussed in your discussion class. Take all that, precious ones, and put that with the message that God has laid on my heart for us today.

I want us to begin in Exodus 19. I want us to go back to that time when God spoke to the children of Israel after taking them out of the land of Egypt. I want you to see what He said to them.

**Exodus 19:1-6**

*1 In the third month after the sons of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that very day they came into the wilderness of Sinai. 2 When they set out from Rephidim, they came to the wilderness of Sinai and camped in the wilderness; and there Israel camped in front of the mountain. (This is called the mountain of God.) 3 Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the sons of Israel: 4 'You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings, and brought you to Myself. 5 'Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and **keep My covenant**, (He is about to make this covenant with them. We have the 10 commandments given in chapter 20.) then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; (Now stop and listen carefully to this next verse and think about the New Testament parallels.) 6 and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.'*

These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel. So as we look at the sons of Israel, think with me. What does God tell us in Revelation chapter 1 that we as the church are:

**Revelation 1:6**

*6 and He has made us to be a **kingdom, priests** to His God and Father—to Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

**1 Peter 1:16** because it is written, "**You shall be holy, for I am holy.**"

**1 Peter 2:9** *But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;*

**John 15:16** *"You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit, and that your fruit would remain, so that whatever you ask of the Father in My name He may give to you.*

So as we look at Israel, I want you to keep remembering:

**Romans 15:4** *For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.*

Now, when He brought them out he warned them about PRIDE.

You have seen as you studied the pride of Uzziah. You have seen what it did to Uzziah.

**2 Chronicles 26:16-21**

21 16 But when he became strong, his heart was so proud that he acted corruptly, and he was unfaithful to the LORD his God, for he entered the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense.

17 Then Azariah the priest entered after him and with him eighty priests of the LORD, valiant men.

18 They opposed Uzziah the king and said to him, "It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the LORD, but for the priests, the sons of Aaron who are consecrated to burn incense. Get out of the sanctuary, for you have been unfaithful and will have no honor from the LORD God."

19 But Uzziah, with a censer in his hand for burning incense, was enraged; and while he was enraged with the priests, the leprosy broke out on his forehead before the priests in the house of the LORD, beside the altar of incense.

20 Azariah the chief priest and all the priests looked at him, and behold, he was leprous on his forehead; and they hurried him out of there, and he himself also hastened to get out because the LORD had smitten him.

21 King Uzziah was a leper to the day of his death; and he lived in a separate house, being a leper, for he was cut off from the house of the LORD. And Jotham his son was over the king's house judging the people of the land.

You have seen God mention pride. We are going to look at it again in the book of Isaiah because it is so important that we see it (pride).

Go to Leviticus 26. Remember that in Exodus He has told them that they are to walk in obedience to Him and keep His commandments.

**Leviticus 26:14** *'But if you do not obey Me and do not carry out all these commandments, Let me just say this: when you finish the book of Exodus, then Leviticus covers one month in time. That one month is spent at the foot of that mountain. (Mt. Sinai, the mountain of God)*

**Leviticus 26:14-19**

14 *'But if you do not obey Me and do not carry out all these commandments, 15 if, instead, you reject My statutes, and if your soul abhors My ordinances so as not to carry out all My commandments, and so break My covenant, 16 I, in turn, will do this to you: I will appoint over you a sudden terror, consumption and fever that will waste away the eyes and cause the soul to pine away; also, you will sow your seed uselessly, for your enemies will eat it up. 17 'I will set My face against you so that you will be struck down before your enemies; and those who hate you will rule over you, and you will flee when no one is pursuing you. 18 'If also after these things you do not obey Me, then I will punish you (what?) seven times more for your sins. 19 'I will also break down your **pride of power**; I will also make your sky like iron and your earth like bronze.*

What is "pride of power?" Pride of power is this: I don't need you God. I can handle this myself. I don't need you God. I don't want You involved or interfering. It is the sense that you and I can live independently of God and live life more successfully. It is the idea that we can walk how we want and get what we want and it would be better than what the LORD would give us. That is the pride of power.

