

KNOWING GOD: LESSON 8:
BEHOLD YOUR GOD! THE MAJESTY OF GOD!
 Isaiah 6:1-5

I. INTRODUCTION: I

1. **2** Is your “god” too small? I would suggest that most people’s concept of God is of a small “god”; even many who are members of the Lord’s church.
2. Recall in lesson I that we said that most “Christians” serve the “god” that they conceive of as the **Doting Grandfather**:
 - A. This “god” would be depicted as an old, white-haired, grandfatherly figure (albeit stately).
 - B. ****** He is constantly described as a “god” of “love”; but in truth “He” does not display love as defined in the Bible.
 - (1) No, it is rather a “love” that limits “God’s” sole purpose for existence is to spoil and indulge mankind, just as a doting grandfather spoils his grandchildren.
 - (2) Even though “He” wants us to do good and most of us don’t; “He” will ultimately not hold anyone responsible and accountable for sin (essentially Universalism).
 - (3) “His” word has no real authority; there’s no true divine standard all men must live by.
 - (4) Sin has no eternal consequences; it’s somehow automatically covered by Grandpa’s love.
 - (5) And sin is always ultimately excused without confession and true repentance.
 - (6) After all, sin is merely “a lapse in judgement,” or “a slight misunderstanding,” or “a sign of some immaturity,” etc.
 - (7) Anyway, “Don’t you know everyone is going to heaven!”
 - (8) Example: recently the *American Psychological Association* “decreed” that adultery is no longer adultery; rather it is a “consensual non-monogamous relationship.”
3. Let me be as plain as I can be:
 - A. ****** If we seek to know, worship, and serve a “god” that is smaller than the God revealed in the Scriptures we are **NOT** seeking to know, worship, and serve **THE ONE TRUE GOD**, Jesus showed us (Jn. 17:3) or the one true God that Paul preached (Eph. 4:6 Acts 17:16-33).
Jn. 17:3: “*And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.*”
Acts 17:23-28: “*...I proclaim to you: 24 God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. 25 Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. 26 And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, 27 so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; 28 for in Him we live and move and have our being;*” **vv. 30-31:** “*...God...now commands all men everywhere to repent, 31 because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead.*”
 - B. **3** No, on the contrary, we become **idolaters**, because we are seeking to know, worship, and serve a “god” that is not revealed in the Bible! That’s a “god” invented in men’s minds!
4. Let’s notice some descriptive passages of the God revealed in the Bible:

Isa. 6:1-5a: “In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the LORD sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. 2 Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one cried to another and said: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!’ 4 And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. 5 So I said: ‘Woe is me, for I am undone!’ ...”

A. ** Does that sound like a Doting Grandfather?

Dan. 7:9-10: “I watched till thrones were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, and the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, its wheels a burning fire; 10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated, and the books were opened.”

B. Does that sound like a Doting Grandfather?

C. Read Revelation 4

D. Does that sound like a Doting Grandfather?

5. ** The God revealed in the Bible is far from a doting grandfather. He is a **majestic** God:

Psa. 93:1: “The LORD reigns, He is clothed with **majesty**,”

Psa. 145:5: “I will meditate on the glorious splendor of Your **majesty**, and on Your wondrous works.”

Heb. 1:3: “who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the **Majesty** on high,”

6. ** According to Vine, **majesty** denotes **greatness**.

A. The God we seek to know, worship, and serve is **majestic**,

B. He is **great**.

C. Is it any wonder that He tells Abraham that His name is **El Shaddai**, or **God Almighty**! (Gen. 17:1; BTW: El Shaddai is plural!)

7. 4 Today let us examine the **majesty** or **greatness** of God so that we can properly respond to this aspect of His nature.

II. DISCUSSION:

1. 5 **Two key steps:** We must take two steps to form the right concept of God’s **majesty** or **greatness**:

① **First, we must eliminate from our thoughts of God **any** and **all** limitations that would make Him small.

② **Second, we must compare Him with powerful forces which we regard as great to fully discern and appreciate the magnitude of His **greatness**.

Let’s consider the first step needed to form the correct concept of God’s greatness...

2. 6 **Eliminating thoughts of God’s smallness:** How do we go about eliminating from our thoughts of God any limitations that would make Him small?

