

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Dr. Geoffrey Plummer
Calvary Baptist Church

December 5, 2021

Scripture – Isaiah 6:1-8

In the year of King Uzziah’s death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple.

Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

And one called out to another and said, “**Holy, Holy, Holy**, is the LORD of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory.”

And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke.

Then I said,

“Woe is me, for I am ruined!
Because I am a man of unclean lips,
And I live among a people of unclean lips;
For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.”

Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal in his hand, which he had taken from the altar with tongs.

He touched my mouth with it and said, “Behold, this has touched your lips; and your iniquity is taken away and your sin is forgiven.”

Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?” Then I said, “**Here am I. Send me!**”

Introduction

Difficult Circumstances

- Personal
- World as a Whole
- It is, and Will Not, get Better

The Scene and King Uzziah (2 Chronicles 26)

History of the Kings of Israel and Judah, Uzziah was a good king -> **beloved by the people**

“And all the people of Judah took Uzziah, who was sixteen years old, and made him king in the place of his father Amaziah. He built Eloth and restored it to Judah after the king slept with his fathers. Uzziah was sixteen years old when he became king, and **he reigned fifty-two years** in Jerusalem; and his mother's name was Jechiliah of Jerusalem. He did right in the sight of the LORD according to all that his father Amaziah had done.”

Uzziah means “My Strength is God”

Azariah means “Helped by God”

- Military Success against the Philistines (Elite Army of 310K)
- Economic Success as he built up the cities (wilderness towers, cisterns, livestock)
- Revitalization in Jerusalem (repairing the gates and towers)
- Innovation of military machinery and protection

He could “Do it All”

His Pride became his undoing, stepping into the Priestly role in the Temple

God struck him with leprosy for his actions

His Death led to widespread mourning in the land

The people were turning to idolatry and worshipping other gods

The National Malaise and a Young Prophet

Isaiah's First King -> Isaiah loved the king, and he was family (cousin)

Isaiah is a prophet to a rebellious people, headed for destruction, who will not listen to him

Isaiah 1:13, 18

“Bring your worthless offerings no longer, Incense is an abomination to Me. New moon and sabbath, the calling of assemblies-- I cannot endure iniquity and the solemn assembly.”

“Come now, and let us reason together,” Says the LORD, “Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool.”

Isaiah 2 -> **Judgment is Coming**

Isaiah 3 -> God Will Remove the Leaders

Isaiah 3:18

“For Jerusalem has stumbled and Judah has fallen, because their speech and their actions are against the LORD, To rebel against His glorious presence.”

Isaiah 4 -> **A Remnant Will Return**

Isaiah 5 -> **Israel is an Unfruitful Vineyard**

It's a Dark Time: How many of you have said, “It's All Going Downhill” recently?

Isaiah Sees the Real King

Isaiah 6:1-4

“I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one called out to another and said, ‘Holy, Holy, Holy, is the **LORD of hosts, the whole earth is full of His glory.’ And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke.”**

Isaiah had common access to the Temple (Isaiah 8:3) and to the Priests. His family was connected to both King and Priestly lines.

He could have been in the actual Temple when he sees the vision of the reigning Lord of Glory.

Jehovah, the Lord God, is not ascending to the throne, He is ON it continually. He has not “gone aside” like when Elijah mocked Baal (1 Kings 18:20-40). Verse 27: **“Cry aloud, for he is a god. Either he is musing, or he is relieving himself, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and must be awakened.”**

He is exalted by the Seraphim, and He is **to be exalted** by all His creation. He is “High and Lifted Up”.

The same scene is described in **Ezekiel 1** and **Revelation 4**.

Seraphim have been created and appointed for this duty in Heaven.

Holy means **SACRED**, set apart, and unique. Do you have any possessions so special to you that you would consider them sacred? It is repeated THREE TIMES – some say for every member of the Trinity – but this is probably for a more complete EMPHASIS on His attribute.

He is the **Lord of Hosts**. Hosts means the one who comes in **WAR**. He is able to answer, protect, defend, and no one can withstand His power when He comes in battle.

The whole Earth is filled with His glory. Google **“Where you can find the glory of God?”** -> Where can you fail to see the glory of God?

Paul mentions this in **Romans 1:18-20**

“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.”