Now, look at Deuteronomy 8 – this is the first time that "pride" is used in the NASB.

**Deuteronomy 8:11** He is going to talk about being proud.

11 *"Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God by **not** keeping His commandments and His ordinances and His statutes which I am commanding you today;*

They are getting ready to go into the land and He's saying - I do not want you to forget the LORD.

So many times we get in a situation in life, and we forget God. When we forget God, we are denying the manifest presence of God that is able to be there and take us through whatever we are facing – whether temptation, trial or difficult situation.

**Deuteronomy 8:12-14**

12 otherwise, when you have eaten and are satisfied, and have built good houses and lived in them,

13 and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and gold multiply, and all that you have multiplies,<sup>14</sup> **then your heart will become proud** and you will forget the LORD your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

What did Israel know under the reign of Uzziah? They knew plenty and blessing. They had gold and silver. They were building buildings and their lands. They forgot God.

**14 then your heart will become proud** and you will forget the LORD your God who brought you out from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

So what we see in Isaiah: (write this down)

They walked in the pride of their flesh instead walking of in the presence of His holiness.

**You know that when we are in the presence of His holiness and we are aware of it, there is no place for pride.**

Isaiah 2 – all of this you have discussed – up one side and down the other. You have spent all week in just the content of Isaiah 6.

I want to weave this message together for you so that when you leave - constantly before you, you will think - is this decision that is going against the word of God worth the manifold sense of His presence?

Is this desire, this thing that I want worth losing His presence? Is this exaltation of myself worth losing the sense of His presence? Of course if you are a child of God, His presence is always there but I am talking about manifest sense of His presence, that awareness, that smile that comes to your face because you are **so** aware that God is with you. You are **so** aware of God. You are **so** aware that what you are doing is pleasing to God.

### **Isaiah 2:10-11**

*10 Enter the rock and hide in the dust From the terror of the LORD and from the **splendor of His majesty**.<sup>11</sup> (Watch pride here) The proud look of man **will be abased** And the loftiness (pride) of man will be humbled, And the LORD alone will be exalted in that day.*

A holy God can't allow pride to do un-judged.

If you walking in the sense of the manifest presence of God, you can know that there is no place for pride, or loftiness because His glory, in a sense, is all consuming. That is all you want and that is all you care for.

**Isaiah 2:12** *For the LORD of hosts will have a day of reckoning Against everyone who is **proud and lofty** And against everyone who is **lifted up**, That he may be abased.*

God says, and you will see it later in Isaiah:

**Isaiah 42:8** *"I am the LORD, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, Nor My praise to graven images.*

The manifest presence of God is the glory of God. It is God being seen. When God is being glorified you are seeing God as He is.

**Isaiah 2:17** *The pride of man will be humbled And the loftiness (pride) of men will be abased; And the LORD alone will be exalted in that day,*

What was wrong in the days of Isaiah that he is writing about?

**Isaiah 2:22** – they had regarded man instead of God.

What happens to Isaiah when he finds himself in the presence of God? He sees the uncleanness of man.

**Isaiah 6:5** *Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean*

*lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts."*

You see, when you and I are enamored by man, even godly men and women –and we can look at them and we can look at their lifestyle and we can do as Paul says in **1 Corinthians 11:1** *Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.* But when we start to adore them, we are in trouble. God will not share His glory with any man. We are to adore Him.

**Isaiah 2:22** *Stop regarding man, whose breath of life is in his nostrils; For why should he be esteemed?*

What were they doing? Look at:

**Isaiah 3:8** *For Jerusalem has stumbled and Judah has fallen, **Because their speech and their actions are against the LORD,** (Now, look at this next sentence.) **To rebel against His glorious presence.***

Listen to what he is saying. Here they are in the glorious presence of God. They are living in the manifest presence of what? On Mount Zion is the temple that was built by Solomon. Over that holy of holies there is a cloud of the presence of God. At night they can look out and see the fire over the temple. They are in the manifest presence of God. They can all see the manifest presence of God. And what are they doing? They are rebelling. They are talking against God. They are doing things that they shouldn't be doing among themselves. And God is up on the mount with His manifest presence and they're speech and their actions are in rebellion against His glorious presence, His magnificent presence.

