



### Isaiah 6:1-7 New Revised Standard Version

<sup>1</sup> In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty, and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup> And one called to another and said,

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

<sup>4</sup> The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup> And I said, “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

<sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup> The seraph touched my mouth with it and said, “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.”

### Notes:

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“I saw the Lord...” How many of us can say that? I am pretty sure we have all wished that we might see God, but as God informed Moses, “No one can see God and live.” What does God look like? As my eight-year-old just chimed in, “No one knows!” Jesus

told the Samaritan woman at the well, “God is spirit...” Other portions of Scripture use human-like terms to describe God (i.e., “His hand is stretched out...”). However, there are no snapshots of God and there are no recorded interviews with God which we can pull up on the Internet.

God is so much more than our imaginations can handle. Our language is limited in attempting to describe God. We attempt to think of the highest, grandest, most amazing thing in the whole world, but, even then, God is more. It is safe to say, “God is different.” In fact, that is the essence of Isaiah’s discovery in a moment which we identify as a “theophany” or a divine encounter. Often, we hear this passage taught or preached with the primary focus being upon Isaiah hearing God’s calling and responding favorably to the prophetic assignment. However, there is much which Isaiah came to realize about who God is and who Isaiah is not.

We use the term “holy” to describe God. There are a number of ways in which we can define what we mean when we suggest someone/something is holy. It may be that they have been set apart for a special function. It could be that something is without blemish. It might even mean that something holds great value. God is all of this, but even more. Isaiah found his experience of being in God’s presence overwhelming to say the very least and went as far as stating “I am a dead man.” Isaiah was so undone because he realized how much more God is than many humans realize. The soon-to-be prophet’s reaction was one of wonder, awe, and utter amazement at the greatness of God. What does holiness suggest about who God is?

1. God is the fullness of perfection.
2. God is the only proper object of worship.
3. God is forever and without change.

**Prayer Pebble:** Lord, may your holiness always be amazing to me.