

DAMAGED GOODS

“*Heavy laden*” Mathew 11:28

OLD TESTAMENT DESCRIPTORS

There are a number of descriptors in the Old Testament that portray the moral state man had sunk to during that era. Most of them are negative. They include but are not limited to:

- Wicked – Who God is angry with every day – Psalm 7:11
- Evil – Whose face God is against – Psalm 34:16

ISAIAH’S VISITATION

No one saw the depraved state of sinful men more clearly than Isaiah. When he saw the Lord sitting on his throne the year King Uzziah died, he declared himself, even though he was a prophet, to be:

- Undone – Comparing God’s holiness to his state left him saying, “Woe is me” – Isaiah 6:5
- Unclean – He had unclean lips and lived among people just like him in that regard – Isaiah 6:5. The word unclean means polluted, defiled.

FILTHY RAGS

He used another powerful analogy to describe man’s moral state when compared to God’s holiness. I know all of us have during times of cleaning or working on something seen a pile of rags that had become soiled. But Isaiah says our righteousness compared to Gods is best described as filthy rags (Isaiah 64:6). This was due to the presence of sin and the effect it had on men’s hearts. Men’s hearts, that another prophet, Jeremiah, had said, “*Is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?*” (Jeremiah 17:9)

JESUS RESPONSE TO MAN’S MORAL STATE

Jesus never disputed any of these descriptions. In fact, He said the truth of those words were why He came. Man was:

- Lost – He came to seek us out and save us – Matthew 18:11
- Sin sick – He needs a physician – Luke 5:31
- Bruised, captive, and broken hearted – Luke 4:18

And in response to our need, Jesus came to preach the gospel’s good news through which he would provide forgiveness, healing and comfort. He provided the eternal cure to man’s unrighteous state. Praise the name of our Savior.