

## **Humble, Contrite of Spirit, and Trembling Isaiah 66:1-4**

### **What time period does this passage cover? (v.1)**

The time after Israel had been released from slavery in Babylon, when they were back in the Promised Land, rebuilding the temple.

### **How will they be deceived? (vv.1-4)**

By thinking that God will look with favor upon them for their spiritual activity, even though their hearts are far from God.

That's what was in their heart as they built the temple (vv.1-2).

That's what was in their heart as they offered sacrifices (vv.3-4).

We do the same.

But God only looks with love and favor to those whose hearts are near to Him — who are humble, contrite of spirit, and who tremble at His Word.

### **How can we nurture hearts that are humble, contrite in spirit, and which tremble at God's Word?**

Turn to Jesus as you are, and trust Him to forgive and change you.

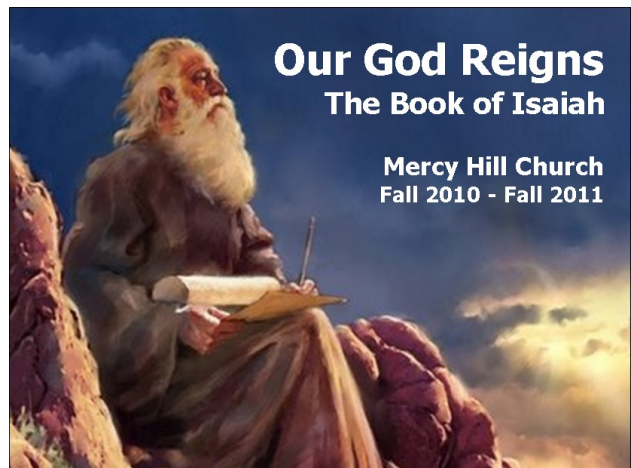
Ask God to increase the work of the Holy Spirit in your heart.

Pray over Scriptures that will stir humility, contrition, and trembling.

Humility — v.1 — how big God is compared to us.

Contrite in spirit — v.3 — how wicked our sin against Him is.

Trembling at God's word — v.1 — what's at stake in trusting God's Word.



## **HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING**

*(Sometimes in our home groups we talk about Sunday's teaching, so we can work together on responding to God's Word — asking questions, sharing insights, talking together.)*

What was the Holy Spirit saying to you Sunday through this passage?

What questions, ideas, objections, encouragements did you come away with?

When do you tend to fall into this deception — that God will look with favor upon you because of spiritual activity — even though your heart is far from Him?

God mentions three crucial heart-attitudes — feeling humble before God, contrite in spirit before God, and trembling at God's Word. Which is the strongest in you? Which is the weakest? Why?

What happened this week as you come to Jesus as you are, trusting Him to forgive and change you, pray for the work of the Spirit, and meditate on God's Word? Did you feel humility, contrition, and trembling increase? What did you learn from this?

What's your take-away from this message? What are you going to do differently? When? How?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.

