Lesson 8 The Glory of God

JA Reflection of JESUS

2 Chronicles 26:1-23; Isaiah 6:1-10

od is perfect and pure. His glory is magnificent. It is hard for us to imagine this and how the angels worship God. Today we will read the story from the Bible about a man named Isaiah who saw the glory of God and heard the seraphim saying, "Holy, holy, holy."

Teacher: Read to your class the description of God's throne (Revelation 4:2,3). While teaching this story, do not allow yourself to get caught up or concerned about analyzing and explaining what this story means. Children have wonderful imaginations. Allow them to think about the greatness of God and His glory.

King Uzziah

There once was a king named Uzziah. In the beginning King Uzziah was a good king. He had brought honor to the nation of Judah as long as he followed God. During his fifty-two-year reign, Judah prospered (2 Chronicles 26:1–15), and Uzziah fortified Jerusalem against attack.

Although King Uzziah was a strong and powerful king he did nothing to prohibit his people from idol worship (2 Kings 15:4). His fame and prosperity made him a proud man.

His attitude became clear when he went into the Temple and offered incense himself—knowing only the priests were to do this. His punishment was leprosy (2 Chronicles 26:16–23). He then had to live in isolation and his son Jotham was made king. Azziah finally died.

One day after the death of Azziah the prophet Isaiah went into the Temple. While he was there he saw a vision of Jesus Christ. This event happened long before Jesus was born to Mary here on earth.

Christ, as the "Word of God" (John 1:1,3), has existed with the Father from eternity. Isaiah looked up and saw the LORD sitting on a great throne and His robe filled the Temple.

There were many seraphim (angels) that were above the throne. Each angel had six wings. Two wings covered his face, two wings covered his feet and with two wings he would fly.

One angel cried out to another angel and said, "Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of Hosts the whole earth is full of His glory." This voice was so loud that the Temple shook and smoke filled the room.

Isaiah was overcome with humility and the realization that he was a sinner. Isaiah knew he and the people were subject to the judgment of God. He could see how sinful his attitudes, actions, and words were while he was in the glory of God. He was forever changed by this.

Then one angel flew to the altar and, with tongs, removed a hot coal and put it in

his hand. The angel brought the coal and touched Isaiah's lips. The angel said, "This coal has touched your lips and now your sin is taken away."

The coal could have been taken from the altar of burnt offering, where a fire always burned, or the altar of incense where incense was burned each morning and evening.

In Service to God

Isaiah heard the Lord say, "Who can I send to preach to my people? Who will go for us?" Isaiah answered, "Here am I! Send me."

Isaiah listened to all that the Lord had to say. He then went out and told the people of the judgment that was to come. For forty years Isaiah faithfully proclaimed God's Word.

Only a heart and life that is reverently respectful of God can give acceptable service (Hebrews 12:28). Is the service you give God because you want others to think highly of you? Do you give outward appearances of serving God, but your life is full of sin?

Isaiah saw his own sinfulness and he confessed it to God. This action made him right with God. Asking God through prayer to forgive sin will make YOU right with Him. You will then be able to serve him with a clean heart and life (Psalm 19:14).

God's Spirit then comes to live within us, to dwell within a <u>temporary tabernacle</u>—our body. We are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice. Our prayers become as incense. The water and the blood

of Christ cleanse us from our iniquities. Christ is the *First*born and High Priest of the household of God.

Someday God will give us new bodies and we will be the glorified sons and daughters of God! We'll completely be a part of the everlasting family of God.

Scripture for Today

"My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you. Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes" (Job 42:5,6).

Choose Your Questions

For class discussion ask your students any of the following:

- 1. Is God glorious and perfect? Yes.
- 2. True or false: King Uzziah saw the glory of God. False.
- True or false: King Uzziah led the people successfully as long as he followed God. True.
- 4. Who did Isalah see in his vision in the Temple? *Jesus Christ*.
- 5. What are seraphims? Angels.
- True or false: The voice of the angels were so loud the Temple shook and filled with smoke.
 True.
- 7. In the LORD'S presence did Isaiah realize he was a sinner? Yes,
- 8. How many years did Isaiah serve God? Forty.

| Ideas and Notes: |
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