## The Clean Mouth

## (Part 1)

"In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, high and exalted, seated on a throne; and the train of his robe filled the temple.<sup>2</sup> Above him were seraphim, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying.<sup>3</sup> And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory."<sup>4</sup> At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke.<sup>5</sup> "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."<sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar.<sup>7</sup> With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for."<sup>8</sup> Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!" (Isaiah 6:1-7)

Our God continually call people to worship Him and serve Him by bringing His message to others who are away from God. For the purpose of the message of God is to bring repentance in people's life. In the above Scripture God had called Isaiah to a prophetic ministry; to proclaim His Word to the rebellious Israel who disobeyed God and worshipped other gods and prostitute themselves by other people wrong practices.

If we read the first five chapters of the book of Isaiah we will find that the prophet Isaiah naming the Israelites as harlot (a prostitute) for the grievous sins they are doing against God. But what we found in Isaiah chapter 6 when God revealed Himself to the prophet Isaiah? At first he recognized his sinful nature and that truth and that fact terrified him as he exclaimed, "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." As God revealed Himself to the prophet Isaiah there was no more self-righteousness in Isaiah's life, and no more he sees himself better than others.

When God reveals Himself to us, we can see clearly our sins as God is seeing them. That helps us to humble down and repent. As God is revealing Himself to us through His Word and the power of the Holy Spirit, it will be a personal confrontation by the Lord that lead us to repentance and escape sin and the trap of the devil.

When God reveal Himself to Isaiah, he repented and confessed to God His sin, and at the same setting the Lord cleansed His lips and sanctified him. The same thing will be applied to us, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." (1John 1:9) As we repent from our sins and confess them to the Lord and accept the Lordship of Christ over our lives, the Lord forgives us, sanctify us and purify us from all unrighteousness. And in this way we will be ready for the master work. "In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for special purposes and some for common use. Those who cleanse themselves from the latter will be instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work." (2 Timothy 2:20-21) God would cleanse us and we will be made ready for God's noble purposes as we yield ourselves to Him.

God did not only clean the lips of Isaiah but all his mouth, and not only that but his heart as well, for the tongue will speak of what would come from the heart as Jesus said, "For out of the heart come evil thoughts—murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander." (Matthew 15:19) To bring people to God we should carry to them the message of God that brings them to repentance. But how we can be effective messengers of God if our hearts are full of dirt and filthy things; what we will speak will not reflect the grace of God and the glory of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Christ died for our sins on the cross to give us eternal life. From our Lord and His suffering we learn how to love and give sacrificially, we learn how to forgive and not to revenge. From our Lord we learn how to stand firm and persevere to the end, filled with compassion, mercy and grace to the lost and even extend that to those that hurt us. These spiritual truths should be reflected in the inner condition of our hearts and translated into moral truth that we live and practice in our service unto God in reaching the lost.

We would be led by the Holy Spirit and instructed by His Word to live a holy life away from anger, moral filth, and wrong motive and in strife with God and men. The word of God teaches us how to control ourselves and speech rightfully as in the following: "Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor. for we are all members of one body." "Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ." "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold," "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths. but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." (Ephesians 4:25,15,26-27,29) "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone."(Colossians 4:6) "My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you." (James 1:19-21)

The Word of God also teaches us to guard our hearts, "Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it." (Proverbs 4:23) We need to cleanse our hearts from evil thoughts and painful memories and ill feelings, doubts and anxieties. We ought to allow God to cleanse us and fill our hearts with His Holy Spirit and the noble principles that God teaches us in His Word so we can be the people that God count on as His Word says: "A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of." (Luke 6:45)

My dear and beloved: "The hearts of the wise make their mouths prudent, and their lips promote instruction." (Proverbs 16:23) Commit your heart and your tongue to the Lord and repent from all your sins and be the noble vessel that God wants you to be as you agree to pray.

**My Prayer:** Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord I repent from my sins \_\_\_\_\_\_. I commit my heart and my mouth in your hand. Touch me Lord with your Holy Spirit and cleanses me to be the noble vessel that you would use to bring your message of grace to the lost, this all I ask and pray in Jesus name, Amen.