



Who is like the Lord our God, that has his throne so high, yet humbles himself to behold the things of heaven and earth?

Psalm 113:5

Praising:

Ye servants of God, your master proclaim,

and publish abroad his wonderful name:

the name all-victorious of Jesus extol;

his kingdom is glorious, and rules over all.

Reading:

Acts 7:17-34 Look at Moses

According to the Jewish historians, there was an incident in Moses' younger life when his mother successfully persuaded Pharaoh to make Moses his successor. Part of the legend was that Pharaoh had at one moment playfully rested his crown on the young Moses' head. Moses reaction, it seems, was to lift the crown off and throw it to the

ground. Aside from this unofficial story, there is no doubting that Moses occupied a position of power and authority in Egypt. Essentially, Stephen is repeating his point that greatness is not measured by status, but by the readiness to leave status behind, if that is what God call us to do. For Stephen, responding to the God who raised Christ from the dead, means letting go of the past. Its comforts and reassurances are ultimately empty.

Listening:

Praying:

We praise you Lord for continuing to call men and women of stature to your service

- those with money, property and the other signs of material achievement
- those with worldly authority, political power and the reach that comes with influence
- those with networks, contacts and the connections that go with position

Father: when I think of what I have striven to attain in my life, help me to see it for what it is, to sit lightly to it, to resist its power to control me, and to be ready to walk away from it. Amen

Doing: