

Undone by a Glorious God
Isaiah 6:1-7
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Five Glimpses of God

1. God is alive (verse 1).

- a. God never began. He never ends. He sees all of time – past, present, and future – equally vividly and at the same time. Psalm 90:2 “Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from *everlasting to everlasting you are God.*”
- b. Kings will die; leaders will fall, and nations will pass away, but He remains ... eternally!

2. God has supreme authority and control (verse 1).

- a. God is the greatest One who has the right and might to rule. He is and always will be sitting on His throne, in His sovereignty, sustaining and controlling the universe.

3. God is holy (verses 2-3).

- a. God’s holiness means that God is supremely unique. He is unlike anyone or anything. For example, God’s holy wisdom is infinitely beyond and unlike anyone else’s wisdom. His holy love is beyond and unlike any other kind of love. There is no one like our holy God.
- b. God’s holiness is both awesome and attractive. The seraphim are worshipping God without end because His greatness compels them to. They adore and sing to Him because of His infinite beauty and value! It’s the only right response to the infinite worth of God. His holiness is indescribably beautiful and great!

4. God is glorious (verses 4-5).

- a. The glory of God is the holiness of God revealed. John Piper says that the glory of God “*is the infinite worth of God gone public.*” The glory of God is when the holiness of God is revealed.
- b. According to astronomers, it is estimated that there are now 500 billion galaxies in the “known” universe. In our own galaxy, it would take 1000 life times traveling at the speed of light (186,000 miles per second) to get from one side to the other. Our bodies have an estimated 100,000 miles of blood vessels in them, enough to circle the earth more than three times! Our heart beats 100,000 times a day, and our body creates millions of new cells every second. And God sustains all of this. The glory of God does indeed fill the earth.

c. Everyday we are eager to find something that is going to satisfy and delight us. God and His glory is that all satisfying reality. C.S Lewis once said, *“All of your life an unattainable ecstasy has hovered just beyond the grasp of your consciousness. The day is coming when, after death, you will awaken to find, either that beyond all hope you have it, or else it was within your grasp and you have lost it forever.”*

5. God is accessible (verses 5-7).

a. Isaiah thought he was a dead man. But when the fire gets to his mouth, he realizes it didn't kill him. Instead, God pardoned him, forgave him, and washed away his guilt! In one moment Isaiah knew, as Tim Keller said, *“that he was way more wicked than he ever thought and at the same time he was way more loved, accepted, forgiven, affirmed than he ever dreamed he could be!”*

b. How do we encounter God's holiness as beautiful and not a threat? How can we have any hope of being with God and not be destroyed in an instant? Here's how: Centuries later there was another temple that was shaken and another man who was undone. There was another place where the glory of God was revealed in such a way that the earth shook. It happened on Calvary. Jesus Christ was shaken by the wrath of God and took the punishment that we deserved to make it possible for us to experience the greatness, the nearness and the love of God without being consumed by His holiness.

6. Application

a. Pray for the transformation of your own heart so that God might remove all competing passions from your heart and help you see Him in this way.

b. Think deeply about all that God is for us in Christ.

c. Be contagious in your love for God through your speaking and your living.

Fellowship Starters

1. Because of Jon's message, did you realize you had big thoughts of yourself and small thoughts of God? How can you cultivate big thoughts of God and little thoughts of yourself?

2. Jon taught us that each day we are eager to find something that is going to satisfy and delight us. Is God your supreme delight and satisfaction, or has something or someone else replaced Him? How can you return to your first love?

3. When you take time to reflect on God's holiness, how do you respond? Is God's holiness both awesome and attractive to you? Does His holiness call forth worship?

4. Why can sinful men and women encounter a holy God without being consumed or destroyed in an instant?
5. What can you do to cultivate a fresh passion for your infinitely beautiful and holy God?