

God Punishes Pride Isaiah 9:8—10:10

What sin do Israel and Assyria have in common?

It's pride. This unique phrase "arrogance of heart" is only used twice in the Old Testament, in Isa 9:9 and 10:12. Isaiah wants to show us the seriousness of the sin of pride.

What is pride?

Pride is our passion —

- To be self-reliant
- To make our own decisions
- To be honored
- To be in control

But all of us were created to rely on God, to trust our decisions to God, to honor God, and recognize that everything is controlled by God.

And yet in our sin we refuse to be what we are created to be — and we refuse to trust all that God promises to be. That's pride.

What symptoms of pride do we see in Israel and Assyria?

- Making our own plans while ignoring God purposes (9:8-10).
- Not repenting before God for sin (9:13).
- Taking credit for what I've done instead of glorifying God (10:13).

How does God respond to pride?

- God punishes Israel for her pride (9:10; 2 Kings 17:6)
- God punishes Assyria for her pride (10:12; 2 Kings 19:35)
- God will punish all unconfessed pride (James 4:6).

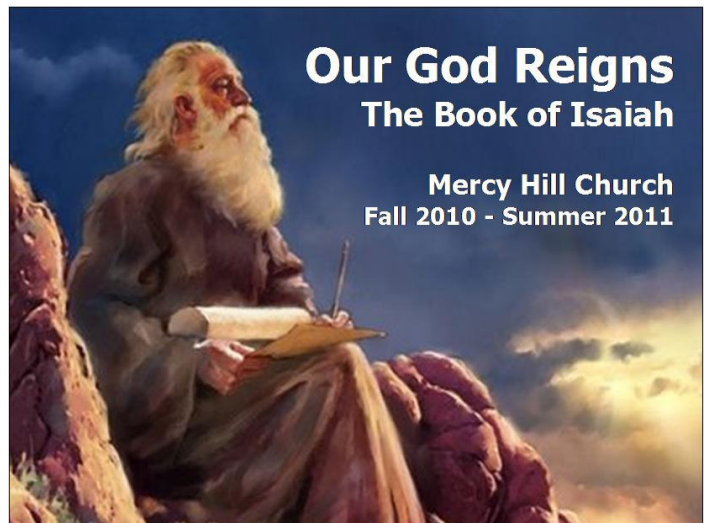
How can we be cleansed from pride?

The same way Isaiah was cleansed from his sin in Isaiah 6.

See God for who He is (Gen 1:1; Psa 19:1; Psa 139:14; Jam 1:5; Matt 6:33; Phil 4:13; Isa 6:5; I Pet 3:18).

See your pride for the sin it is — deeply wrong and deserving of eternal punishment.

Turn from pride, and trust yourself completely to God through the Messiah Jesus.



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?

If you're comfortable with this, share about a time recently when you were living in pride.

Why would we created beings have a passion to be like God? Is there any explanation that makes sense — or is this just the dark evidence of our wickedness as sinners?

Does it make sense that God would punish pride? Why or why not?

How have you tried to get rid of pride in the past? Was it the way Isaiah teaches in Isa 6? What's the difference in your approach and Isaiah's approach?

What's one area in which you tend to slip into pride? Share about it with another, and pursue cleansing through prayer.

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.

