

# God

## The Overwhelming Glory Of God

### Introduction

We live in a world so foreign to the principles of the scriptures. It is a world of instant knowledge where comparatively few know the biblical principle of musing and steady development of understanding truth. The scriptures teach, "Precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little" (Isa. 28:10) and this necessitates meditation and musing on that which is read. The saint who fails to muse and meditate on truths related to Divine Persons, Prerogatives, Preeminence, Power, Principles, and Personality are at a loss when it comes to worship in its highest level. Interesting the letter "A" can be used as a negative, as in the word "amuse". To meditate or muse means to think upon, to meditate on, whereas the word "amuse" indicates "not to think". This is our world where untold thousands are mindlessly taken up with amusements and fail to meditate on Divine Persons. If we are ever going to worship God then a prime necessity is musing and meditating on Him. The same goes for the worship of Christ.

We do not need to be reminded that "God" is far beyond our comprehension, especially if we consider:

- a) The astounding fact of His eternity
- b) The in-comprehensiveness of His glory
- c) The solitary dignity of His existence
- d) The self sufficiency of His attributes
- e) The intensity of His holiness
- f) The sterling perfection of His holiness
- g) The immensity of His omnipresence
- h) The completeness of His omniscience
- i) The unbounded limits of His omnipotence
  - i) When musing on the glories of God one quickly stands by the words of the Psalmist when he wrote, "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it." (Psa. 139:6). When, with the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit, we muse without distraction on God, the individual becomes aware of the intimidating greatness and awesome presence of the Almighty.

### A Minuscule Musing On God

Many years ago when my spiritual walk was in its infancy, I decided to do a study on "God". I did it in one afternoon. What a lot I have learnt from those early days. Now as I begin such a meditation I face the question, "Where do we begin?" I can think of no better place than considering the identicalness of the first words of Genesis and the Gospel of John, both begin with the clause, "In the beginning", an expression which refers four times to God, Christ, or His works.

- a) "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Gen. 1:1). This truth is presented in the same context when the writer to Hebrews wrote, "And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth" (Heb. 1:10), and multiple other places.
- b) Speaking of the Lord, John wrote, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (Jn. 1:1). This he follows up in verse two with the words, "The same was in the beginning with God". Thus, in these verses there is stressed the pre-creation and eternal existence of God and the Word.
- c) In Genesis the stress is not on the eternity of God but of Him being the great cause of everything created and made. There is with this truth the perfection of His orderliness when He began the initial act of creation and developing of the present world, and the prioritizing of God. One of the prime points of focus is the superiority of man over all other earthly creation. Sadly, today there is greater punishment for killing a spotted owl than the murder of an unborn baby. Humanity has reversed the importance of God's prioritizing.
- d) Genesis 1:1 starts with a stark statement, "In the beginning God" (Elohim) and then the Holy Spirit caused Moses to reveal our first impression of God, and what an impression it is. God reveals Himself as

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the Workman, Designer, and Sovereign over the universe, both of the planetary creation, terrestrial creation, and human creation.

- e) He is the Workman for, note the words, “created” (Gen. 1:1, 21, 27; 2:3) and “made” (Gen. 1:7, 16, 25; 2:3). When I look at a shirt or suit I sometimes see the label, “A Yves St Laurent creation” but that is not accurate, for that which he did was take material already in existence and make it into something. God created! That is beginning with nothing He created not only the things we see but also the myriad of unseen things. We cannot see electricity, magnetism or gravity, but these are laws God created which are not mentioned in Genesis for that is not the focus of attention. Genesis chapter one is the manifestation of the abilities of God, and in that display of His abilities we read:
  - i) God “created” (Gen. 1:1). He alone has the power, wisdom and understanding to create from nothing.
  - ii) God “said” (Gen. 1:3). He has the power to speak His will and it is fulfilled.
  - iii) God “saw” (Gen. 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31). He has the power to observe and evaluate.
  - iv) God “divided” (Gen. 1:4). He has the power to distinguish and separate.
  - v) God “called” (Gen. 1:5). He has the power to describe and name.
  - vi) God “set” (Gen. 1:17). He has the power to place, keep and at His will remove (Heb. 1:11-12)
  - vii) God “blessed” (Gen. 1:28; 2:3). He has the ability to enrich and sanctify.
  - viii) God “ended” (Gen. 2:2). He has the power to complete in perfection.
  
