## "Here Am I; Send Me"

Key Verse: "I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me." —Isaiah 6:8

## Selected Scripture: Isaiah 6:1-8

## THE PROPHET ISAIAH WAS

given an extraordinary vision and received a glimpse into the heavenly throne scene. He saw Almighty God seated in glory, surrounded by the seraphim and other angelic beings who cried out continually, "Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory." (Isa. 6:3) This emphasizes the infinite purity and sep-

arateness of God. He is unlike any other—set apart, beyond compare, and morally perfect. The earth, though fallen, still bears witness to his transcendence.

Continuing to describe his vision, Isaiah said, "The posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke. Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts. Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away, and thy sin purged."—vss. 4-7

Our Key Verse asserts Isaiah's positive response to God's inquiry. The prophet willingly declared that he would proclaim a judgment message against the rebellious

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Israelites, who as a covenanted people failed to render obedience in their conduct to the Heavenly Father. In applying this principle to our lives today, devoted believers will surely volunteer to use their talents in sharing the good news that a kingdom of righteousness will soon bring hope, joy, and peace to all.

In considering the overall lessons from this study here are a few. A reverential attitude toward the Creator and his arrangements should always be manifested. Believers should not be casual in their approach to worship. Promptness in attending spiritual gatherings, preparation of the heart to attain the appropriate meditative state, listening attentively to the services instead of allowing the mind to wander to other subjects, and even singing hymns of praise in a hearty and thankworthy manner, all contribute to the type of decorum that should be in evidence when approaching the Heavenly Father.

Perhaps rather than to give a set of rules for conduct in terms of reverencing God, let us consider the following: "All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not. ... Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God: Even as I please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many."—I Cor. 10:23,31,33

There are many more specific illustrations which demonstrate what reverence for God would entail. We should seek "first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness," and we can do this by our obedience to all the admonitions set forth in Scripture by Christ and the New Testament writers. (Matt. 6:33) Let our epitaph reflect the fact that we heeded the counsel of James 1:22,25 and were "doers of the word, and not hearers only, ... being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work."