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SERIES: Isaiah, Part 1 (Judgment – But Hope)

TITLE: Program 14 – The Richness Of His Glory

THURSDAY

OPEN

When was the last time that you stopped and looked at the world, looked at creation, and noticed that there had to be a creator? “...**The whole** [world] **is full of His glory.**” (Isaiah 6:3) O, Beloved, may I urge you to stop, to pause, to take another look at the world and think about God, so that you’ll live accordingly. We’ll talk about it today.

PART ONE

The other day I had to do a lot of work on the computer, and because of that I wanted to be with my husband so, I went in our family room, and I have a rocker, kind of recliner. It’s wonderful. And I kicked back and I got ready to watch something like “24 hours” or some intrigue. My husband’s not that kind of man and he just could not handle it. He was gonna get up, and go in the other room and I said, “Oh no, Honey. No, no. You find something. Well he turned on “Georgia Public Broadcasting,” and I had a hard time working on my computer, because they began to show all the wonders of creation.

All the wonders of creation. I kept saying, “Oh Honey, oh Honey, how can anyone doubt that there is a God in heaven, that there is a creator. How marvelous and magnificent He is, and how He pays attention to the details. One of the things that I remember was watching, and they told how these whales will get together and like a school of whales, and how they’ll blow the bubbles and the bubbles will cause, I believe, it’s the herring to come in, and they won’t go past the bubbles in the water. And then all of a sudden, these whales come up in unison of one accord and they all come up with their mouths open and they get all these tons of herring in their mouths as a group and I just looked and I watched them in unison coming up out of the water and I thought, [“Oh, the whole earth is filled with the glory of the Lord.”] (PARAPHRASE, Isaiah 6:3) Isaiah was in, probably the temple, and all of a sudden, he caught a vision of the Lord. He saw Him “**...high and lifted up...**” (Isaiah 6:1, KJV) He saw “**...the train of His robe filling the temple.**” (Isaiah 6:1) He looked at the seraphim, the burning ones, and he heard them crying, “**...Holy, Holy, Holy...**” is the Holy One, the Holy One, the Creator. “**...Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts....**” Listen to what it says, “**...Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory.**” (Isaiah 6:3) Don’t you wish that everybody realized that? Don’t you wish that everybody would know that? Don’t you wish that men in all their sin and captivity to sin could know the forgiveness of God? Could know the blessing of God on their lives? Isaiah had been preaching. He had been preaching to the sons of Israel. He had given them the vision that God gave him, and he gave it to them very faithfully. And he talked to them about how they had rebelled against the Holy One of Israel, how they had despised Him, how they had lived in His presence and yet, by their actions and their speech, they turned against Him. And now, Isaiah is having his own moment with God. We talked about it in our last program, when he sees the God whose earth is filled with His glory, he sees himself, and he says, “**...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 [mine] eyes have seen the King...,” mine eyes have seen the King, **“...the Lord of hosts.” (Isaiah 6:5)** The One who is in charge, the One who is in command of all the cherubim, the seraphim and all the hosts of angelic beings, the messengers of Satan and the messengers of God, who’s in charge of all the earth. His eyes saw the king, the Lord of hosts. And it says, **“Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal in his hand, which he had taken from the altar with tongs.” (Isaiah 6:6)** And what altar is this? I believe that this altar is the altar of burnt offering, the altar of sacrifice, and as you look at the temple, this is the altar that is in the outer court, before you go into the Holy Place and before the priest would go into the Holy of Holies one time a year. This is a perpetual fire. This is where the sacrifices for sin are made. This is where the meal offering is offered. This is where the burnt offering is offered. This is a picture, listen carefully, of the cross of Jesus Christ. Every piece of furniture in that temple, in that tabernacle, the tent that moved with them through the wilderness, the temple that Solomon built in his day, where the name of God was written and where the Shekinah glory of the Lord hovered and kept its place. This temple, this temple, was a picture of the One who was to come. This temple was a picture of redemption under the new covenant that was going to come. It was a picture of forgiveness of sins, so that when you look at the altar of sacrifice, you see a picture of the cross. From there you move to the laver. The laver was where the priest would wash daily. This is where Jesus is washing the disciples’ feet and [Peter says, “Oh no, wash all of me.” And He says, “If you’re clean, you only need to have your feet washed.”] (PARAPHRASE, John 13:9) This speaks of our daily cleansing through the washing of the water of the Word. Then you come into the Holy Place. On the right hand is the table of showbread, showing Jesus as the Bread of Life. On the left is the candlestick, showing the seven-branch menorah, showing Jesus as the Light of the World. And then you turn and you face the back of it, and there is a