**Isaiah 3:8** *For Jerusalem has stumbled and Judah has fallen, **Because their speech and their actions are against the LORD, To rebel against His glorious presence.***

Now just stop and think about that. They lived in the sight of His manifest presence, but listen to me very carefully. They have lived in the sight of His manifest presence ever since they left Egypt on the night of the Passover. Let's look at it.

**Exodus 13:21** *The LORD was going before them in a pillar of cloud by day to lead them on the way, and in a pillar of fire by night to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night.*

**Exodus 13:22** *He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.*

What did they know? God is with us.

What has God put in your temple? The Holy Spirit.

Whose temple is it? It's God's. **1 Corinthians 6:19**

So we have His presence every since we came out of "Egypt." **Romans 6:6; 2 Corinthians 5:17**

**1 Corinthians 12:13**

We have been walking in the manifest presence of God. Or we have been walking in the presence of God. Has it been manifest? Has it been seen by how we live? Or are we like the Israelites who are living in His splendid presence and our speech and our actions are against the LORD?

That speech can go to gossip, maligning, lying, saying things that would draw attention to ourselves? I have been guilty. –and overshadowing in a sense, His presence within us.

Look at Exodus 40 – it is a marvelous chapter. I was reading it yesterday and I just saw a key

repeated phrase.

**Exodus 40:17-19** *Now in the first month of the second year, on the first day of the month, the tabernacle was erected.18 Moses erected the tabernacle and laid its sockets, and set up its boards, and inserted its bars and erected its pillars.19 He spread the tent over the tabernacle and put the covering of the tent on top of it, **just as the LORD had commanded Moses.*** (That is the key phrase. And all the way through he is putting this tabernacle together just as the LORD had commanded Moses.)

**Exodus 40:29** *He set the altar of burnt offering before the doorway of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting, and offered on it the burnt offering and the meal offering, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.*

When Isaiah saw the LORD and he saw his sin and said:

**Isaiah 6:5-7** *Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts."*

What did the seraphim do? coal off the altar

*6 Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal in his hand, which he had taken from the altar with tongs. 7 **He touched my mouth with it** and said, "Behold, this has touched your lips; and your iniquity is taken away and your sin is forgiven."*

It was an altar that was to have a perpetual fire on it showing that we perpetually need to be cleansed of our sins.

**1 John 1:8** *If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.*

But because I want the manifest presence of God, then I am ever aware and careful to confess my sins.

**Exodus 40:29** *He set the altar of burnt offering before the doorway of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting, and offered on it the burnt offering and the meal offering, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.*

**Exodus 40:32** *When they entered the tent of meeting, and when they approached the altar, **they washed, just as the LORD had commanded Moses.***

They washed themselves.

**Ephesians 5:26** *so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,*

Why do we lay out the Precept lessons with 5 days? To keep you at the laver, to keep at the water of the Word so that you might know and walk and sense His manifest presence.

### **Exodus 40:33-37**

*33 He erected the court all around the tabernacle and the altar, and hung up the veil for the gateway of the court. Thus Moses finished the work.34 Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, **and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.**35 Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.36 Throughout all their journeys whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the sons of Israel would set out; 37 but if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out until the day when it was taken up.*

(Why? They wanted to walk and move according to the manifest presence of God. They wanted to be lead by God. They were not going to move if the pillar of fire or the cloud did not move.)

**Exodus 40:38** *For throughout all their journeys, the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle*

by day, and there was fire in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel.

### **1 Kings 8:10-13**

*10 It happened that when the priests came from the holy place, the cloud filled the house of the LORD,  
11 so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.12 (Listen carefully) Then Solomon said, "The **LORD has said that He would dwell in the thick cloud.**13 "I have surely built You a lofty house, A place for Your dwelling forever."*

But where was the LORD? The LORD was in the cloud over the temple. The LORD was in the cloud over the temple.

