

Ω ακινυ Γοδ, Ισαιαη Χη.64
O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence –as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil –to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence.
Isaiah 64:1-2

What is it that we are asking for?

- Do we really want the Lord to return quickly, or do we want him to come back when we're done playing?
- Are we willing to allow God to open the record of our lives, or do we just want him to show the rest of the world how bad it is?
- Are we truly willing to witness the terrifying power of God, or will we wish to take shelter when he comes?
- Are we ready? _____

The Text

1. Vs. 1-4: Show your power, O Lord.
 - So that the earth would tremble at your sight.
 - That the whole world would know you are God.
 - As when you delivered us in our beginnings.
 - There has never been a God like you, who made nature bow at your presence.
2. Vs. 5-7: We have become weak and aimless in your absence.
 - You were (are) gracious to those who do “right.”
 - But you were angry, and we sinned. (As a child revolting against discipline.)
 - And because you hid yourself we have become bitter and jaded.
 - No longer does anyone call on you, and we are left to deceit of our own divisive ways.
3. Vs. 8-12: Yet you are still our father.
 - We are but clay: the work of your hand.
 - Don't be angry forever, we are still your children.

- Our lives have become utterly desolate.
- Can you continue to be silent at the witness of our ruin in the sight of what was once your glory?

Our world today

- Human behavior, on both the large and small scale.
 - Impetuous and capricious: _____
 - Temperamental: _____
 - Arrogant and demanding: _____
 - Self-worshipping and self-deifying: _____
 - No room for God: _____
- Global implications
 - Ready to strike a blow at God: _____
 - Demanding God relinquish authority: _____
 - Cosmic ugliness: _____

Are we ready yet to ask the big questions?

- Are we prepared for God to “come back?”
 - The global community: _____
 - The congregational community: _____
 - Individually: _____
- Are we ready for God to break his silence?
 - Have we stopped wagging our finger at the world? _____
 - Have we faced God with our congregational confession? _____
 - Have we completely aired out our personal life for God to judge and correct? _____

“Well done my good and faithful servant.”
The blessing is there, as it always has been, for the one who waits faithfully. Not as a household pet, which naps while his master is out, but as a servant, who prepares the household for his master's return. To be truly faithful is to be awake and alert, acting in God's behalf as we are called and commissioned.