GOD In His Own Words

Pastor Toby Locke • Week 6 • 11/5/2023

Gaining God’s Approval

Isaiah 66:1-4

God Reminds Us… (vs. 1-2a)

* “I am in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”
* “I am \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”
* “I am the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of all \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.”
* “You can’t \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Me.”

God’s Approval Goes To… (vs. 2b)

* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* The one who is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_…
  + To \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + To \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
  + To \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

God’s Final Warning (vs. 3-4)



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Debrief Plan: 11/5/2023

**Icebreakers**:

1. What is the most memorable haircut that you’ve ever had?
2. On a scale of 1-10, how nerve-wracking have you found job interviews to be? What make job interviews so uncomfortable and anxiety-producing?

**Sermon Summary**: It’s easy as humans to think that God has to explain Himself to us and gain our approval when really it’s the other way around. We are the ones who need to respond to who He is with humility, contriteness, and trembling in order to gain His approval.

**Discussion Questions**:

1. Explain in your own words what it means to try to “domesticate” God based on what Pastor Toby talked about this morning.
2. In what ways did people try to “domesticate” God in the ancient world? Are we ever guilty of doing the same in our times?
3. Why do we humans so often overestimate our own importance – what’s wrong with us that causes us to do this?
4. How can we express humility in our relationship with God?
5. Can you ever take “contrition” too far? If so, how?
6. What would it look like to “tremble” at God’s words in 2023?
7. **Read Isaiah 66:3-4**. What does it look like to “ignore” God when He doesn’t speak audibly and directly to us in the exact same way that He did to Israel through Isaiah?