



**Heroes & Villains Series, No. 37: Isaiah, Isaiah 6**  
Mike Halpin ~ September 8, 2019

**Intro & Review:**

OT prophet Isaiah; name means “God has saved” ... served as God’s prophet in Judah from at least 740 BC to at least 701 BC, through parts or all of the reigns of Kings Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah.

**Main points–**

1. The secret of having, keeping and developing a faithful spirit to the Lord is tied to seeing him, seeing more of him, knowing him
2. Sometimes faithfulness to God requires sowing but not reaping, being the bridesmaid but not the bride, running the race of life but not winning, or at least not winning in the ways we might have hoped.

**I. Seeing as Believing—**

**Pew Bible # 571**

Isaiah 6:1–8

The order here is key: in the gospel we see both our sin and Jesus’ sufficiency as our Savior before we’re called to serve.

- John 12:41

Once Isaiah is cleansed, he’s ready to hear God’s question, God’s call for a messenger; “send me”.

Having seen Jesus as our Savior we need to keep seeing him, and more of him, in order to fuel faithfulness.

- Ephesians 1:17

We see Christ primarily in the Scriptures–

The Father shows us the Son when we worship together–

- Have I seen my sin and received forgiveness in Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_
- Am I serving God in the ways I know to now? \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why? \_\_\_\_\_

## II. Faithfulness Without “Success”—

What’s our idea of success look like?

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What if God told you your mission in life was to serve him faithfully but you’d never see success in any of the ways you’d hoped for or anticipated?

Isaiah 6:9–13

The message Isaiah will take to God’s people is one of judgment, not salvation. Isaiah, whose name means “God has saved” will see very little “salvation” in his own lifetime.

Isaiah is called by God to speak to God’s people for at least four decades and though God is always saving some, it was very few indeed. Though the Prince of the Prophets will walk among them, his message of salvation in relationship w/ YHWH would be rejected.

Does that sound familiar?

- ◇ John 1:11
- ◇ John 12: 37–40

It’s one thing to be faithful when you see great results or great fruit, but how do we do when, like Isaiah, God calls us to a faithfulness that can’t be measured by our standard metrics? Faithfulness to God’s call is the only metric we need to concern ourselves with; God takes care of everything else.

Jesus is not only our model for success in faithfulness but our means of faithfulness:

- When we’re enduring temptation, pain and challenges in life (Hebrews 12:2)
- When we feel crushed by the burdens and weights of life we consider Jesus (Matthew 11:28-30)
- When we feel insignificant in this wide world, we embrace our smallness and consider Isaiah’s words (Isaiah 57:15)
- And when our faith fails us we remember Isaiah’s words (Isaiah 40:29-31)

*a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.* Isaiah 42:3