

## Isaiah 2:6-22 The Lord Alone Be Exalted

God purges His people of idolatrous pride so that they may walk in His light.

- 2:1-4:6 a literary unit (sermon); message of judgment (2:6-4:1) bracketed by messages of hope of salvation (2:1-5 & 4:2-6)
  - God “rejects” (2:6) and “does not forgive” (2:9) those who refuse to repent (cf. 1:19-20)
  - God cleanses/purges those who do repent (cf. 1:18, 25-26)
  - Salvation through judgment ends with God’s people walking in His light (2:5; 4:5)
- 1) God rejects the idolatrous pride of man as the sinful degradation of humanity (2:6-9).
    - a) Pride of man in “his” industry, wealth, power, and religion (2:7-8, 12-16); emphasis on “his hands” “his own fingers”; “Man-made religion is the supreme expression of human arrogance. It is an attempt to bend God to our will by remaking him in our own image.”—Barry G. Webb
    - b) Idolatry is the religious child of a humanity impregnated with pride (2:6, 8)
    - c) Humanity’s degradation (2:9)—to bow before a creature when he had been created as the ruler of all God’s creatures—even bowing to himself is beneath humanity’s created dignity, since he was created to bow only to his Maker
  - 2) God destroys the idolatrous pride of man and exalts Himself as the true glory of humanity (2:10-22).
    - a) The terrible splendor of God’s majesty is the destruction of human pride (2:10-11).
    - b) With the destruction of human pride goes the destruction of idolatry (2:18, 20).
    - c) God exalts Himself as the true glory of humanity (2:11, 17; 4:5-6)

God calls us to repent from our misplaced trust due to pride, and in full humility to bask in His glory and walk in His light.