



MAY 27, 2023

DISCIPLESHIP
REFLECTIONS

"He must increase, but I must decrease." (John 3:30, NKJV)

True Disciples Lift God Up, Not Themselves

Isaiah 6 begins with the words, "In the year that King Uzziah died..." (verse 1, NIV). Uzziah's death was so significant it was used by prophet Isaiah to define the year. This well-known leader started out as a great king. He was a warrior, builder, and inventor. He became famous and powerful, the hope of the people.

Uzziah succeeded as long as he sought God, but pride led to his downfall. Ego drove him to take the place of a priest unlawfully, and God afflicted him with leprosy. He had to live apart from the people and couldn't reenter the temple.

Uzziah experienced the fame and power of the world and the false hope of humanism. In striking contrast, Isaiah experienced and encountered God.

Uzziah's pride drove him to demand his way with God. Isaiah was humbled when he saw God and was aware of his own sin. "'Woe to me!' I cried. 'I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty'" (Isaiah 6:5, NIV).

Uzziah was made large by the praise of men. Isaiah was made small by his encounter with God. Uzziah was exiled because of his leprosy. Isaiah was sent by the Lord God to point the people to the One true Leader and King.

As God's disciples, we must understand today the truth as Isaiah did. We must also ask God to consecrate us and use us to lift Him up for people to follow!

