

Advent Reflection
December 7, 2020
LOVE
Isaiah 7:10-17 NRSV

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted. The LORD will bring on you and, on your people, and on your ancestral house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria."

Reflection by Louise G.

Has anyone ever suggested that you ask God (pray) for something really specific—something as big as you can imagine or hidden so that it is really hard to find?

Or have you ever just decided on your own to ask God to prove God's self to you by some means or other?

And if you have declined to ask God for such, have you come to realize that God is much more creative and/or generous—giving much more than you could have asked, even if you had been willing to ask God for whatever it was?

This scripture, as it prophesies the birth of our Lord to a virgin and even predicts what he will be called, makes me think about that. I think about my own faith and my prayers and how often God gives me much more than I ask. And how often it is only in retrospect that I see that God has blessed me even more greatly.