

The Holy Trinity – 2021

Saturday, 5/29 at 4:00 | Sunday, 5/30 at 9:00



Text: Isaiah 6:1-8 NAS 1995

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: Here at Bethlehem, we normally follow the church year; what does that mean?

- **It Includes 6 Seasons** – *And they all focus on JESUS.*
- **1-5 Are Chronological** – Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, and Easter (which includes Ascension and the Day of Pentecost); *they focus on the **coming** and **work** of Jesus!*
- **6 Is Not Chronological** – It is now marked by the Sundays after Pentecost; about 50 years ago, it was marked by the Sundays after Trinity. Not chronological because *we return to the **ministry** of Jesus!*

Today we focus on the OT reading from **Isaiah 6...**

1. **The LORD, Not Kings, Is Ultimately In Control:** ¹ **In the year of King Uzziah's death** [after he had reigned for 52 years and did what was right in the sight of the LORD; 2 Chron. 26] I saw

the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. // Think about the timing: The long reigning king, *who had honored the LORD and accomplished many good things had just died*. There had been much stability, *but his death brought uncertainty*. So, the LORD, *in a dramatic way*, showed Himself and His throne room to Isaiah *to greatly encourage him!* Whenever we are feeling down about our evil world, *let us remember that JESUS is in charge* (OT—the Father; NT—Jesus (Mt. 28:18); then—the Father (1Co. 15:25-28)!

2. **Great Praise for Our Great Triune God:** ² Seraphim stood above [the LORD], each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one called out to another and said, “Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts [holy angels], The whole earth is full of His glory.” // When we focus on this evil world, *we can feel hopeless and fearful*, **SO, INSTEAD**, let us focus on and praise our Great Triune God (“Holy, Holy, Holy” could be pointing to God being 3-in-1: 3 Persons, 1 God), *resulting in confidence and peace!*
3. **Powerful Angels Praise the Almighty God:** ⁴ And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him [the seraph] who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke.
 - a. The power of that seraph: When he spoke, “Holy, Holy, Holy,” it was like an earthquake in heaven as the foundations under the thresholds in the throne room of God were shaken.
 - b. That seraph and God: Since that seraph is awesome, *let us realize that our Great God who designed him*

and ✦ *created him is FAR MORE AWESOME*. Let us also keep in mind that Satan is *possibly* the greatest of all the angels, *so let us never underestimate his ✦ evil desire and ✦ great power to destroy us – if we choose to walk away from the protection of the Almighty God.*

4. **God's Holiness Brings Dread to Thinking Sinners:** ⁵ **Then I said, "Woe is me, for I am ruined! Because I am a man of unclean lips [possibly because he had eaten forbidden food], And I live among a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts."**

- a. In the presence of sinners, our sins can look okay:
Since we all live in a *fallen world* among *fallen people*, many of our sins seem somewhat normal.
- b. In the presence of God, our sins seem horrible: When Isaiah in his vision saw the presence of the HOLY GOD, ➔ his sins were magnified, ➔ his grief was amplified, and ➔ his deserving of punishment was intensified!

5. **God's Forgiveness Brings Joy to Repentant Sinners:** 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. ⁷ He touched my mouth *with it* and said, "Behold, this has touched your lips; and your iniquity [conscious intentional sin] is taken away and your sin [wrongdoing] is forgiven."**

- a. Two temples: *The true temple is in heaven, while the one on earth was a copy. The Bible says in **Hebrews 9:24** "...Christ did not enter a holy place made with hands, a mere copy of the true one, but into heaven itself..." (NAU). Isaiah saw the true temple in heaven!*

- b. God is specific: Isaiah had unclean lips, so the coal from the altar – *THE PLACE OF SACRIFICE* purified his lips. We also receive forgiveness from the altar here at Bethlehem. Before coming, *let us examine ourselves*. When coming, *let us be sure of God’s forgiveness!*
- c. Total forgiveness: The love and mercy of God are SO GREAT that He forgives our wrongdoing AND EVEN takes away our ♦conscious, ♦on purpose, ♦intentional sins **through Jesus**. Then He says: *Go and sin no more!*
6. **Forgiven Sinners Are Equipped to Serve:** ⁸ **Then I heard the voice of the Lord [God the Father], saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us [most likely referring to the F, the S, and the HS]?” Then I said, “Here am I. Send me!”**
- a. The attitude of forgiven sinners: They understand this: I was hell bound, *but now I am heaven bound*, so I ♦am filled with gratitude and ♦desire to serve!
- b. The equipment of forgiven sinners: They know the truth about ♦sin—hell and ♦Jesus—heaven!

Conclusion:

- **Truth** – Jesus is now ruling over all things!
- **Relevance** – Those who trust in Jesus are not afraid!
- **Inspiration** – Many are afraid, so tell them about Jesus!

Let Us Pray: Dear Jesus, *our Victorious and Ruling King*, help us to ♦honor You and ♦tell others about You!

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