magnificent veil, so thick that it would take two teams of oxen pulling in opposite directions to tear that veil. That veil shuts out the vision of the ark of the covenant, covered with the mercy seat and the cherubim over it that is a picture of the throne of God. Before the veil, excuse me is the altar of incense, and that is where Uzziah went, and went into the temple and grabbed that censer and began to offer incense on that. That is where he was stopped by Azariah and eighty other valiant priests who said, [“No, you cannot do that. You’re not of the house of Aaron, you are not allowed to do that.”] (PARAPHRASE 2 Chronicles 26:18) And as you know from our last program or from studying because you’ve downloaded the free study guide, as you know, then was when Uzziah broke out with leprosy and he lived as a leper all his life. Think of what might have happened if the minute Uzziah was stopped by those priests and told, “You cannot do that,” instead of turning around in a rage with that censer in his hand, if he’d dropped it and said, “Oh my God, forgive me, forgive me. He is the God of glory, He is the God of holiness, He is the God of majesty. Forgive me. I was out of my mind. I was out of my mind. I thought I could disobey Him and get away with it. I became strong in my own eyes. I became puffed up. I’m out of my mind!” At that moment, God would have forgiven him, even as God forgave Isaiah when Isaiah saw his sin. But Uzziah was strong and he was proud, and he would not admit his sin, and so he remained a leper all his life. And it was, **“In the year that King Uzziah died....” (Isaiah 6:1, KJV)** that Isaiah had this experience. This experience of seeing the God of glory and seeing his own sin and confessing that sin. **“...Woe is me...I am undone...I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell [among the] people of unclean lips....” (Isaiah 6:5, KJV)** And then God moves, and He purges that sin, and he hears, [“Your sin is taken away, your iniquity is forgiven.”] (PARAPHRASE, Isaiah 6:7) And then he hears the voice of the Lord. He knows He’s the God of glory. He knows that **“...the whole [world] is [filled] with His glory.” (Isaiah 6:3)** He has seen the God of glory, and He

has experienced the forgiveness of sins and now what does he do? Now he cries out, as he hears God's words, **"...Here am I. Send me!" (Isaiah 6:8)** Having cleansed God then expresses the burden on His heart. He wants people to know who He is. He wants people to understand that He is the King, that He is the Lord of hosts, and so He says, "Who is going to go?" **"...Who will go for Us...?" (Isaiah 6:8)** Look at it, Isaiah chapter 6 verse 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!'" (Isaiah 6:8).** And you know what, God did. He commissioned him. He told him where to go. He told him what was going, what to say. He told him what was going to happen. He told him, in essence, a kind of discouraging commission: You're going to go, but these people are not going to listen. They're going to see with their eyes, they're gonna hear with their ears, but they are not going to respond. They're going to be as if they are blind. They're going to be as if they are deaf. Their heart is going to be darkened. (See Isaiah 6:9-10) But you're to go. We'll be right back.

PART TWO

Welcome back, Beloved. It is my prayer that God would speak to you about His calling on your life, because His calling on your life is the calling on every single believer's life. It's the same as Isaiah's calling and that is, to go and to tell. Why go, and why tell? And why, especially if you've read Isaiah 6, why go to people that aren't going to hear, that are gonna be blind, that are gonna be deaf. Why go to them? Because, Precious One, God wants them without excuse. God wants them to know that He is God, that He is the Creator, that He is the only God in all the universe and there is no other. Every other one is a figment of man's imagination. It's something that they conjured up. It's something that they invented. There is only the Lord and there is no other, and we see that when we move into the second segment of Isaiah, but that's quite a ways off. That is weeks off. So what we need to see

