

# **The Missing Success**

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## I. Introduction.

A. Christians are looking for something more.

B. Man's idea of success is bigger and better. God's idea of success is obedience to the known, revealed will of God regardless of the consequences. (Philippians 2:9)

## II. The last thing that Satan wants to see is a Christian joyous in suffering.

## III. The success of Isaiah. (Isaiah 16)

A. Missing success begins when we compare ourselves to the holiness of God. (Isaiah 16)

1. The holiness of God and the Lordship of Christ are missing from much teaching today.

2. We must worship.

3. Our work is the outcome of our walk, which is based on the worship of a holy God.

4. The first Christians were deeply aware of their own unholiness.

B. God cleanses us and then commissions us when we are aware of his holiness.

C. Isaiah did not succeed in evangelism, but he succeeded in the being obedient to God's Word.

D. Isaiah spoke of great comfort when he needed great comfort himself. (Isaiah 40)

E. The secret of a changed life is an exchanged life.

## IV. The success of Jeremiah. (Jeremiah 1:4)

A. His misery was great.

B. His hope was still in the faithfulness of God.

## V. We have more than any of the prophets since we have the indwelling Christ.

**Application questions:**

1. How would you explain success to a young Christian?

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2. What are some reasons Christians struggle to maintain a spiritual view of success?

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3. How would you comfort a Christian constantly failing according to the world's standards?

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