

November 4, 2023

**The Lord wants you to live in His liberty and freedom.**

**Isa. 57:15** *For this is what the high and exalted One says--He who lives forever, whose name is holy: "I live in a high and holy place, but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite."* (NIV)

When we read through the account of the birth of Jesus, we are reminded of what was said about Him in scripture. **Mt. 1:23** *"The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call Him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").* (NIV) The significance of that is beyond comprehension. He came to dwell among us. Not to live in some far away place, but to live with us. He still does. If you have called upon the name of Jesus and trusted Him for your salvation, the scripture reminds us that He has now come to live inside of us. **1 Cor. 3:16** *Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst?* (NIV)

It is significant to understand what Isaiah is saying here. He says that the exalted One has chosen to live in those that have bowed themselves to Him. He has chosen to make His dwelling place in us. He can and does exist everywhere, but He has chosen to make His dwelling (His place of life) inside the lives of every believer. And when He comes to live in us, He makes the upgrades and additions that He needs to in His dwelling place. What a makeover! He has taken the old and broken-down places of our lives and turned them into a place fit for the King! He is the original 'fixer upper.' He takes what was broken down and dead and revives it. Have you experienced that revival of the Holy Spirit in your life? Cast all of your cares on Him because He cares for you, and He will come and dwell within you. Look to Him for all of your needs. He will provide. He will protect. He will redeem. He will sustain. He will live through those who will allow Him in, to dwell.

**Dear LORD, we are so glad and blessed that You have come to be with us. You have chosen to dwell in us and give us real and abundant life instead of existence. We bless Your Holy Name. In Jesus Name, Amen**