today is that God looks and He shares His heart with Isaiah; Isaiah who has been cleansed. Then the Lord said— let’s look at it. Then the Lord said, **‘...Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us...?’” (Isaiah 6:8)** I want to pause for a minute and I want us to look at this “Us.” And it has a very important reason to it. It’s a plural. It’s **“the...Lord, [said]..., ‘...who will go for Us...?’” (Isaiah 6:8)** Go back to Genesis chapter 1 verse 26. In Genesis chapter 1 verse 26, this is what it says, and it’s talking about when God created man, and when He created man, in verse 26, it says, **“Then God said [then Elohim, the Creator said] ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness....’” (Genesis 1:26)** What is He implying? He is implying that there is one God, but that one God is in different persons. There is one God, God the Father. There is God the Son, and there is God the Holy Spirit. In Genesis chapter 1, verse 1, you meet [God in the Spirit as He moves over the face, over the surface of the waters.] (PARAPHRASE Genesis 1:2) Now God tells us, **“...Let Us make man in Our image....” (Genesis 1:26)** Next to that, you want to also write Genesis chapter 11, verse 7. Genesis chapter 11. And the occasion is the Tower of Babel. And man has devised, man’s speech is all one, all the people on the face of this earth can communicate with one another. They are created in the image of God. They are uh people that have had that image distorted and yet they are very, very capable people. And in Genesis chapter 11 at verse 7 it says— well let me read verse 6. **“The Lord said, ‘Behold, they are one people, and they...have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose...will be impossible for them. Come, let Us go down and...confuse their language....’” (Genesis 11:6-7)** Come and let Us go down. So what you see is, there is more than just God the Father. In John chapter 1, it says, **“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He [the Word] was in the beginning with God.” (John 1:1-2)** We see in Proverbs, and I would write it down. In Proverbs chapter 30, as he brings these wise sayings to an

end, you see this awesome, awesome statement. Proverbs chapter 30. It says, **“The words of Agur the son of Jakeh, the oracle. The man declares to Ithiel, [to] Ucal: Surely I am more stupid than any man, and I do not have the understanding of a man. Neither have I learned wisdom, nor do I have the knowledge of the Holy One....” (Proverbs 30:1-3)** I really don’t have the knowledge of the Holy One, I haven’t really comprehended it. **“...Who has ascended into [the] heaven and descended? Who has gathered the wind in [the fist of His hand]...?”** It says, **“...Who has wrapped the waters in [a] garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is His name or His son’s name? Surely you know!” (Proverbs 30:4)** Awesome, isn’t it? Now let’s take that and put it together with John chapter 12. Go to John chapter 12. It’s incredible and this is what happens when you study the Word of God inductively, when you learn how to observe the text and really spend the time and the effort to see, “What does it say?” Believe me, it is worth it. In John chapter 12, Jesus knows that His hour has come. All the way through the gospel of John, He has said, **“...My hour has not yet come....” (John 2:4)** My hour has not yet come. Now in John chapter 12, this is what He says, **“Now my soul has become troubled...what shall I say, ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour. Father, glorify Your name....”** He wanted God’s name to be glorified. **“...Then a voice came out of heaven: ‘I have...glorified it, and will glorify it again.’” (John 12:27-28)** He’d glorified in His Son. He says, **“...This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” (Matthew 3:17)** Jesus was the radiance of the glory of God. Jesus said, [“If you’ve seen me, you’ve seen the Father.”] (PARAPHRASE, John 14:9) He will glorify it again in His death. And he talks about His death and then it comes down and as He finishes talking about it, Jesus says to them, **“...For a little while longer the Light is among you. Walk while you have the Light, so that darkness [does] not overtake you....” (John 12:35)** And then he says, **“While you have the Light, believe in the Light,**

so...you may become sons of Light.” (John 12:36) And then it says, “...[Jesus] went away and [He] hid Himself from them. [And] though He...performed...many signs before them, yet they were not believing...Him.” And it says, “...This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet [of whom] he spoke: ‘Lord, who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?’” It says, “For this reason they could not believe, for Isaiah said...‘[They have] blinded their eyes ...He [has] hardened their heart, so that they would not see with their eyes and perceive with their heart, and be converted and I heal them.” (John 12:37-40) Now listen to the next line. It says, “These things Isaiah said because he [Isaiah] saw His [Jesus’] glory, and he spoke of Him.” (John 12:41) Jesus was seen in His glory when Isaiah “...saw...the Lord...high and lifted up....” (Isaiah 6:1, KJV) When God said, “...Who will go for Us...?” (Isaiah 6:8), Isaiah saw not only the glory of God, but he saw Jesus, part of the “Us” of God. And when he heard God say, the Lord say, “...Who will go for Us...? (Isaiah 6:8), “[He] ...said, ‘Here am I. [Here am I] Send me!’” And he was going to go to a [people who would not hear, although they had ears, who would not see, although they had eyes, whose heart would not believe.] (PARAPHRASE, Isaiah 6:10) O, Beloved. We must go and tell of the glory of God.