

Thursday, January 7, 2021
Devotional Thoughts from Pastor Jim Murr...

**"In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne,
high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple.**

Above him stood the seraphim.

**Each had six wings: with two he covered his face,
and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.**

And one called to another and said:

'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!'"

Isaiah 6: 1-3

Sometimes you just need a glimpse of heaven. Thank God His Word gives us such glimpses in a few places, especially in the Book of Revelation. But what a gift God gave to Isaiah near the beginning of his ministry as the prophet of God. If we spend too much time looking only at the condition of life in this world, we might begin to lose hope or to just want to hide our heads in the sand and never come up.

Sometimes we need to see God reigning in His heaven. This is what Isaiah saw. He saw the "train of God's robe" as it filled the temple! No doubt a symbol of God's TOTAL sovereignty! No matter what seems to be falling apart in our world ... no matter how badly derailed human beings become, God is reigning. Angels are worshiping Him. They are proclaiming His ultimate holiness. They even declare that the "whole earth is full of his glory!" It still is and always will be God's earth!

As believers in Jesus, we know that we are only visitors here. It's like if you were to spend the weekend at someone's house who ran their house totally differently than you run yours. Maybe they are purposely destructive to their own house. Maybe the kids are out of control, allowed to do whatever they want. Things are being destroyed. But you know that you are only there for the weekend, and you know you will be home in just a short time.

We know where we will be in just a short time, don't we? In just a short time, we will be where the angels are. We will be where the train of God's robe fills the temple! It will be the place of righteousness and peace and joy. This world isn't really our home. We're just visiting. Heaven isn't run the way that this world is being run. Heaven is run in a way that honors God and will bring joy to those who have believed in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Yes. We are here for the time-being. Things have gotten kind of crazy here. But Jesus will be here soon! Our primary goal as God's people is not to try to change the world, but rather to point people (including our loved ones) to Jesus. When the Titanic began to sink, the task at hand was not to try to stop it from sinking, but rather to get as many people onto the lifeboats as possible.

Jesus is our lifeboat. He has secured a place in heaven for everyone who has put their trust in His death and resurrection. Let us not become too fixated on the status of life in this world. It's no surprise to God. And it's no threat to us. For believers in Jesus, it's just a temporary irritation. Paul wrote in the Book of Romans: "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed in us." *Romans 8: 18*

God's Peace!
Pastor Jim