A. We can start by contemplating and considering His **omniscience** and **omnipresence**: **Psa. 139:1-18a**

B. Note some key thoughts from this passage:

- (1) We can hide from other human beings, but we cannot hide from God, He is too **great** for us to hide from:

****V. 5:** “*You have hedged me behind and before...*” **I’m completely fenced in by God, there is nowhere I can go to hide from His presence!**

V. 7: “*Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?*”

✓ **V. 8:** The sky? NO!

✓ **V. 8:** The grave? NO!

✓ **V. 9:** Leave early in morning and cross the sea? NO!

✓ **Vv. 11 & 12:** Hide in the darkness of night? NO!

Jer. 23:24: “*Can anyone hide himself in secret places, So I shall not see him?*” says the LORD; *‘Do I not fill heaven and earth?’* says the LORD.”

Prov. 15:3: “*The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good.*”

Job 31:4: “*Does He not see my ways, And count all my steps?*”

Job 9:10: “*He does great things past finding out, Yes, wonders without number.*”

- (2) **** Other human beings can only have limited knowledge of me, but God is so **great** that His knowledge of me is unlimited:**

V. 1: “*O LORD, You have searched me and known me.*” **God’s knowledge of me is complete!**

☛ **V. 2:** He knows when I sit down and stand up; He knows all of my actions and movements!

☛ **V. 2:** He knows my every thought! He knows all that goes on in my mind!

☛ **V. 3:** He knows everywhere that I go and everywhere that I sleep!

☛ **V. 3:** He knows everything there is to know about me! He knows all of my habits, all of my plans, all of my aims, all of my desires; He knows the entirety of my life!

☛ **V. 4:** He knows what I’m going to say before I say it! Matt. 12:36

☛ **Vv. 13-16:** He knew me even when I was being formed in my mother’s womb, before even my mother realized I was being formed!

******“I can hide my heart, and my past, and my future plans, from those around me, but I cannot hide anything from God. I can talk in a way that deceives my fellow creatures as to what I really am, but nothing I say or do can deceive God. He sees through all my reserve and pretense; he knows me as I really am, better indeed than I know myself.” (J. I. Packer, *Knowing God*, pgs. 85-86)

C. ** We truly serve a **great and **majestic** God.**

- (1) If he were a “god” whose presence and scrutiny I could evade, he would be nothing more than a small and trivial deity.

- (2) **7 Notice the Psalmist’s response to God’s greatness:**

☛ **V. 6:** “*Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it.*”

☛ **V. 14:** “*I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.*”

- ☛ **Vv. 17 & 18:** *“How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them! 18 If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand;”*
*******“Living becomes an awesome business when you realize that you spend every moment of your life in the sight and company of an omniscient, omnipresent Creator.”*
 (J. I. Packer, *Knowing God*, pg. 86)

D. ****** We all need so desperately to learn this lesson: Our God is a **great** and **majestic** God!

- (1) Job was one who needed to learn this lesson; in his trials and tribulations Job began to feel that God did not care:

Job 30:20-21: *“I cry out to You, but You do not answer me; I stand up, and You regard me. 21 But You have become cruel to me; With the strength of Your hand You oppose me.”*

Job 31:35a: *“Oh, that I had one to hear me! Here is my mark. Oh, that the Almighty would answer me, ...”*

- (2) ****** In essence, Job began to question God’s motives toward him. So God quickly gives Job a **reality check**:

Job 38:1-2: *“Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said: 2 ‘Who is this who darkens counsel by words without knowledge?’”*

- (3) Since Job questioned God, God now questions Job; God “turns the tables” on Job:

Job 38:3: *“Now prepare yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer Me.”*

- (4) Notice how God shows His **greatness** as He questions Job:

- ☛ **Creation of the earth:**

Job 38:4-6: *“Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell Me, if you have understanding. 5 Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? 6 To what were its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone,”*

- ☛ **Rising and setting of the sun:**

Job 38:12: *“Have you commanded the morning since your days began, And caused the dawn to know its place,”*