Acts 7:55 – Stephen -> “But being full of the Holy Spirit, he gazed intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God”

Helen Lemmel -> **Singer, she went blind and became destitute** but wrote: **Turn your eyes upon Jesus**, look full in His wonderful face, and the things of Earth will grow strangely dim, in the light of His glory and grace. **Close your eyes right now** -> Gaze in Heaven in your mind and see the glory of God.

Whatever difficulty you are facing in your life, He is still on the throne.

Lynne Andrews, a client of mine, short-term real estate rental business in Florida when COVID hit.

Isaiah's Condition and God's Cleansing

Isaiah 1:5

Then I said,

“Woe is me, for I am ruined!
Because I am a man of unclean lips,
And I live among a people of unclean lips;
For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.”

God told Moses that no one could see His glory and live. Isaiah thought his time was up. He lives with a people dedicated to ruin, ignoring God's law, living any way they like.

Betty Eadie, wrote “Embraced by the Light”, a retelling of her visiting Heaven. A NY Times best seller! She wrote of a warm and glorious experience and that she saw Jesus, face to face, they had a conversation.

John in **Revelation 1:17** -> “When I saw him, I fell down at his feet like a dead man.”

Moses; Manoah and his wife in Judges 13; and Daniel several times, encountering God, falling on their face in Worship.

We all need to remember that God is Highly Exalted and Set Apart.

And yet, He desires to be with us and Makes a Way.

Isaiah 1:6

“Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal in his hand, which he had taken from the altar with tongs. He touched my mouth with it and said, “Behold, this has touched your lips; and your iniquity is taken away and your sin is forgiven.”

The burning coal from the altar signified a spiritual cleansing. God has forgiven your sins. “You can have communion with Me!”

Revelation 1:17

“He placed his right hand on me and said, “**Don't be afraid!** I am the first and the last.”

Jesus came to Make a Way for Us

Job said, “For He is not a man, as I am, that I may answer Him, and that we should go to court together. Nor is there any mediator between us, who may lay his hand on us both” (Job 9:33). I need someone to mediate between God and I...!

Paul wrote that Jesus was that Mediator.

1 Timothy 2:5-6 -> "For there is one God and one Mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time."

Philippians 2:6-11

"He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. For this reason also, **God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**"

Isaiah's Calling

Isaiah 1:8

Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "**Here am I. Send me!**"

God was looking for someone to send to the people, even though most of the people would not listen to their words.

Who will go for Us? This is reflective of the Trinity and our Triune God.

Isaiah responds that he will commit to serve God in these difficult times and is willing to be sent.

Will you do the same?

This world is moving toward its end. It's not a statement that should bring fear to us.

If we are in Christ, we have nothing to fear.

But there are others that should fear, and we should have compassion on them, even if they will not listen to us, that does not mean we stop communicating and showing God's love to them.

Matthew 9:36-38

"Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because **they were distressed** and **dispirited** like **sheep without a shepherd.** Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. "Therefore, beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.""

A Walk in the Darkness

I need to go, and I feel it deep in my bones
I can't see very well along the path
It is dark outside and there is no light that I can see
I am all alone, or so it seems
If I am honest, I don't know where I'm going but
I need to go forward on my journey
My steps are slow, and my breathing is rapid
It is a bad combination, I know, but this is where I am at the moment

As I turn a corner on the path, I see what looks like the outline of a building
I can see a few trees in the darkness, reflections from a distant light
I feel something brush my right arm, like feathers against my skin
I stop and look to my right, but I cannot see anything there
Another step forward and I feel the same brush against my left arm
I quickly look and see a white wing
A figure stands behind me, one wing to my right and one to my left

"Good day to you," I hear, "How are you today?"
"I am OK," I answer softly, then I ask, "Who or what are you?"
"I am an angel," the figure says, "specifically, your angel, tasked to watch over you."
"What are you doing in the Dark Forest?" the angel asks me.
"Frankly, I do not know...but I've been here for a little while now," I respond.
"I see you're going deeper into the forest," he says to me. "Is that your plan?"
"I don't know that I have a plan, but I feel this is the way I must go"
"I'll walk with you," the angel responds. "I know the path well"

I begin to fall behind the angel as I walk diligently up a hill
"Hey, slow down," I shout to the angel. "This hill is tough to climb"
"What are you carrying?" he asks me.
"It's all the stuff I need, the items I've collected along the path," I respond.
"It looks like you're carrying a lot," he says. "Why don't you put the bags down?"
"It's my stuff," I say. "These items tell the story of who I am!"

