

Irreducibly Infinite.

When we look up at the stars, we tend to fixate upon the stars and constellations. We can only see but a small fraction of the known universe by what light reaches, yet we tend to only recognize that which we see, and that which is known.

We seem incapable of looking upon that, which is greater than ourselves, and comprehending or regarding it in its entirety. It's like how when we read a book, we can only see the story as it is presented, one page at a time; likewise, when we see the evening sky, we see the sky for its stars. When we see the beach, we see the beach for its sand. When we look at the ocean, we see it for the water and its waves.

So, what is it that we see when we look at God?

God is the greatest conceivable thing to man, immeasurably more immense than any ocean, forest, sky, or distant galaxy. When we look at God we tend to pick him apart into smaller pieces we can more easily comprehend, and as such we end up seeing God as something less than God, less than perfect, less than infinite. We tend to look at God and see him for his constituent parts and qualities, rather than looking at God and seeing God as God, a limitless being extending beyond the reaches of the infinite.

Is it possible for us as finite and limited beings to fully comprehend the greatest conceivable being, which is in him ever greater than that which we could all conceive? I believe such understanding is within our grasp, to a point. Did not Abraham speak directly with God, and also was a friend of God? Moses spoke directly with God, but also saw God as well, if only the passing image of God's backside. Then, we have Christ, who spoke as God, who was God, but was also a man. These three held an understanding of God that many of us could only hope to achieve one day. While Christ, the greatest of the three, had not just understanding, but also held the very presence of God within him.

Many images and words have been painted and printed before us to help us achieve a better understanding of the abstract immensity of God, and the immeasurably infinite contained within him. C.S. Lewis has offered us a beautifully simple word picture. Regard a line on a sheet of paper. Now, draw a short line on that piece of paper. The point where the pencil touches the sheet of paper is where time as we know it begins, and the point at which the pencil leaves the paper is where it ends. This small line is a representation encompassing all of time, from creation onwards. Now imagine that sheet of paper on which we drew the line to extend infinitely in all directions. How infinitesimally small are we when compared to this?

Now, imagine God's perspective. No matter how big you make that sheet of paper, or how long you make the line we drew, he sees it all, all the time, at the same time.

Feel small yet?

Now, not only does God have this kind of bird's eye perspective to all things, he is equally present in, round, and of all things as well. A.W. Tozer described this with a word picture of a bucket in the ocean, submerged beneath the water. Like the bucket and the water, all of creation contains God as much as God surrounds it. There is no place that one can go

where God does not surround him. Yet, without the acceptance of God, and the personal relationship with him, God will not be found within him.

The thought almost makes you feel kind of lonely, doesn't it?

Our relationship with God is both a precious, and powerful thing.

Regardless of how immeasurably huge God is, and how infinitesimally small we are when compared to his Glory, he still seeks to have a personal relationship with each and every one of us. Imagine walking the greatest desert of the earth, picking up every single grain of sand, naming it, and forming a personal relationship with it, then we can have the barest glimpse into an understanding of God's immense love and patience for us all. For, without God, we would all surely die. God is our father, and we are his children, and no father wants to see the death of his beloved children. Like his love, his patience truly knows no bounds, for he will wait for us to come to him for an eternity.

Unfortunately, most of us don't have that long, but he does.

Most of us can hardly seem to keep still long enough to notice God sitting there, waiting for us. While we are constantly adapting, continually changing things to better fit our lives, God remains forever unchanging. We try to make things smaller or more user friendly. We try to make things more compact. We build newer, better things to be more efficient. So, likewise it is through a similar spirit of innovation that we find ourselves trying to reduce God into something less than God. We try to reduce God into something more manageable and compatible with our lives.

How do you reduce the irreducible anyways?

We must change this mind set, and stop trying to reduce God for our own sake. We must stop trying to evolve God into something more manageable for our own consumption.

God is perfect.

How can you make something even more perfect?

You can't.

Instead of working and laboring to make God fit into our lives, we should follow the example we have been given, that is, the life of Jesus. We should work harder to try and make our lives fit into his.