- ☛ **Elementary Physics:**

Job 38:19-21: *“Where is the way to the dwelling of light? And darkness, where is its place, 20 That you may take it to its territory, That you may know the paths to its home? 21 Do you know it, because you were born then, Or because the number of your days is great?”*

- ☛ **Stars and other heavenly bodies:**

Job 38:31-33: *“Can you bind the cluster of the Pleiades, Or loose the belt of Orion? 32 Can you bring out Mazzaroth in its season? Or can you guide the Great Bear with its cubs? 33 Do you know the ordinances of the heavens? Can you set their dominion over the earth?”*

- ☛ **Nature:**

Job 39:26-27: *“Does the hawk fly by your wisdom, And spread its wings toward the south? 27 Does the eagle mount up at your command, And make its nest on high?”*

- (5) ****** “Job, if you are going to question Me, you better know the answers to My questions!”

Job 40:1-5: *“Moreover the LORD answered Job, and said: 2 ‘Shall the one who contends with the Almighty correct Him? He who rebukes God, let him answer it.’ 3 Then Job answered the*

LORD and said: 4 'Behold, I am vile; What shall I answer You? I lay my hand over my mouth. 5 Once I have spoken, but I will not answer; Yes, twice, but I will proceed no further.'"

(a) **God: "Not so fast Job! I'm not done with you yet!"**

Job 40:6-8: "Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said: 7 'Now prepare yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer Me: 8 'Would you indeed annul My judgment? Would you condemn Me that you may be justified?'"

(b) **"Job, can you be great like Me? If so, go for it! See if you can save yourself!"**

Job 40:9-14: "Have you an arm like God? Or can you thunder with a voice like His? 10 Then adorn yourself with majesty and splendor, and array yourself with glory and beauty. 11 Disperse the rage of your wrath; Look on everyone who is proud, and humble him. 12 Look on everyone who is proud, and bring him low; Tread down the wicked in their place. 13 Hide them in the dust together, Bind their faces in hidden darkness. 14 Then I will also confess to you That your own right hand can save you."

(c) **When Job fully appreciates God's greatness he repents:**

Job 42:1-6: "Then Job answered the LORD and said: 2 '**I know that You can do everything, And that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You.** 3 You asked, 'Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, Things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. 4 Listen, please, and let me speak; You said, 'I will question you, and you shall answer Me.' 5 'I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You. 6 Therefore I abhor myself, And repent in dust and ashes.'"

E. Job learns the lesson David already knew (Psa. 139): God is a God of immeasurable **greatness** and **majesty**!

(1) Let us forever eliminate any thoughts or concepts that would limit God in any way!

(2) **We must learn the lesson Job learned before we can come to truly Know God!**

F. Let us proclaim: **Psa. 150:2:** "Praise Him for His mighty acts; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness!"

Let's consider the second step needed to form the correct concept of God's greatness...

3. **8 Appreciation for God's great power:** How does the magnitude of God's greatness compare with the forces of nature we regard as powerful?

A. In a large part, we have already done this by examining Job 38-41. But there is more!

B. Let us also look to Isaiah chapter 40.

(1) Here God speaks to His people; people that display the mood displayed by so many Christians: despondency, fear, anxiety, despair; people that have ceased to believe the cause of Christ can prosper.

(2) ****** God in essence tells His people, "Listen, I'm going to correct your view of Me!" Notice as Isaiah speaks on God's behalf:

Isa. 40:18-20: "To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare to Him? 19 The workman molds an image, the goldsmith overspreads it with gold, and the silversmith casts silver chains. 20 Whoever is too impoverished for such a contribution chooses a tree that will not rot; he seeks for himself a skillful workman to prepare a carved image that will not totter."

(3) They had the wrong concept of God! They knew better!

Isa. 40:21: *“Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?”*

C. ** God gives people of this mindset **5 reasons** to shed this faulty thinking and all these reasons are centered on His **majesty**, His **greatness**:

① 9 Consider the tasks I have done!

Isa. 40:12-14: *“Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, measured heaven with a span and calculated the dust of the earth in a measure? Weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? 13 Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, or as His counselor has taught Him? 14 With whom did He take counsel, and who instructed Him, and taught Him in the path of justice? Who taught Him knowledge, and showed Him the way of understanding?”*

- ✓ Is any man wise enough, strong enough, to do the things that I do? NO!
- ✓ Did I have to seek anyone’s advice in making the world? NO!
- ✓ Who alone is able to do all of this? Me and Me alone!
- ✓ Surely this alone is enough to show My **majesty**, My **greatness**!

