

Isaiah: A Prophet for Our Time
Demo Day
Isaiah 3-4

If you have ever watched the HGTV show Fixer upper, you know that Chip Gaines' favorite part of a house renovation is demo day. It might be because like most men, he just likes hitting stuff with a sledgehammer. But I think in reality, we all like demo day because we know that something new and better is about to take the place of the old and rundown and maybe if we are honest even a little out of style. The point is that before anything new can go into the space, the old has to be cleared out.

1. God removes things that create false security.

2. God removes things that create prideful vanity.

3. God restores the beauty and majesty of trust in Him.

Romans 2:4 tell us that it is the kindness of God that leads us to repentance. We usually take offense to someone who tells us we are wicked. We don't want to hear it. But God knows that until we are confronted with our sin, we will never feel the need to have it removed. We will settle for the rubble and debris and refuse to let God build something beautiful in us. We must choose to either exalt God or self, to choose life or death. Jesus said to die to self and choose life in Him.

Reflection

The opening verses of Isaiah 3 mentions pillars of societal structure that are necessary for society to function well. Who are some of the people in our culture who by their position and area of responsibility could be seen as a common grace towards us all? Systemic structures in society are not in and of themselves salvific, but they are ordained by God to provide order. How does removing them reveal the judgment of God? How does the sin of pride affect your walk with Christ? What changes do you need to make in either attitude or action that would demonstrate a willful repentance of pride? How does vanity affect your walk with Christ? How does it potentially interfere with the mission of Christ in your life? What needs to change so that you can be used more effectively or the glory of the kingdom? Why is it important for us to live our lives here as strangers and pilgrims?