

to bring them in by force for the only life worth living, the sort of life that He wants man to live here on this world and the happy life through Eternity for which He intended man. Some turn a deaf ear to His invitation as was the case with so many in our parable and will have nothing of it. Both those who have an interest and a desire for something better have the opportunity offered to them of partaking of the things that are really worth having.

But this is not all. A mere desire for Heaven does not give it to one. A mere desire to live the right sort of life here does not enable one to do it. Something more is necessary. Many of us have too easy an idea of what it means to serve God. Some think that if they go to church on Sunday, that is sufficient. During the week they can live as they wish. Others do more. They take part in forwarding Christian work. They contribute liberally. They attend many religious meetings. They think this is enough but both are wrong. They come from an inadequate idea of the greatness of God and of the holiness that is necessary to satisfy His demands.

It was different in the case of Isaiah, as it is in the case of everyone who really sees God. At the beginning of his ministry, Isaiah had been trying to help Israel.