Your God is Too Small FM bulletin 771109

I remember one time when we were on a trip our car had to be repaired at a garage. On one side of the garage was a wall covered with mirrors. Being naturally curious, I stepped closer; something then made me shield my eyes and look into the mirror very closely. I could see two men inside an office, talking. I backed up quickly, suddenly realizing that they would see me looking in. It was a one-way mirror, but it was not totally one-way. The universe has been likened to a one-way mirror, which when looked upon my man, reflects his own image. But God is on the other side of this mirror watching. He knows whatever man is up to. In the same way, if we shield our eyes from the world and look very, very closely at God's creation, we will see God there, even though we will see him dimly and incompletely.

What can we learn about the nature of God? In Colossians 1:15 we find that Christ is the image of the living God; in other words he is God in terms which man can understand. But we never seem to sense how great he is. J.B. Phillips has written a very good book entitled Your God is Too Small; this is a theme that we should consider for a moment. Once you search for God and determine that he is ever-present, no matter what your idea of God is, no matter how great that you think he is, your God is too small. Your conception or picture of God is much less than what God really is. Of course, much of what God is we will not know until we are with him in heaven. However, there is much that we can know, and should know, for as a Christian we must daily live in Him.

It is interesting to me that God calls himself 'Most High.' This simply means that he is the greatest thing that exists, period. If your God is not greater than the tremendous size of the universe, then your God is too small. If your God is not a God whose mind is so fantastic that he can know and understand what every person in the world is thinking at this very moment, then your God is too small. If your God is not a God who can deal with any request that you and every other individual on earth might have, no matter what the time, or no matter how great or small that request might be, then your God is too small. Finally, if your God is not a God who loved you personally enough to send his own son to die so that you might live, then your God is much, much too small.

If we place a drop of ordinary water or a speck of dust under a powerful microscope, we will observe marvels we never dreamed could exist in so small and insignificant an object. This is even more true when we focus our attention on God and his Word. We must magnify our image of the Lord, and magnify the image of him in others. We read in Psalms 34:3, "O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together." The words glorify and exalt are found in many passages relating to our feelings toward God, and mean the same as magnify. This should be the way we worship to him.

Our God is so great and wonderful and we are so small and ugly, but yet he knows our name. We can talk to him, and he will listen. He cares for us. If we magnify the Lord we will minimize our troubles. We must think of God in as big a way as possible, and in comparison we must think of ourselves in as little a way as possible. As C.S. Lewis wrote in his book Prince Caspian, "Every year we grow, we will find God bigger."

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