

Isaiah 6:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory.

Analysis

The seraphim's antiphonal cry 'Holy, holy, holy' (trisagion) emphasizes God's supreme holiness—the only attribute given three-fold repetition in Scripture. 'LORD of hosts' connects His holiness to sovereign power. The declaration 'the whole earth is full of His glory' contrasts God's transcendent holiness with His immanent presence—He is both utterly separate from creation and fills it with glory. This anticipates Habakkuk 2:14 and the Great Commission spreading God's glory.

Historical Context

This trisagion forms the basis of liturgical worship in both Judaism and Christianity. The Sanctus in Christian liturgy quotes this verse, connecting earthly worship with heavenly praise.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does God's holiness affect your worship—does it inspire awe or merely familiarity?
2. Where do you see God's glory filling the earth despite prevalent evil?

Interlinear Text

וַיִּקְרָא	וְהָ	אֵל	זֶה	וַיֹּאמֶר	קֹדֶשׁ וְשׁ	קֹדֶשׁ וְשׁ
And one cried	H2088	H413	H2088	unto another and said	Holy	Holy
H7121				H559	H6918	H6918
וְשׁ	יְהוָה	צָבָא	וְהוּא	מָלֵא	כָּל	כְּבוֹדוֹ׃
Holy	is the LORD	of hosts	is full	H3605	the whole earth	of his glory
H6918	H3068	H6635	H4393		H776	H3519

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 72:19 (Glory): And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory; Amen, and Amen.

Ezra 3:11 (References Lord): And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the LORD; because he is good, for his mercy endureth for ever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD was laid.

Psalms 57:11 (Glory): Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: let thy glory be above all the earth.

Exodus 15:11 (Glory): Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?

Numbers 14:21 (Glory): But as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD.