



July 17, 2008

Thought For the Day

*Do you not know?
Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood since the earth was founded?
He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth,
and its people are like grasshoppers.
He stretches out the heavens like a canopy,
and spreads them out like a tent to live in.
He brings princes to naught
and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing.
No sooner are they planted,
no sooner are they sown,
no sooner do they take root in the ground,
than he blows on them and they wither,
and a whirlwind sweeps them away like chaff.
"To whom will you compare me?
Or who is my equal?" says the Holy One.
Lift your eyes and look to the heavens:
Who created all these?
He who brings out the starry host one by one,
and calls them each by name.
Because of his great power and mighty strength,
not one of them is missing.
Why do you say, O Jacob,
and complain, O Israel,
"My way is hidden from the Lord;
my cause is disregarded by my God"?*

Isaiah 40:21-27



It is incredulous, is it not, that someone could make the statements that dumbfounded the prophet:

***My way is hidden from the Lord;
my cause is disregarded by my God.***

For this to be true, the exact opposite would have to have happened. They would have disregarded God in the midst of their life and hidden the Lord as they went their way.

In the days of the circuit riders a minister was out riding one afternoon and came upon a man out working in his field. "Fine day isn't it?" the minister called out.

"Its fine for you", the man replied, "All you have to do is ride around on that horse thinking about God all day long, while I have to sweat here in this field and then walk home afterward. I don't think it's right you should have things so easy while I have to work so hard."

"On the contrary", the minister answered, "thinking about God is one of the most difficult things you can do. And to prove it, I'll give you this horse if you can think about God and nothing else for one minute."

"You're on," said the man and immediately he sat down in silence. Thirty seconds later he looked up at the minister, and said, "Does that include the saddle?"

It is never the case that our way is hidden from God nor is our cause ever disregarded. It can be the case, though, that God is far from our thoughts, and that our focus is on things that are contrary to what God might want. If we seek to honor him with our whole heart, soul, mind and strength, we can be assured that God – the One who rules over all – will be carefully tending to our every circumstance. He will be with us always, even to the end of the age.

I live in your presence and under your watchful care. I will trust in you.