

When Isaiah really saw the Lord he realised how high he was, how utterly transcendent^{ent} above all human realisation, how His holiness is so far above anything that we can even think of, He said "Woe is me ! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips." Probably Isaiah compared with most people of that day or this was a man whom we would consider very moral. He was probably a man of the highest type of character but when he saw God he realised how much the holiness of God demanded; then he saw that he was a man of unclean lips. Nothing human was sufficient to cleanse him. It took fire from the altar of God to purge his sin, to make him fit that the Lord might send him.

The psalmist cried out (Psalm 24: 3-4) "Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord ? or who shall stand in his holy place ? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully." Who of us can say he has clean hands and a pure heart, that he has not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully ? Which of us has not lifted up his soul unto vanity, has not given that enthusiasm of his being, which should be preserved for the highest things, to that which is vain or empty ? Which of us has not had his character smirched by some untruth ? It might seem slight to us