HARD SOIL

"Here am I. Send me!" (Isaiah 6:8)

Many people do not want to HEAR God's message or SEE God's truth.

Our natural state (depravity) causes God to seem <u>distant</u> or <u>unimportant</u>.

Lifestyle options are myriad and emphasize <u>freedom</u> and <u>self</u> <u>determination</u>.

God's HOLINESS represents both challenge and confrontation.

This is the verdict. Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. (John 3:19)

The message of **guilt** and **forgiveness** represents a crushing blow to human pride.

When sin's destruction is not immediate or catastrophic, sin is labeled <u>harmless</u> and attitudes become <u>cynical</u> and <u>calloused</u>.

vs. 9 – "I don't get it" vs. 10 – "I get it but I don't believe it"

"How long???"

Isaiah's response expressed <u>fear</u>, <u>fatigue</u>, or <u>unpleasantness</u>.

God's reply expresses the need to ignore <u>human objections</u> and focus on the <u>importance</u> and <u>endurance</u> of Isaiah's witness.

Keep on praying, believing, loving, and speaking to people!

- No matter the response, do not let it change your <u>determination</u> or <u>desire</u>.
- Do not let the hardness of the soil cause you to <u>doubt</u> the <u>power</u> of the seed.

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