This was true in the days of Isaiah. This was true in the days and reign of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, yet what were the children of Israel doing? They were rebelling.

### **Isaiah 3:8-11**

*8 For Jerusalem has stumbled and Judah has fallen, Because their speech and their actions are against the LORD, To rebel against His glorious presence.9 The expression of their faces bears witness against them, And they display their sin like Sodom; They do not even conceal it. Woe to them! For they have brought evil on themselves.*

But, now are they all evil?

*10 Say to the righteous that it will go well with them, For they will eat the fruit of their actions.*

They were living in the manifest presence of God, and they remembered.

*11 Woe to the wicked! It will go badly with him, For what he deserves will be done to him.*

Because they are living in manifest presence and because they are wicked, God is going to judge them. Only the remnant will survive. Only the righteous will survive.

**Isaiah 4:2-3** *In that day the Branch of the LORD will be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth will be the pride and the adornment of the survivors of Israel. (There are survivors)3 It will come about that he who is left in Zion and remains in Jerusalem will be called holy—everyone who is recorded for life in Jerusalem.*

So among this wicked there is a remnant that will survive. These are the ones that have loved His presence. These are the ones that have conducted themselves properly in His presence. These are the one that have pursued righteousness.

**Isaiah 4:4** *When the LORD has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion (see previous chapter for the description of them – and they were doing that in His presence.) and purged the bloodshed of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and the spirit of burning,*

How do you dress for church? How do you adorn His body? How low do your necklines get? How short are your skirts? How high does the slit come? And when you sit down, are you like a filthy daughter of Zion?

But it is the style you say.

What about your daughters? What about your little girls. He says, "I've got to wash away the filth of the daughters of Zion." They were living in His presence.

It is time for us as women to turn around. It is time for us not to look at how gorgeous and sexy we look because that is not living in the manifest presence of God because He does not want us to be sexy to the world. Yet we traipse about like harlots denying the manifest presence of God.

Only those who love His presence, only those who pursue His righteousness will live in His presence.

**Watch what it says:**

**Isaiah 4:4-5** *When the LORD has washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion and purged the bloodshed of Jerusalem from her midst, by the spirit of judgment and the spirit of burning, 5 **then** the LORD will create over the whole area of Mount Zion and over her assemblies **a cloud** by day, even smoke, and the brightness of a flaming fire by night; for over all the glory (of His presence) will be a canopy.*

“A cloud” – do you see it?!!

The LORD is going to put a cloud back. What on earth is He talking about? Well, I want to show you something.

Ezekiel comes later in time. He is taken captive in the second siege of Jerusalem by Babylon. He is to be a priest but he will never get to act as a priest in Jerusalem. What a heartbreak because he is taken into captivity with the 10,000.

But this is what happens:

**Ezekiel 10:1-4**

*1 Then I looked, and behold, in the expanse that was over the heads of the cherubim something like a sapphire stone, in appearance resembling a throne, appeared above them. (Another vision of the throne of God. We saw one in our homework in chapters 1-3.) 2 And He spoke to the man clothed in linen and said, “Enter between the whirling wheels under the cherubim and fill your hands with coals of fire from between the cherubim and scatter them over the city.” And he entered in my sight. (Scatter that fire over the city – a spirit of burning.) 3 Now the cherubim were standing on the right side of the temple when the man entered, and the cloud filled the inner court. 4 Then the glory of the LORD went up from the cherub to the threshold of the temple, and the temple was filled with the cloud and the court was filled with the brightness of the glory of the LORD.*

His presence was there. But watch.

Look at:

**Ezekiel 10:18-19** *Then the glory of the LORD departed from the threshold of the temple (Oh no. –the glory departed) and stood over the cherubim. 19 When the cherubim departed, they lifted their wings and rose up from the earth in my sight with the wheels beside them; and they stood still at the entrance of the **east gate** (this gate faces the Mount of Olives and is still there today) of the LORD’S house, and the glory of the God of Israel hovered over them.*

It is the holy gate. It takes you straight onto the temple mount.