I see the outline of a building clearer now, a frame in the centre of the forest
I see a large, wide door and reach to open it; the door swings open easily
"I'm surprised that it opened so quickly," I tell the angel. "It looks like a heavy door!"
I enter into what looks like a huge room, but it's tough to see because there is no light
"I hate the darkness!" I shout to the angel. "Why does it have to be SO dark?"
"Sometimes darkness is created by you," the angel tells me, "Some simply miss the light"
I hear a sound whirring behind me and turn to see a bright red sign that says, "Welcome to Anxiety!"
"So, this is Anxiety?" I ask the angel.
"Yes," he responds quickly. "Many people live here"
"Look over to the right. You can see some milling around that sign that says "Welcome to Depression!"
It's a quiet bunch. They rarely talk to anyone. Anxiety and Depression work together to keep their residents in line.

I begin to hear voices as I move deeper into the room, and it sounded like they said my name!
I see the lighted outline of a small door in the distance, and I move toward it
The closer I get to the door, the more light I see
The door looks very light and easy to move, but when I bend to reach for the knob, I cannot touch it
“You cannot get through the door,” the angel says. “You’re carrying way too many possessions”
“What are you carrying that’s so large, by the way?” the angel asks
“I told you, it’s my stuff. I need everything I’m carrying,” I reply quickly
“Try taking off one bag,” the angel suggests.
Reluctantly, I lower a bag to the floor with a thud.
“That bag was heavy,” the angel says, “What’s the tag on the bag say?”
“Fear,” I respond sheepishly, “but these items keep me grounded”

The angel asks me to reach for the doorknob again.
I am closer to it, but still cannot grasp it tightly.
“I can feel warmth coming from under the door,” I say, “I didn’t realize how cold it was here!”
“Perhaps, you remove another bag?” the angel says.
I really want to see what’s on the other side of the door, so I’ll do as the angel suggests
Another loud thud occurs as the bag hits the floor.
“That bag was heavier than the last,” the angel says, “What’s the tag on that bag say?”
“Doubt,” I respond quickly. “No one can know everything for sure, right? Doubt keeps us humble!”
“There’s a reason why Anxiety needs a large room,” the angel says, “Many people exchange doubt here”
“Unfortunately, doubt can keep you from going through that next door. You should leave it.”

The angel asks me to reach for the doorknob again.
I am very close to it, but only my fingertips can touch the knob.
“The last bag needs to drop, right?” I ask the angel anticipating his question
“Yes, and it looks like the heaviest of them all to me,” the angel says
I struggle to even remove this bag. It is so much a part of me that it is almost attached to my skin
“Can you help me?” I ask the angel.
“No, I’m sorry. I’m not allowed to remove bags from you. You must do it on your own.”
Finally, I untangle the straps from the bag around my shoulders, arms, and waist.
The bag hits the floor so heavily that the walls shake. A loud siren goes off in Anxiety!
“What’s that alarm?” I ask the angel.
“It’s the warning system. When a bag like this hits the floor, the police come to investigate. Anxiety does not like its people to leave the premises”
“What’s the tag on that bag say?” the angel asks me.
“Pride,” I respond with embarrassment. “But without these items, I lose sense of everything I am.”

I reach for the door, and I can finally bend over enough to grasp the doorknob.
Excitedly, I turn the knob quickly and press in to move the door.
I can feel the warmth even more now, but I can barely prop the door open.
“For such a small door, it certainly is tough to move,” I mention to the angel
“Perhaps, someone from inside can help me open it?” I say hopefully
“Yes, it is. It is a struggle to open it, but you have to open it alone,” the angel instructs
I press intently, using all my weight against the door, and I feel it begin to open slowly
“The police are coming,” the angel tells me. “You’d better give it one last push.”
I launch into the door one last time, and I feel the warmth pull the door back
I walk into the room confidently. The light is so overwhelming it blinds me for a bit.

My eyes adjust to the light, and I turn around to thank the angel for his guidance, but he is gone
The door has closed shut, and there is no doorknob on this side of the door.

“Oh no,” I say. “I hope he didn’t get trapped on the other side”

I hear a voice from above and I look up to see him flying in mid-air, singing

Above the door, I see a bright yellow sign that reads, “Welcome to Trust!”

“For the few that make it here, there is warmth, peace, and love,” the angel says.

“No fear, doubt, or pride is allowed in Trust.”

“I LOVE the light!” I say with great joy.