② ** Consider the nations!

(a) At this time in history the Israelites were totally at the mercy of the great world powers: Assyria, Egypt, and Babylon (i.e., because they were trying to make it on their own, without reliance on God).

(b) The resources and power of these nations was so vastly superior to Israel that they were fearful and anxious at being totally vanquished at any moment. But notice:

Isa. 40:15, 17: *“Behold, the nations are as a drop in a bucket, and are counted as the small dust on the scales; 17 All nations before Him are as nothing, and they are counted by Him less than nothing and worthless.”*

(c) “Surely this alone is enough to show My **majesty**, My **greatness**!”

(d) Nebuchadnezzar certainly learned this lesson!

Dan. 4:34-35: *“And at the end of the time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever: For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom is from generation to generation. 35 All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, ‘What have You done?’”*

③ ** Consider the world! Consider the vastness of our earth:

- ✓ 25,000 miles in circumference!
- ✓ The beauty and splendor of snow-capped peaks, green lush valleys, azure lakes, mighty rivers, endless plains!
- ✓ Thousands upon thousands of species of plants and animals!
- ✓ Its 7.6+ B inhabitants! (According to the Google, 07/15/2019; ~4 births every second, ~2 deaths every second. In the short three hours we spend at services here today over 45,000 people will be born and ~19,000 will die!)

Isa. 40:22: *"It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in."*

- ✓ The world dwarfs me and you, but God dwarfs the world!
- ✓ The world is His footstool! (Acts 7:49)
- ✓ All the feverish and hectic activity of the bustling billions of the human race have no more effect on God than does the chirping and jumping of grasshoppers on a late summer day does to us!
- ✓ Surely this alone is enough to show My majesty, My greatness!

④ ****Consider the rulers and the powerful people of this world!**

- ✓ The presidents, the supreme court justices!
- ✓ The captains of industry; the movers and shakers of Wall Street!
- ✓ The celebrities of this age (e.g., movie stars and sports heroes)!
- ✓ Great and mighty rulers: Sennacherib, Nebuchadnezzar, Alexander the Great, the Caesars of Rome, Napoleon, Hitler, Stalin, Mao!

Isa. 40:23-24: *"He brings the princes to nothing; He makes the judges of the earth useless. 24 Scarcely shall they be planted, scarcely shall they be sown, scarcely shall their stock take root in the earth, when He will also blow on them, and they will wither, and the whirlwind will take them away like stubble."* (e.g., dandelion flower gone to seed!)

- ✓ God is greater than the greatest among men; compared to Him they are nothing!
- ✓ Surely this alone is enough to show My majesty, My greatness!

⑤ ****Lastly, consider the stars, the universe!**

- ✓ The awesomeness, the magnitude of the vastness of the stars and the universe are beyond our complete comprehension!
- ✓ Our sun is a mere 93 million miles away! (At 70 miles/hr it would take us nearly 304 years of non-stop driving to go there and back!)
- ✓ Our sun is but one star out of at least 200 billion stars in our galaxy the Milky Way!
- ✓ The Milky Way is 80,000 light years across! (469,256,000,000,000,000 miles; quintillion)
- ✓ The Milky Way is but one of the over 100 billion known galaxies in the known Universe!

Isa. 40:26: *"Lift up your eyes on high, and see who has created these things, Who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, by the greatness of His might and the strength of His power; not one is missing."*

- ✓ God is the Maker and the Master of the stars!
- ✓ He spoke them into existence from nothing! (**Heb. 11:3:** *"By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible."*; **Gen. 1:16:** *"...He made the stars also."*)
- ✓ They are held together by the power of His word! (**Heb. 1:3:** *"...upholding all things by the word of His power..."*; **Col. 1:17:** *"...He is before all things, and in Him all things consist."*)
- ✓ He has them all counted and none is missing!

