

Introduction

- I. How are we cleansed from our sins? Can we cleanse ourselves?
- II. In the text, this amazing vision of God's glory gets even better! How?

The Sign of the Live Coal

I. The Sign of Forgiveness

- A. As Isaiah trembled on the floor, ashamed of his sin, one of the seraphim leaves the others around the throne of God and flew to Isaiah with a live coal.

- B. In this picture of the live coal, Isaiah is assured of the forgiveness of sins - God will not hold his sins against him or punish him for his sins.

II. The Sign of Atonement

- A. The burning coal from off the altar points us to the only answer for our sin and the only basis for forgiveness: the atoning work of Jesus Christ.

- B. This coal points us to what is behind the this work of God - the eternal flame of God's love.

III. The Sign of Qualification

- A. What qualified Isaiah for service as the Lord's prophet was first the forgiveness of sins.

- B. The same is true for us - what qualifies us in our callings is the forgiveness of sins.