I turn around again. I see a man coming down from a throne, coming out of the bright light, and walking toward me slowly.

He extends His arms and I walk into the warmest hug I’ve ever felt.

The angel softly sings, “Holy, Holy, Holy...”

Isaiah 9:2

“The people who walk in darkness Will see a great light; Those who live in a dark land, The light will shine on them.”

Order of Service

Calvary Baptist Church, Cambridge

December 5th, 2021 – 9:30 AM

Dr. Geoffrey Plummer Preaching

Welcome and Announcements

Deacon Colby Carpenter

Worship in Music

Congregation

- Holy, Holy, Holy
- Open the Eyes of My Heart

Offertory Prayer

Pastor Geoffrey Plummer

Reading of God's Word

Deacon Don Fouts

Sermon (Isaiah 6:1-8)

Pastor Geoffrey Plummer

Celebration Music

Congregation

- We Fall Down
- Holy is The Lord

Special Prayer and Benediction

Pastor Geoffrey Plummer

Lyrics to Holy, Holy, Holy (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JwuDSw-9cUQ>)

Holy, holy, holy
Lord God almighty
Early in the morning my song shall rise to thee
Holy, holy, holy
Merciful and mighty
God in three persons, blessed Trinity

Holy, holy, holy
All the saints adore Thee
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea
All the cherubim and seraphim are falling down before Thee
Which wert and art and evermore shalt be

Holy, holy, holy
Though the darkness hide Thee
Though the eyes of sinful man Thy glory may not see
Lord, only Thou art holy and there is none beside Thee
Perfect in power, in love and purity

Holy, holy, holy
Lord God almighty
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea
Holy, holy, holy
Merciful and mighty
You are God in three persons, blessed Trinity
You are God in three persons, blessed Trinity
Oh, God in three persons, blessed Trinity

Lyrics to Open the Eyes of My Heart (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fm-zb-AH8Xc>)

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

To see You high and lifted up
Shinin' in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

To see You high and lifted up
Shinin' in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy

High and lifted up
Shinin' in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy, holy, holy

Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
I want to see you

(Repeat)

Lyrics to We Fall Down (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hT6M9osEoz4>)

We fall down
We lay our crowns
At the feet of Jesus
The greatness of
Mercy and love
At the feet of Jesus

And we cry holy, holy, holy
We cry holy, holy, holy
We cry holy, holy, holy
Is the lamb

We fall down
We lay our crowns
At the feet of Jesus
The greatness of
Your mercy and love
At the feet of Jesus

And we cry holy, holy, holy
We cry holy, holy, holy
We cry holy, holy, holy
Is the lamb

And we cry holy, holy, holy
We cry holy, holy, holy
We cry holy, holy, holy
Is the lamb

We cry holy, holy, holy
We cry holy, holy, holy
We cry holy, holy, holy
Is the lamb

Lyrics to Holy is the Lord (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FlwMYktdBg8>)

We stand and lift up our hands
For the joy of the Lord is our strength
We bow down and worship Him now
How great, how awesome is He

And together we sing

Holy is the Lord, God Almighty
The earth is filled with His glory
Holy is the Lord, God Almighty
The earth is filled with His glory
The earth is filled with His glory

We stand and lift up our hands
For the joy of the Lord is our strength
We bow down and worship Him now
How great, how awesome is He

And together we sing
And everyone sing

Holy is the Lord, God Almighty
The earth is filled with His glory
Holy is the Lord, God Almighty
The earth is filled with His glory
The earth is filled with His glory

Yeah, it's rising up all around
It's the anthem of the Lord's renown
It's rising up all around
It's the anthem of the Lord's renown

Together we sing
And everyone sing

Holy is the Lord, God Almighty
The earth is filled with His glory
Holy is the Lord, God Almighty
The earth is filled with His glory
The earth is filled with His glory
The earth is filled with His glory

Holy, Holy is the Lord Almighty
Holy, Holy
Holy, Holy is the Lord Almighty
Holy, Holy
Holy, Holy is the Lord Almighty
Holy Holy

CBC Communications Sign-Up Response

Name: _____

Birthdate: **Month** _____ **Day** _____

Address: _____

Cell Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Pastor's Weekly Newsletter:

Prayer Ministry Distribution List:

Women's Ministry Distribution List:

Men's Ministry Distribution List:

Children's Ministry Distribution List:

Youth Ministry Distribution List:

Outreach Ministry Distribution List: