



... when you need a break from the daily grind



## KING OF GLORY

### #1 of 5: *The exaltation of the king*

#### ➤ **READY TO GO**

Have you ever been stung by a nettle? When I was a boy I was always out playing in shorts and that usually meant going to retrieve a football in long grass. And of course there were always nettles somewhere in the grass. Ow! Then a crop of big weals would soon appear on my legs. Immediately I would go looking for a broad-leafed weed we used to call a docken leaf and start to press it against the sting. Relief! You see, the docken leaf was an antidote to the nettle sting. Isaiah the prophet needed an antidote for the uncertain times in which he lived. In his case, the antidote to uncertainty was a fresh vision of God. We live in uncertain times too and, like Isaiah, the antidote to this is to get a fresh vision of God, God as He really is, the King of Glory...

#### ➤ **READ**

- **Read Isaiah 6:1-4.** Which particular words or phrases stand out to you and why?
- **Read 2 Chronicles 26:1-5 and 15.** How would you sum up the early part of Uzziah's reign?
- **Read 2 Chronicles 26:16-23.** How would you sum up the end of Uzziah's reign? How do you think his death made Isaiah feel?
- **Read Isaiah 6:1.** What stands out to you about this vision? Does this change your view of God in any way?
- **Read Jeremiah 17:12.** What do you learn about God's throne? How does this challenge or encourage you?
- **Read Hebrews 4:16.** What do you learn here about God's throne? How do you respond?

#### ➤ **REFLECT**

Isaiah lived in uncertain times. Uzziah had reigned for 52 years making him the second longest reigning king of Judah. Much of his reign had been successful when he put God first. But when he went his own way and tried to usurp the priests' authority disaster struck. His reign ended under a shadow and he died of leprosy. What would happen next? Would his son Jotham be a good king? The future was far from certain. But in the midst of all this uncertainty Isaiah was given a great vision of the One Certainty in the universe – God, in all His glory. In the vision God is exalted in all His sovereign power, authority and majesty. The king of a small country is dead; the King of the universe is very much alive and active. What better antidote is there to uncertainty over the future?

**God is on a throne. Never forget it. He is in charge. His throne is the power source of the universe. But it's also a refuge for us and a place where we can find what we most need – mercy and grace.**