Now go to verse 22

**Ezekiel 11:22-23** *Then the cherubim lifted up their wings with the wheels beside them, and the glory of the God of Israel hovered over them. (the glory is the manifest presence –the cloud) 23 The glory of the LORD went up from the midst of the city and stood over the mountain which is east of the city. The enemy will come in and conquer the city.*

But for the first time, listen, the manifest presence of God, the cloud, is gone. It is gone. That is why Isaiah tells us in chapter 4 that the cloud is going to come back. But the cloud goes away because of their sin and because of the judgment.

Look at Ezekiel 43 and this parallels what we just read in Isaiah 4.

Ezekiel is getting a vision of what is going to happen.

**Ezekiel 43:1-5** *1 Then he led me to the gate, the gate facing toward the east; (the eastern gate)*

2 and behold, the glory of the God of Israel was coming from the way of the east. And His voice was like the sound of many waters; and the earth shone with His glory.<sup>3</sup> And it was like the appearance of the vision which I saw, like the vision which I saw when He came to destroy the city. And the visions were like the vision which I saw by the river Chebar; and I fell on my face.<sup>4</sup> And the glory of the LORD came into the house by the way of the gate facing toward the east.<sup>5</sup> And the Spirit lifted me up and brought me into the inner court; and behold, the glory of the LORD filled the house.

Wow!!

The glory departed because of their sin. But Isaiah says:

**Isaiah 4:2** *In that day the **Branch of the LORD will be beautiful and glorious**, and the fruit of the earth will be the pride and the adornment of the survivors of Israel.*

*5 then the LORD will create over the whole area of Mount Zion and over her assemblies a cloud by day, even smoke, and the brightness of a flaming fire by night; for over all the glory will be a canopy.*

His manifest presence is coming back.

What is going to happen? Judgment comes and the presence leaves.

**Isaiah 5:13** *Therefore My people go into exile for their lack of (what?) knowledge; And their honorable men are famished, And their multitude is parched with thirst.*

What have they done? They have rebelled against Him; they have revolted. They have despised the Holy One of Israel. So the cloud of His presence goes away. Until what? Until there is repentance and the judgment of God falls.

When you look at Isaiah 5 – talks about His beloved and His vineyard. Then this is what He says.

### **Isaiah 5:3-7**

*3 “And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, Judge between Me and My vineyard.<sup>4</sup> “What more was there to do for My vineyard that I have not done in it? Why, when I expected it to produce good grapes did it produce worthless ones?<sup>5</sup> “So now let Me tell you what I am going to do to My vineyard: I will remove its hedge and it will be consumed; I will break down its wall and it will become trampled ground.<sup>6</sup> “I will lay it waste; It will not be pruned or hoed, But briars and thorns will come up. I will also charge the clouds to rain no rain on it.” (why?)<sup>7</sup> For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel And the men of Judah His delightful plant. **Thus** He looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; For righteousness, but behold, a cry of distress.*

He looked for righteousness but behold there is a cry of distress. I want to ask you a question. What is in your life? Righteousness or a cry of distress because you have rebelled against His holy presence? Because you haven't lived the way God wants you to live, because you have allowed pride in your life, because you want God to do something else.

God has already done what needs to be done for you.

**Ezekiel 36:27** *“I will put **My Spirit within you** and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.*

**Zechariah 4:6** *Then he said to me, “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel saying, ‘**Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,**’ says the LORD of hosts.*

If you have desires:

**Galatians 5:16** *But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.*

*He has told you to be holy even as He is holy:*

**1 Peter 1:16** *because it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”*

He has promised:



**Hebrews 13:5** *Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, “I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you,”*

**1 John 1:9** *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

Your body is His temple. His presence is here. (1 Corinthians 6:19). How are you living?

Listen to the woe's.