D. Can there be any doubt as to the immense magnitude of the Greatness and Majesty of God?

4. **10** Responding to God's greatness and majesty:

A. It's one thing to know of God's greatness and majesty.

(1) But it is an entirely different thing to truly appreciate His greatness and majesty!

(2) And, to properly respond to His greatness and majesty!

B. Isaiah asks four questions in God's name to help us make the proper application of God's overpowering greatness and majesty:

❶ **** Question #1 rebukes our wrong thoughts about God.**

Isa. 40:25: "To whom then will you liken Me, or to whom shall I be equal?" says the Holy One."

✓ He's no doting grandfather, but a magnificent, great, and majestic God.

✓ Omniscient, Omnipotent, Omnipresent

1 Tim. 6:15-16: "He who is the blessed and only Potentate (authority def. No. 4: *dunastes* akin to *dunamis*, power, Vine; words from which we get our English word dynamite, cvt), the King of kings and Lord of lords, 16 who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen."

Job 40:1-5: "Moreover the LORD answered Job, and said: 2 'Shall the one who contends with the Almighty correct Him? He who rebukes God, let him answer it.' 3 Then Job answered the LORD and said: 4 'Behold, I am vile; What shall I answer You? I lay my hand over my mouth. 5 Once I have spoken, but I will not answer; Yes, twice, but I will proceed no further.'"

Job 42:1-6: "Then Job answered the LORD and said: 2 'I know that You can do everything, and that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You. 3 You asked, 'Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, Things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. 4 Listen, please, and let me speak; You said, 'I will question you, and you shall answer Me.' 5 'I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You. 6 Therefore I abhor myself, And repent in dust and ashes.'"

When we have the right concept of God (majesty, greatness); should there be any questions in our minds EVER that we will not submit entirely to His Word? For example, submission in all matters of...

☛ **Personal righteousness:** Matt. 5:6; 6:33; 1 Jn. 1:6-7; 2:3-4; Rom. 12:1-2; 8:29; Heb. 10:25

☛ **The work and worship of the church:** Col. 3:17; 1 Pet. 4:11; Eph. 5:19; 1 Cor. 1:10

❷ **** Question #2 rebukes our wrong thoughts about ourselves.**

Isa. 40:27: "Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel: 'My way is hidden from the LORD, and my just claim is passed over by my God?'"

In times of trial we are so quick to give up on God; even to blame God! We are so quick to think that God has abandoned us!

Isa. 40:29: “He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength.”; cf. Rom. 5:8

2 Pet. 1:3-4: “as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

1 Jn. 3:1: “Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God!” (Rom. 8:16)

Rom. 8:28: “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.”

Rom. 8:29: “...He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son...”

Until we correct our wrong thoughts about God and ourselves; we cannot see things as they really are! We will not share God’s “world view.”

③ **!! Question #3 rebukes our slowness to believe in God’s majesty.**

Isa. 40:28: “Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable.”

God is not going to leave us hanging! God doesn’t grow old and tired; He doesn’t lose strength! His attention span cannot be diverted away from ME!

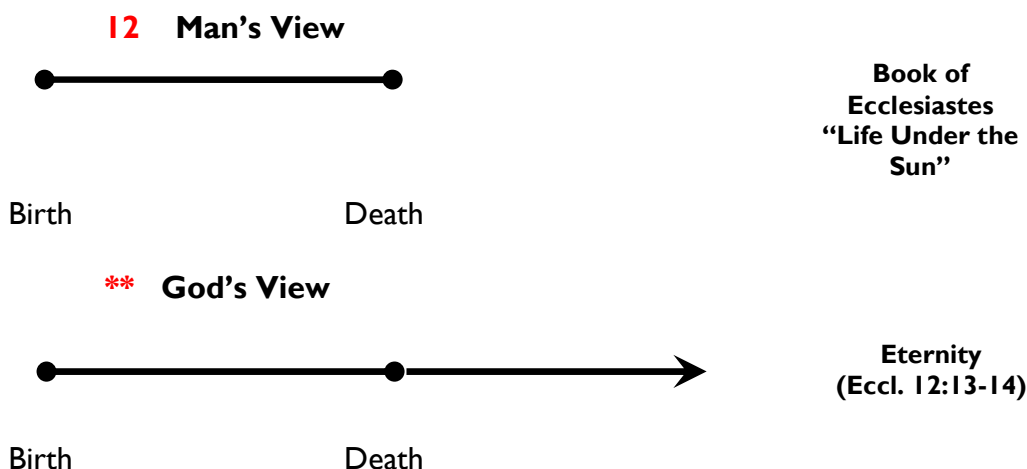
Rom. 8:31-32: “What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?”

