

Key Insights for Christian Discipleship @ Jazz Evensong

Week 11 – Nov 22, 2017 **Our Source of Safety and Significance**

Psalm 3:3

But you, O Lord, are a shield around me, my glory, and the one who lifts up my head.

The energy of the music tonight is infectious.
You can't help but move your bodies.
And I can only imagine what's vibrating around inside of you.

That's what the glory of God does in the world.

It may not seem that way.

Many think what you see is all there is.
Granted, there's still lots to see that we have not seen yet.
We've still got to develop the tools to see those things.
We've still got to figure out how they all fit together.
But we're capable of doing that.
We becoming more and more powerful
as we develop our ability more and more
to control all things material things that shape our lives.

Followers and friends of Jesus,
in whom they find the best revelation of the Lord of the Psalms,
see things differently.
When the Hebrews who put together the song book of the Old Testament,
what we now call the Psalms,
they talked a lot about the glory of the Lord.
That really means the energy of God.
It fills the creation.
It gave birth to the creation.
It guides the creation into its proper development,
the development into the commonwealth of peace desired by God.

This glory/energy is most evident to us when we walk humbly with that God,
in the paths of his justice and kindness.
That's how we find our significance and safety in this world of terror and trauma.
This act of faith does not eliminate the causes of these curses
as much as it gives us the resilience to confront them,
heal the impact of them,
and work for a better world that reduces their frequency.

That's the vibe we are hearing tonight in this music.
That's the power that puts these kinds of smiles on our faces.
That's the Spirit that will accompany us and guide us
when we leave this sanctuary and move forward in our lives.