

## Illuminate – Pt. 2

### I. Intro:

A. **"You are the light of the world...let your light shine before men, that they may see your good [works] and praise your Father in heaven." -Matthew 5:14,16 NIV**

B. Personal Story about Evangelism:

- a. Working off campus while at Bible college.
- b. Stumble all over myself when asked about God.
- c. Me: "Why was I so nervous God!?"
- d. God: "**Because you were looking at Me through his eyes rather than looking at him through mine.**"
- e. I was seeing the world through an unbeliever's eyes rather than seeing it through God's.
  - 1) To an unbeliever, God is at best distant detached and at worst non-existent. From *this* perspective I was timid and intimidated trying to talk about God because He was small in my eyes.
  - 2) However, thinking from God's perspective—He knew everything about this man. He knew the number of hairs on his head. He knew his worst fears and his greatest desires.
  - 3) This gave me an amazing sense of confidence the next time we talked about God. It was exhilarating and the atmosphere was charged with the Presence of God.

f. **"So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer." -2 Corinthians 5:16 NIV**

C. I want to share about the power of having a proper perspective of God when it comes to evangelism.

D. I believe worship and evangelism go hand in hand.

### **The call comes out of worship.**

E. Worship is beholding God—it is encountering Him—and His **Manifest Presence**.

F. Three types of the Presence of God in Scripture:

- a. **Omni** Presence – God everywhere (Ps. 139:7)
- b. **Inner** Presence – God in me (John 14:17)
- c. **Manifest** Presence – Realized Presence—His Presence made known.

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- 1) Gen. 3 – man hid from God's Presence
- 2) Exod. 33 – “if your Presence does not go with us...”
- 3) Illustration: If a millionaire in our meeting but no one knows. He is present but unknown = Omni Presence. BUT...if he begins handing out \$1000 bills then he has MADE HIS PRESENCE KNOWN = Manifest Presence.
- 4) WE WERE MADE TO **KNOW** THE PRESENCE OF GOD—WE WERE MADE FOR THE MANIFEST PRESENCE OF GOD!!!

## II. Isaiah 6

**A.** *“In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.” At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. “Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty.” Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he touched my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”” -Isaiah 6:1-8 NIV*

### **B.** Circumstances surrounding King Uzziah's death

a. Uzziah a successful king who led a prosperous nation.

- 1) Began ruling at 16 years old
- 2) Ruled for 52 years
- 3) Rose to astounding political, financial, & military power

**b.** *“He did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, just as his father Amaziah had done. He sought God during the days of Zechariah, who instructed him in the fear of God. As long as he sought the Lord, God gave him success.” -2 Chronicles 26:4-5 NIV*

**c.** *“[Uzziah] was marvelously helped till he became strong. But when he was strong his heart was lifted up, to his destruction, for he transgressed against the Lord his God by entering the temple of the Lord to burn incense on the altar of incense” (2 Chronicles 26:15-16, NKJV).*

- 1) For anyone other than a priest to enter the temple to burn incense was strictly forbidden in the law.

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- 2) Uzziah's disobedience was an expression of his pride. In essence, he was declaring he was capable to *determine* what was right and wrong.
- 3) He had reached a place where he felt he could do nothing wrong in God's sight and therefore lose His blessing.
- 4) Uzziah was confronted by Azariah and 80 other priests about his disobedience but he wouldn't listen to them.
- 5) **Lesson within the lesson:** Prosperity can lead to pride and pride goes before a fall. We must continually seek the Lord and honor him by obeying His revealed will within Scripture.
- 6) Uzziah dies a leper (outward sign of an inward state of his heart)

d. So what was the national mood at the time of Isaiah's encounter with God?

- 1) Hopelessness and despair
- 2) Time of shaking
- 3) Does this sound familiar???

### C. Isaiah's encounter with God

#### a. God reveals His true condition (power, holiness).

- 1) God's remedy for a nation staggering into pride was a fresh encounter with His holiness.

#### b. God reveals Isaiah's true condition.

- 1) "Woe is me for I'm a man of unclean lips...and I dwell among a people of unclean lips..."
- 2) *All our righteousness is as filthy rags.*" (Isa. 64:6)

#### c. God cleanses Isaiah's lips.

- 1) The gospel!
- 2) We can't change ourselves.
- 3) We can't fix ourselves.
- 4) But we can humble ourselves and HE (GOD) will lift us up.
- 5) He will do for us what we cannot do for ourselves—make us righteous.
- 6) This is a free gift for all who believe.
- 7) Notice this is more than an intellectual believing...it comes as a result of an ENCOUNTER with the living God.

#### d. God opens Isaiah's ears and touches his heart.

- 1) Encounters with God will always result in a heart for people.
- 2) We cannot say we love God and dislike people.

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- 3) When you spend time with the Lord, his heart will be in you—and HE LOVES PEOPLE!!!
- 4) This is why worship and evangelism go hand in hand.
- 5) Without fresh encounters with the manifest presence of God, we lose our passion for the lost.

### III. Conclusion

- A. What does this have to do with evangelism?
- B. We are called to be the light of the world—in other words we are called to reflect the nature of the TRUE light—aka Jesus.
- C. **Quote: “The deepest meaning of “let your light shine” is, let Christ, who dwells in you be seen by all you meet.” -Andrew Murray**
- D. We reflect what we worship.
- E. **“**And we all, who with unveiled faces **reflect** the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.” -2 Corinthians 3:18 NIV