- f) Other works of God in Genesis chapter 1
  - i) He delegates that which man has responsibility for propagating “Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth” (Gen. 1:28). He has the authority to command.
  - ii) He delegates the area man has responsibility for (Gen. 1:28). Note “the earth”, not Mars or the moon, etc. This is the attitude of rebellious man who disbelieves God and refuses to acknowledge His rights.
  - iii) He determines the likeness of man for he made man, “in our image, after our likeness” (Gen. 1:26). He has the ability to dignify man.
  - iv) God gives the power to bless and command (Gen. 1:28).

The Psalmist writes of two other characteristics of God which, when connected to creation and the manifestation of God, cause the heart to bow. He wrote, “The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works” (Psa. 145:17). To the Psalmist the creation was more than a manifest of the ability of God. It was a declaration of His glory (Psa. 19:1), and to Moses it indicated perfection of workmanship for he said, “His work is perfect” (Deut. 32:4). Being created for His glory and in perfection God was able to pass His comment repeatedly, “God saw that it was good” and finally, “It was very good” (Gen. 1:4, 10, 12, 18, 21, 25, 31). Note the words, “God saw” that is, it passed under the scrutinizing eye of His holiness and perfection, and only then did He pass His commendation. In its beginning, this created universe was superlatively perfect in every detail. It was a sphere suitable for human beings and was without defect, defilement, or disfiguration.

How astounding this is for there was no first attempt in anything. All was perfect in its sequence of development. There was no wasted words or energies, every word had power and every work had a purpose.

### Concluding Thoughts

Space forbids the developing of the glory of the solitariness of God, His unfrustratable decrees, uncurtailed knowledge, unequalled supremacy, absolute sovereignty, generosity, horror of His wrath, personal guidance, infinite enduring patience, faithfulness, etc., etc. It is no wonder that as David looked at the rolling clouds, or lay on the grass and gazed at the stars, he wrote, “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth His handiwork” (Psa. 19:1).

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When we consider the immeasurable vastness of space, the sizes of some of the stars and planets, the course of the planets across the universe, like David, in wonder we say, "What is man?" (Psa. 8:4). It is very intimidating to consider not only the brightness of the stars but the vastness of space "between" them. The vastness of God's creation is perhaps more fully appreciated when we consider that the light of the moon takes approximately  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a second to reach us; the light of the sun, 8.3 minutes; but the light of the nearest star takes 4.5 years. The average distance between stars is 6.573 light years and the Andromeda Galaxy is 2.54 million light years. The furthest known galaxy is 13.3 billion light years from earth and God controls them all. This is the God we are honored to worship. He is glorious, awesome, magnificent, imposing, and formidable in every way. All we can say is, "O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker" (Psa. 95:6), who alone is "worthy to be praised" (2 Sam. 22:4; Psa. 18:3). Contemplating the bigness of God and the uncurtailed extent of His influence and His inescapability, then He is an intimidating awe inspiring person, fully worthy of our worship, a worship worthy of His glory. Stuart Hamblen wrote the following along this thought:

Though men may strive to go beyond the reach of space  
To crawl beyond the distant shining stars  
This world's a room so small within my Master's house  
The open sky's but a portion of His yard.

How big is God? How big and wide His vast domain  
To try to tell, these lips can only start  
He's big enough to rule His mighty universe  
Yet small enough to live within my heart.

As winter chill may cause the tiny seed to fall  
To lie asleep till waked by summer's rain  
The heart grown cold will warm and trod with life anew  
The Master's touch will bring the glow again.

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**May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.  
John 16:13**

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