Matt. 8:26: “Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?”

④ **** Question #4 rebukes our lack of patience to develop God’s view of reality.**

Isa. 40:30-31: “Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, 31 But those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.”

- (a) We are so slow to understand
- (b) God’s “world view”; His view of reality; and once we understand we so easily forget in times of trial and temptation.
- (b) God views things on a completely different time scale than the man, so should we!



(Man tends to only consider things dealing with “life under the sun”; in the here and now. God considers both the physical and spiritual realms. For example, see the five uses of “heavenly places” in Ephesians 1:3, 20; 2:6; 3:10; 6:12. The “heavenly places” refers to things in the realm of spiritual affairs.)

(c) **13** Consider some examples:

****Isaiah:** *physically* Isaiah met a miserable fate! Heb. 11:32-38

****Abraham:** *directly* Abraham did not receive even one of God’s promises! (Gen. 12:1-3, 7)

Heb. 11:10, 13-14, 16: “for he waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God.”

“13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14 For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland.”

“16 But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.”

****Paul:** notice how Paul probably spent his last days “under the sun”.

******“We were quite anxious to follow Paul in his last days, and so, getting in our taxi, we drove out the Ostium Way, a distance of some six or seven miles to another prison, said to be the one in which he was kept the night previous to his execution. Down in the basement of that was a dark dungeon not big enough for more than one or two men to be kept. About one hundred yards away, we followed with serious thoughts, the path which, traditions says, led to the block of execution. Here we beheld a stone, something like two feet square and possibly a foot high. On top of this was a cylindrical stone about two feet above, making it about three feet from the ground. The top of that was oval, just so as to fit the neck of a human being. ****** Just to the right of this stone or block is a statue of Paul, kneeling. His hands are tied behind him; his head is turned to the left; and his neck is on the block. A soldier stands behind with his left hand on Paul’s head, while in his right hand is an immense knife. All is ready to strike the fatal blow. Other soldiers stand guard to see that the atrocious deed is done. As Paul’s head was severed and dropped to the ground, it is said by tradition to have bounced twice...” (N. B. Hardeman, Tabernacle Sermons: Volume V, p. 162)

****Phil. 3:20-4:1:** “For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself. 4:1 Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved.”; cf. 2 Cor. 4:16-5:2; Rom. 8:31-39; Phil. 1:21

C. So many with speculative millennial theories entirely miss the wonderful theme of the Book of Revelation.

(1) It can be summed up so easily and simply in two words: God Wins!

(2) We too will win, but only **IF** we remain steadfastly on God’s side! **Rom. 8:37-39:** “Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

III. CONCLUSION: 14

1. What is your view of God?

A. Is the “god” you serve too small?

B. ** Or, do you serve the **majestic** and **great** God revealed in the Bible? El Shaddai?

Eph. 3:20: “Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us,”; cf. Eph. 1:19-23

2. ** Has God’s **majesty** and **greatness** really made a lasting, life-changing impact on you?

**

“Living becomes an awesome business when you realize that you spend every moment of your life in the sight and company of an omniscient, omnipresent Creator.” (J. I. Packer, *Knowing God*, pg. 86)

3. ** When you consider God’s **majesty** and **greatness** do you agree with Job?

Job 42:1-6: “Then Job answered the LORD and said: 2 **‘I know that You can do everything, And that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You.’** 3 You asked, ‘Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?’ Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know. 4 Listen, please, and let me speak; You said, ‘I will question you, and you shall answer Me.’ 5 ‘I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees You. 6 Therefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes.’”

4. ** Do you have “man’s” view of reality or God’s?

Phil. 1:21: “For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”

5. Won’t you obey the **majestic** and **great** God revealed in the Bible...now, **today?** **2 Cor. 6:2:** “Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.”

Some of the material in this sermon is
from *Knowing God*, J. I. Packer