

A Special Moment

Life is not measured by the
number of breaths we take;
but by the moments that
take our breath away.

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Calm

By

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A Special Moment

1 In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.

2 Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly.

3 And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, *is* the LORD of hosts: the whole earth *is* full of his glory.

4 And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke.

5 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.

6 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:

7 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.

8 Also 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 6:1-8

Significant events have a way of leaving indelible marks in our memory. It doesn't seem to matter whether the events are positive or negative. I remember where I was when President Kennedy was assassinated. I was coming down the stairs at Dunbar Jr. High when I heard a young lady screaming. I ran to her and asked what was wrong and she replied the President had just been shot. I remember where I was when Dr. Martin Luther King was assassinated. I was on my way home from Hot Springs, Arkansas along with the members of the band that I played in, when we were pulled over by the State police, who informed us that Dr. King had been killed in Memphis, TN. I remember where I was when man took his first

steps on the moon. I was sitting at the foot of my parent's bed as we watched "that one small step for man. One giant leap for mankind."

It was the year that Rev F.T. Evans, pastor of St. Peter's Rock Missionary Baptist Church, died in Little Rock, Arkansas. I was struggling with coming to grips with answering the call to preach. I was, in my own mind, doing what I thought a young man should be doing to be an active Christian. I was an usher, choir member, trustee, and Sunday school teacher. Surely that much activity should have suffice to please God. At least that was what I thought. But I must admit, while I was trying hard to be a good servant, I was very unsettled. And it was only after attending Rev. Evens funeral that I found the reason for my unsettled state. I was doing what I thought would be pleasing to the Lord rather than listening to hear from Him what He

wanted me to do. My former pastor Rev. Timothy Evens, son of the late pastor, preached his eulogy and he spoke about “Being an Ambassador for Christ.” By the time he finished preaching I knew that I wanted to be the kind of Ambassador that he spoke about and the only way I was going to be able to that would be to accept my call into the ministry.

I can go on and on. I’m sure that each of you has similarly been impacted by significant events (Special Moments) that have happened in your lives as well.

In our text for today the writer, Isaiah, shares **A Special Moment** in his life. It was in the year that King Uzziah died that he saw the Lord. It did not take the King dying for Isaiah to see the Lord any more than Rev. Evans dying caused me to accept my call. In each case it was just a point

of reference. As I said a significant event. Nevertheless, that was a special year for Isaiah because it was in that year that he came to grips with his own spiritual condition. He was, in his own words, a man of “Woe” a man of unclean lips, and the company that he was keeping, his friends, we just as bad. I think it significant to note that Isaiah points out the fact that the company that he was keeping was not helping him to improve on his condition. You have heard the old adage “Birds of a feather flock together”. I think Isaiah is telling us to be mindful of the company that we keep. My grandmother used to say “show me your friends and I can tell you all about yourself.”

Isaiah’s condition was serious, so serious in fact that it would require Divine intervention. He would have to be purged in order for him to be cleansed from his sins. So The Lord dispatched one of His angels with a live coal from the alter

to touch his lips, which purged him from his sins. The purging was more than a significant event it was in deed **A Special Moment** for without it Isaiah would still be a man of Woe, wretched and undone.

Does the plight of Isaiah sound familiar? Is this not the mirror image of the plight of humanity? Mankind *“was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did his mother conceive him.”* Psalm 51:5 Eternal damnation was his ultimate end. The soul of man was in a serious condition, so serious in fact that Divine intervention was required. So God dispatched His only Son. He allowed Him to dwell among us and *“we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father full of grace and truth”.* John 1:14.

And then God sent His only Son to Calvary to purge us from our sin and His shed blood washed us white as snow. The scripture teach us that He now sits at the right hand of the Father

but one day He shall return and receive us unto himself and we shall be changed “*In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.*” 1 Corinthians 15:52. What a moment! What a glorious moment that will be!

My Brothers and Sisters the day that Jesus comes into our lives is indeed a Special Moment., one that we shall never forget. If there are some who are listen to this broadcast today who have not yet accepted Christ as your personal savior then I encourage you to make this day that special moment in your life! The scripture teaches that “*if thou shall confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in thy heart that God has raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved*” It is just that simple, won't you make today that Special moment in your life?