**Isaiah 5:8** *Woe to those who add house to house and join field to field, Until there is no more room, So that you have to live alone in the midst of the land!*

Are you just laying up treasures on earth, beloved? (Matthew 6:19)

Or are you doing the work of the LORD?

What are you doing with this ability that God has given you to make money? What are you doing with these monies?

**Isaiah 5:9-11** *In my ears the LORD of hosts has sworn, “Surely, many houses shall become desolate, Even great and fine ones, without occupants.10 “For ten acres of vineyard will yield only one bath of wine, And a homer of seed will yield but an ephah of grain.”11 Woe to those who rise early in the morning that they may pursue strong drink, Who stay up late in the evening that wine may inflame them!*

Is life just a party? Do we get our solace from alcohol? Is alcohol what we depend on to get us up in the morning? Is it what we go to bed on in order to sleep? Woe – have we not got the manifest presence in us if we are children of God? Then why do we not appropriate it?

**Isaiah 5:12** *Their banquets are accompanied by lyre and harp, by tambourine and flute, and by wine; But they do not pay attention to the deeds of the LORD, Nor do they consider the work of His hands.*

Here He is (in their presence.) They can see the cloud. They can see the fire. But they don't pay attention.

**Isaiah 5:12** *Their banquets are accompanied by lyre and harp, by tambourine and flute, and by wine ; But they do not pay attention to the deeds of the LORD, Nor do they consider the work of His hands.13 Therefore My people go into exile for their lack of knowledge; And their honorable men are famished, And their multitude is parched with thirst.*

What does He say in Amos?

**Amos 8:11** *“Behold, days are coming,” declares the LORD God, “When I will send a famine on the land, Not a famine for bread or a thirst for water, But rather for hearing the words of the LORD.12 “People will stagger from sea to sea And from the north even to the east; They will go to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, But they will not find it.*

**Isaiah 5:14** *Therefore Sheol (the grave) has enlarged its throat and opened its mouth without measure; And Jerusalem's splendor, her multitude, her din of revelry and the jubilant within her, descend into it.15 So the common man will be humbled and the man of importance abased, The eyes of the proud also will be abased.*

Uzziah was great until he was strong in his heart was lifted up.(2 Chronicles 26:16-23) He was going to offer incense on the altar. He was stopped by others. He turned around in a rage. What had happened? The mighty man had been lifted up. Then what happened? Then leprosy. God had smitten him

Don't be deceived.

**Numbers 32:23** *“But if you will not do so, behold, you have sinned against the LORD,*

*and be sure your sin will find you out.*

Either you find your sins and confess them or they find you and bring judgment.

**Isaiah 5:15-18** *So the common man will be humbled and the man of importance abased, The eyes of the proud also will be abased.16 But the LORD of hosts will be exalted in judgment, And the holy God will show Himself holy in righteousness. (R+ that demands that He judge sin.)17 Then the lambs will graze as in their pasture, And strangers will eat in the waste places of the wealthy.18 Woe to those who drag iniquity with the cords of falsehood, And sin as if with cart ropes;*

They had been weighed down with their iniquity but now they are not only weighted but they are drawing along their iniquities behind them.

**Isaiah 5:19-20** Speaking flippantly to God:

*19 Who say, "Let Him make speed, let Him hasten His work, that we may see it; And let the purpose of the Holy One of Israel draw near And come to pass, that we may know it!"*

My goodness, His manifest presence is there. It's arrogance.

*20 Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; Who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!*

Isn't that what's happening today? It so describes our society!! We flaunt our sin. We think nothing of it. We say there are no absolutes. There are no "right" and no "wrong."

**Isaiah 5:20** *Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who substitute darkness for light and light for darkness; Who substitute bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! (We think the drugs are going to do it. We think alcohol is going to do it. It seems sweet but it is bitter.) 21 Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes And clever in their own sight!*

We have our education. We know. We don't need to depend on God.

