

GOD IS GREAT

Today we want to focus on another wonderful character of God - His greatness.

Let's begin at the beginning! - the meaning of the word "great".

large in size, in number
remarkable, notable, extra-ordinary
famous, important, the main thing
high, grand, noble

When a person is great, what does that mean?

What about GOD? What are some ways/some words to describe that God is great?

big, mighty, important, remarkable, supreme
all-mighty, all-important
He can do anything!

Let's look at some Bible verses that describe our great God: lists of words:

I Chron. 29:11-13 - greatness, power, etc.

I Tim. 6:15-16 - blessed, only Ruler, etc.

What a great & mighty God He is! Let's often read these lists in our meditation times, letting these truths sink deep into our hearts. We need that, you know, because we as human beings often think of God in human terms. And in order to change our minds, to renew our minds, we need to often meditate on what the BIBLE says about God, so that THAT will become the normal way of our thoughts, our reactions, and our actions.

God DOES great things because He IS great!

Who He IS then also describes what He DOES.

So let's look at another Bible passage that talks about His great works/deeds:

Ps. 145: - mighty acts, wonderful works, great deeds, abundant goodness,
the power of your awesome works, His righteousness, slow to
anger, rich in love, good, compassionate, faithful, loving, lifts up, give
food, satisfy the desires of every living thing, etc. etc.

Dear friends, let's allow God the Holy Spirit to burn these wonderful truths into our hearts. You know, too often we look at God in a totally opposite way:

What is the opposite to: GOD IS GREAT?

God is small, ordinary, not able to do what He has said He would do.

This is totally untrue! totally unacceptable! This is not GOD!

JB Philipps wrote a book: Your God is too small.

Martin Luther once wrote to another great theologian, very bravely: "Your thoughts of God are too human."

So, the challenge for us is: Examine YOUR thoughts of God. Are they too human, too small? Don't let this be an intellectual exercise - let it be a spiritual exercise! Right deep down in your heart! Who is God to you?

I think MANY of us have to change our ideas, our beliefs about God, to bring them more in line with the Bible.

Another question: How does your picture of God affect your missionary life and service? If He is truly the great and mighty and supreme God that He says He is, how does that truth affect your prayer life, your faith, your actions, your mission work?

Let's keep these things in mind as we now go into a personal Bible study.

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January 21, 1997

GOD IS GREAT - Bible Study.

1. Read Isaiah 40:12-31.

Take the different sections of this wonderful passage, and write down a sentence or two about God's greatness, as explained in each section.

vs. 12-14

vs. 15-17

vs. 18-20

vs. 21-24

vs. 25-26

vs. 27-31

2. Look at the wonderful picture-language in this passage!! Especially in verses 12-17, 22, 23-24, 26, 28. Meditate on these "pictures", one by one, closing your eyes and seeing God in your mind's-eye as the one who "measures the waters in the hollow of His hand", and the other word-pictures.

THIS IS OUR GREAT GOD!!!

3. The Bible is full of God's greatness. Let's look at some of the topics/areas where we can find out -- "God is great in His" (Fill in this blank space with a word or sentence, according to the Bible passage.)

1) Jeremiah 27:5; 32:17.

s) Jeremiah 32:19

3) Isaiah 63:1

4) Lamentations 3:23

5) II Samuel 24:14

6) Psalm 103:8-13 (find several things here)

7) Ephesians 1:19

8) Hebrews 2:3-4

9) I Thessalonians 4:16

10) I John 3:1

Which of these areas is God especially pointing out to you: Yes, I want YOU to realize afresh that I AM GREAT in.....

3. "IS ANYTHING TOO HARD FOR THE LORD?" (Genesis 18:14)

Think of some "impossible" things which God did in the Bible, showing what a great and mighty God He is. Name the person and the action. (If you know the Bible passage, please include that too, but don't spend too much time looking for the place in the Bible if you don't know it already.)

Meditate: Is there something "impossible" which you are asking from the Lord? Is He great enough to do it? Pray about it now, asking Him for the faith to believe the impossible from Him.

The great missionary, William Carey, said, "EXPECT GREAT THINGS FROM GOD;
ATTEMPT GREAT THINGS FOR GOD." - because He is a GREAT GOD!