



“Moving Closer or Further Away From God?”

Isaiah 65:1-25 ♦ Pastor Jim Lennon

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Introduction - *Why does God seem so distant sometimes? Why doesn't He answer our prayers? These were questions the Watchmen were asking. God has a straightforward answer.*

I. How God Moves Toward Us.

A. The Watchmen's prayers seem only to be met with silence.

B. But God had been moving toward them all along!

“Hineni!”

C. God gave us access to Him through the doorway of His Word.

“Hine!”

II. How We Move Away from God.

A. When we stop listening to His Word.

B. When we trust in other “voices.”

1. The spirit world.

2. Superstitions.

E. When we rely on our own righteousness.

III. God's Response to the Movers.

A. To those moving away from Him:

1. He is repulsed by false religion.

2. He has hard-wired the consequences of our sin into the world.

3. The ironic reversal of Fortune.

B. To those moving toward Him:

1. Rescues those who follow His Servant.

2. Receive a blessed future in His kingdom.

3. Renewing all things.

a. A new name.

b. A new earth.

c. A new life.

d. The ending of the curse.

Conclusion –