

God Sits High, But Sees Low

Ch. (LTC) James R. Cotter
Camp Atterbury Chaplain
Indiana National Guard

Grace, mercy and peace be yours from God our loving and caring Father, Jesus our loving and caring Savior and the Holy Spirit our loving and caring Comforter. Today's sermon text is from Psalm 10:

Let us pray:

“Why Lord?” That is the question that has been on our hearts and minds Lord. Please, please Lord send Your Holy Spirit to us so that the words we hear may bring comfort. In Jesus name AMEN.

God sits high, but sees low

When you look out of the Washington monument you can see so many beautiful sights. You see the White House; you see the Lincoln Monument; you can see the beautiful greens, the Reflecting Ponds; the Viet Nam Memorial; you see Congressional buildings. So many wonderful things that represent our freedom.

People say the view from a top the Twin World Trade Towers was the best view in the world. When one looked out from the observation deck it gave the image of being on top of the world. You look down and people were even smaller than ants. You were up so high that it was even difficult to find things of size like the Statue of Liberty.

I'm sure some people actually felt they were on top of the world as they worked from their business offices, on top of the corporate business throning. They could make or brake companies with a single phone call. Everything below was insignificant from the top. People would want to stay on top.

God sits high, but sees low.

And then two hijacked plane go crashing into the high throne of corporate power and majesty and 1 hour and 44 minutes later they came crashing down. And all that were seated on top of their world are now crumbled to the ground.

And a third plane goes crashing into the Pentagon and the throne of military power, comes tumbling down.

God sits high, but sees low.

Architect Ronnie Clifford worked on the 55th floor - the 1st plane hit above his office. He was in the lobby when the second plane hit. He lived. His sister Ruth and his niece Juliana 4 didn't. They were on their way to Los Angeles, and on board the plane that crashed into his building.

God sits high, but sees low.

Jerry dropped his wife off at work with plans to pick her up at noon. She wasn't going to work a full day because they were going to celebrate their 25th Anniversary that day. There will be no more anniversaries; his wife worked at the Pentagon.

God sits high, but sees low.

There is a ballet dancer who will no longer dance, a doctor who will no longer heal and a school minus a teacher and students.

God sits high but sees low.

And so we ask “**Why God?** Were You on a vacation? Did You take the day off? Don't You care?”

And the voice of King David is heard above the rumbling of iron and cement, it's heard above the screams and cries of people.

Psalm 10:1 ¹Why, O LORD, do you stand far off?
Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?

Psalm 10:2 ²In his arrogance the wicked man hunts down the weak,
(the weak) are caught in the schemes (the wicked) devises.

Psalm 10:8 ⁸(The wicked man) lies in wait near the villages;
from ambush he murders the innocent,
watching in secret for his victims.

Psalm 10:10 ¹⁰His victims are crushed, they collapse;
they fall under the power of (this wicked one).

Psalm 10:12 (NIV) ¹² Arise, LORD! Lift up your hand, O God.
Do not forget the helpless.

God sits high but sees low. And He knows and hears.

God saw the plight of the Apostle Paul, who endured more than all:
jailed countless time
whipped severely 5 times receiving 39 lashes
3 beatings with a rod
stoned
3 times shipwrecked nights and days in the open sea
danger from rivers, bandits and countrymen
danger in city, country and sea
deprived of sleep, food, and water
cold and naked
not enough - how about daily persecution

And Paul said, “May God, the Father of our Lord Jesus, be praised forever.”
Praised because God didn’t leave Paul unattended. And just as God was
with Paul during those difficult times He didn’t abandon or forsake those in
the building in Oklahoma, the Twin Towers, or their families, or us.

God sits high but sees low.

God heard Joseph’s cry and rescued him for the pit.

God sits high but sees low.

God heard the call of the Hebrews and delivered them from the angel
of death.

God sits high but sees low.

God heard the doubts of Thomas and took them away.

God sits high but sees low.

God heard the prayers of Daniel closing the mouths of lions so he
would not be devoured.

God sits high but sees low.

God heard the cries of the women at the tomb and resurrected their hope.

God sits high but sees low, and was ministering to so many on that day.

God was so very busy:

He saw to it that those planes, which held over 1000 people, were only transporting 266.

He was on those 4 flights giving terrified passengers the ability to stay calm. Not one family member who received a phone call tells of screaming and panic in the background.

God sits high but sees low.

He was giving strength to the passengers to overtake the high-jackers.

He was busy trying to create obstacles for employees at the World Trade Center. After all only around 20,000 were at the tower when the first jet hit, at buildings that holds over 50,000 workers.

He created traffic jams, Dr. appointments and other means of keeping people away that day.

God sits high but sees low.

And after the planes hit God was holding up 2-100 story buildings so that 2/3 of the workers could get out.

God sits high but sees low.

Psalm 10:14 (NIV) ¹⁴ But you, O God, do see trouble and grief;
You consider it (and) take it in hand.
The victim commits himself to You;
You are the helper of the fatherless.

Psalm 10:15 (NIV) ¹⁵ Break the arm of the wicked and evil man;
call him to account for his wickedness . . .

Psalm 10:17 (NIV) ¹⁷ You hear, O LORD, the desire of the afflicted;
You encourage them, and You listen to their cry,

Psalm 10:18 (NIV) ¹⁸ defending the fatherless and the oppressed,
in order that man, who is of the earth, may terrify no more.

God sits high but sees low.

God sits high, sees low, and comes down from His throne in heaven to minister to us.

Quoting Max Lucado, “What we saw last Tuesday, God saw on Good Friday:

Innocence slaughtered
Goodness murdered.
Mothers weeping.
Evil dancing.

Just as the ash fell on fellow Americans, the darkness fell on His Son. Just as our towers were shattered the very Tower of Eternity was pierced.

It was the evil of terrorist on September 11th, but it was our sin on that Good Friday.

And Jesus cried out - “Father forgive them” and “It is finished.” And our Lord heard His cries and after three days of being buried the rubble of sin Jesus Christ was raised from the dead and lifted high to His proper seat of honor and glory. And Christ sits on high and sees low. And He hears our cries and sends His Spirit of strength, comfort, courage, and peace - to each of us.

I wasted two hours a while back. I sat and watched a special put on by Hollywood’s stars. As I understood it, it was an effort to raise money for the victims, it was an effort to unite America, and offer some hope.

I say I wasted my time because there was nothing in it that offered hope to those who were injured, or to the families whose loved ones died.

They spoke and sang:

of heroes - but not the Hero who defeated death
of love - but not the love that conquers fear
of caring people - but not the One whom cared enough to sacrifice His
only Son
of peace - but not of the One whom provides a peace that passes all
understanding.

They spoke and sang but left out the One who sits high sees low and came
down to minister to us.

Our Lord has heard our cries and gives us hope, and just as He has
comforted us we are to comfort those around us with the only hope available
- the message of the resurrection. Tell everyone that while:

God sits high, He sees low
God hears our cries and answers our prayers.
God comforts our hearts and gives us peace.

Praise God for His mercy and love. In Jesus name AMEN.

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, give you peace.
Amen