**Isaiah 5:22** *Woe to those who are heroes in drinking wine And valiant men in mixing strong drink,23 Who justify the wicked for a bribe, (all the courts that are justify the wicked for a bride) And take away the rights of the ones who are in the right!*

**Isaiah 5:24** *Therefore, as a tongue of fire consumes stubble And dry grass collapses into the flame, So their root will become like rot and their blossom blow away as dust; **For they have rejected the law of the LORD of hosts And despised the word of the Holy One of Israel.**25 On this account the anger of the LORD has (what?)**burned** against His people, And He has stretched out His hand against them and struck them down. And the mountains quaked, and their corpses lay like refuse in the middle of the streets. For all this His anger is not spent, But His hand is still stretched out.*

As Isaiah brings this message to a close, as he lays out for us what the children of God have done in the manifest presence of God, he tells us of the captivity that is to come.

**Isaiah 5:26** *He will also lift up a standard to the distant nation, And will whistle for it from the ends of the earth; And behold, it (this nation) will come with speed swiftly.27 No one in it is weary or stumbles, None slumbers or sleeps; (they are all ready for battle) Nor is the belt at its waist undone, Nor its sandal strap broken.28 Its arrows are sharp and all its bows are bent; The hoofs of its horses seem like flint and its chariot wheels like a whirlwind.29 Its roaring is like a lioness, and it roars like young lions; It growls as it seizes the prey And carries it off with no one to deliver it.30 And it will growl over it in that day like the roaring of the sea. If one looks to the land, behold, there is **darkness and distress**; Even the light is darkened by its clouds.*

The message is finished. King Uzziah dies.

**Isaiah 6: 1** *In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the LORD sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. 2 Seraphim (burning ones) stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, (he is in the manifest presence of God) and with two he covered his feet, (Where am I walking? What am I doing? What are my actions?) and with two he flew.*

In that flying about the throne, what do they cry?

*3 And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory."*

Oh, precious ones, what is God's calling on your life? Is to so live in the manifest presence of God, to so bring ourselves low, to so humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God that we are consumed with Him. So that very decision, every desire, everything that we do is brought into subjection to this manifest presence of God so that we live:

**Acts 17:28** *for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His children.'*

So that we say and do and respond to people, the way I spend my time and my money brings glory to Him because someday the whole earth is going to be filled with the glory of the LORD.

**Habakkuk 2:14** *"For the earth will be filled With the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, As the waters cover the sea.*

So what are we to do? We are to live in such a way that we glorify Him in this body that is His. (1 Corinthians 6:20)

The whole earth is filled with His glory.

*4 And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke.*

What is that smoke? You say it in Isaiah 4 – that smoke is the glory of the LORD. It is the presence of the LORD.

*5 Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips, And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts."*

He is the King. He is the only one that gets the glory. He is the only one who is worthy of worship. He is the King, the LORD of Hosts. And so precious one, so you and I are to live in His presence. When we live in His presence we will be quick to see any uncleanness. He will be quick to remind us because we sin. He knows it. He talks about unintentional sin in the Old Testament. (Leviticus 4-5) I sinned and I am so sorry. I am grieved God. Forgive me.

In the presence of His glory you not only see Him but you see yourself as you really are. When you walk in that union and that communion, God understands.

So what happens?

*6 Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal in his hand, which he had taken from the altar with tongs. (Leviticus 6:6-7; 9-13 – that continuous burning on that altar.)*

*7 He touched my mouth with it and said, "Behold, this has touched your lips; and your iniquity is taken away and your sin is forgiven."*

Why does God do that? Why does God do that? It shows us –

**1 John 1:9** *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

All unrighteousness that I am unaware of. He cleanses it because He knows my heart. If I am willing to confess whatever I know to be true, then He in turn takes care of all the rest because

He knows my heart.

Isaiah's heart was to be right with God, to be rid of sin, to serve his God.

**8 Then I heard the voice of the LORD,** (Maybe you haven't heard the voice of the LORD.

Maybe you don't sense His presence because of sin. You are living in His presence but you are rebelling against Him. Your speech and your actions are against Him.

