

Text: Selected Scriptures

Title: “When God is Small”

The Greatness of God

- Psalm 145:3—“Great is the LORD, and highly to be praised, And His *greatness* is *unsearchable*.”
- Psalm 147:5—“Great is our Lord and abundant in strength; His understanding is infinite.”
- Psalm 139:6—“*Such* knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is *too* high, I cannot attain to it.”
- Isa 55:8-9—“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” declares the LORD. For *as* the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways And My thoughts than your thoughts.”
- Job 11:7—“Can you discover the depths of God? Can you discover the limits of the Almighty?”— the question begs the answer, “NO”
- Isa 40:18—“To whom then will you liken God?
Or what likeness will you compare with Him?”
- Psalm 139:17-18—“How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How vast is the sum of them! If I should count them, they would outnumber the sand...”— all David can do is wonder and worship
- Romans 11:33—“Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!”— God’s riches, God’s judgments, God’s ways are all beyond our ability to *fully* understand
God is incomprehensible when it comes to the essence of his being

1. God is “self-existent” in His Being.— he is *independent* — Gen 1:1—“In the beginning, God...”

- Ex 3:14—he is the “I AM”

God is Infinite in his being— God transcends both time and space; God is free from all limitations

- Psalm 139:7-10—“***Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?*** If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the dawn, If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, ***Even there Your hand will lead me, And Your right hand will lay hold of me.***
- Prov 15:3—“The eyes of the LORD are in every place, Watching the evil and the good. “
- 1 Kings 8:27—“But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain You, how much less this house which I have built!”
- Jer 23:23-24—“Am I a God who is near,” declares the LORD, “And not a God far off? “Can a man hide himself in hiding places So I do not see him?” declares the LORD. “Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?” declares the LORD.
- Acts 17:27-28—“... though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and exist...”

Additional Verses:

- Amos 9:2-3
- Ezek 8:12

God is eternal in his being— we have a point of beginning, but God is eternal past and future

- Psalm 90:2—“Before the mountains were born Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.”
- Isa 40:28—“Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth Does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable.”
- 1 Tim 1:17—“Now to the King *eternal*, immortal, invisible, the only God, *be* honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.”
- 2 Peter 3:8— says that “With the Lord a day is like a thousand years and a thousand years are like a day”
- Heb 4:13—“And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do”
- Additional Verses:
 - Gen 21:33
 - Psalm 29:10
 - Psalm 45:6
 - Psalm 48:14
 - Isa 40:28

God is unchangeable in his being— God never improves; he never deteriorates— he is ‘immutable’

- Psalm 102:26-27—“Even they will perish, but You endure; And all of them will wear out like a garment; Like clothing You will change them and they will be changed. But You are the same, And Your years will not come to an end.”
- Numbers 23:19—“God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?”
- 1 Sam 15:29—“Also the Glory of Israel will not lie or change His mind; for He is not a man that He should change His mind.”
- Malachi 3:6—“For I, the LORD, do not change; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed.”
- James 1:17—“Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.”
- Even though man’s relationship to God may change, God is his being does not change— cf. Jonah 3:3-5, 10

Additional Verses:

- Heb 6:17-18

2. God is Self-existent in his Will— he does everything according to his will— what pleases him

- Job 42:2—“I know that You can do all things, And that no purpose of Yours can be thwarted.”— nothing thwarts God’s will
- Spurgeon: says that while the pagans mock, “Where is now their God?” we are perfectly sure that his (God’s) providence is undisturbed, his throne unshaken, and his purposes unchanged.

What he hath done he will yet do, his counsel shall stand and he will do all his pleasure, and at the end of the great drama of human history, the omnipotence of God and his immutability and faithfulness will be more than vindicated to the eternal confusion of his adversaries.”¹

Additional Verses:

- Prov 19:21
- Prov 20:24
- Prov 21:30
- Isa 14:24, 27
- Isa 40:15-23
- Isa 46:10-11

3. God is Self Existent in His Counsel

- Daniel 4:35—”All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, But He does according to His will in the host of heaven And *among* the inhabitants of earth; And no one can ward off His hand Or say to Him, ‘ What have You done?’”
- Isa 40:13—”Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, Or as His counselor has informed Him?”
- He has no accountability outside of himself
- Psa 33:11—”The counsel of the LORD stands forever, The plans of His heart from generation to generation.”
- Eph 1:11—”also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will,”
- Eph 3:11—”*This was* in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,”

To believe something less about him than to believe all this about him— we have restricted God in some way to fit the imaginations of our own heart/mind— we are fashioning a god that falls short of the true and living God

Our View of God affects our ministry:

1. Our music— songs with shallow theology
2. Our Worship
3. Counseling
4. Evangelism/missions— a low view of God leads to a man-centered gospel
5. Pastoral ministry
6. Prayer

If we are going to set a firm, biblical foundation for long-term ministry at Creekside Bible Church, we must embrace and maintain a **high view of God**. We can debate and negotiate programs and ministry direction. But, having a high view of God is a non-negotiable.

¹ Treasury of David, 3:53.