*Then I heard the voice of the LORD saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us? (John 12:41)" Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!"*

Isaiah saw the glory of the LORD. Isaiah saw Jesus.

**John 12:24** *"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit."<sup>25</sup> "He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal."<sup>26</sup> "If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him."<sup>27</sup> **"Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour."<sup>28</sup> "Father, glorify Your name." Then a voice came out of heaven: "I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again."<sup>29</sup> So the crowd of people who stood by and heard it were saying that it had thundered; others were saying, "An angel has spoken to Him."<sup>30</sup> Jesus answered and said, "This voice has not come for My sake, but for your sakes."<sup>31</sup> "Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out."<sup>32</sup> "And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself."<sup>33</sup> But He was saying this to indicate the kind of death by which He was to die."<sup>34</sup> The crowd then answered Him, "We have heard out of the Law that the Christ is to remain forever; and how can You say, 'The Son of Man must be lifted up'? Who is this Son of Man?"***

**John 12:38** *This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet which he spoke: "LORD, who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?"<sup>39</sup> For this reason they could not believe, for Isaiah said again,<sup>40</sup> "He has blinded their eyes and He hardened their heart, so that they would not see with their eyes and perceive with their heart, and be converted and I heal them."<sup>41</sup> **These things Isaiah said because he saw His glory, and he spoke of Him.***

**John 1:1** *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.<sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God.<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

So in the captivity, in 586 BC, the cloud departs from the temple and it's coming back – yes – when Jesus sets up His kingdom but it came before that.

**John 1:** *And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

When Mary and Joseph carried Jesus into the temple according to the Law, they were holding the glory of God. (Luke 2:22-32) The manifest presence of God was in the temple.

Then one day He said:

**Luke 21:27** *"Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.*

*And He walked out. But, He went to the Mount of Olives, and He turned to His disciples and what did He say?*

**Acts 1:4** *Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me;<sup>5</sup> for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?"<sup>7</sup> He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority;<sup>8</sup> but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."<sup>9</sup> And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.*

He ascended into heaven and then:

*Acts 2:1-4* 1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. 4 **And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.**

You and I are now his temple, walking in a way that I pray says glory to the LORD, walking in the sense of His manifest presence.

Isaiah heard the LORD: Who will go for Us?

*v. 8* Then I heard the voice of the LORD, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "**Here am I. Send me!**"

I'll send you, Isaiah, but they (Judah and Jerusalem) are not going to change:

*9* He said, "Go, and tell this people: 'Keep on listening, but do not perceive; Keep on looking, but do not understand.' 10 "Render the hearts of this people insensitive, Their ears dull, And their eyes dim, Otherwise they might see with their eyes, Hear with their ears, Understand with their hearts, And return and be healed." 11 **Then I said, "LORD, how long?"** And He answered, "Until cities are devastated and without inhabitant, Houses are without people And the **land is utterly desolate,** 12 "The LORD has removed men far away, And the forsaken places are many in the midst of the land. 13 "Yet there will be a tenth portion in it, And it will again be subject to burning, (AD 70) Like a terebinth or an oak Whose stump remains when it is felled. The holy seed is its stump."

But when the oak is felled, there is a stump. The remnant.

As He gets ready to leave – and may it take on a whole new dimension:

**Matthew 28:18** And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 **Go therefore** and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

God said in the presence of Isaiah after his sin had been taken away, "Who will go for us?" And Jesus turns to his disciples – Go. Their sins had been taken away.

**Matthew 28:20** teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; **and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.** My presence will go with you. I am with you even until the end of the age.

Until that last day, until He comes again. Until He comes again, He is with us.

So no matter how hard it gets, not matter if they listen or don't listen, you are to go and go knowing this: there is a remnant. There is a seed. Those that He gives ears to hear, will hear.

**John 10:27** "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; 28 and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand.

Oh, oh, don't fail to finish the study of this book. You will learn more and more how to live in the manifold presence of God and you will see over and over again that no sin is worth missing it. Sin is pleasurable, but only for a season. But God's favor lasts for forever.