

The unfolding of your words gives light.

Boundless

The Infinitude of God

We like to imagine having the things we love in unlimited quantities. Restaurants even make offers like that to tempt us. But in truth you have no means of comprehending what a bottomless cup of coffee or basket of fries would look like and even if you could, how much could you consume? This message is about the infinitude of God. Why attempt to explain something that is pretty clearly unexplainable? Because we are invited to do so.

In C.S. Lewis's *The Last Battle*, the main characters finally enter the true Narnia and adopt the joyful refrain: "Further up and further in." The allegorical series ends with a picture of a believer's death and the limitless discovery that will follow. Scripture reveals the living God as a person without boundaries and therefore a person Whom His creatures can spend an eternity discovering. But this truth disturbs sinners. Our nature is to create in our hearts gods who have limits like us and are therefore not so dangerous. A.W. Tozer put it this way:

The God of Abraham has withdrawn His conscious presence from us, and another god whom our fathers knew not is making himself at home among us. This god we have made and because we have made him we can understand him; because we have created him he can never surprise us, never overwhelm us, nor astonish us, nor transcend us. –*The Knowledge of the Holy*

The infinitude of God is that attribute that describes how boundless He is. Just as His eternity has been described as His *temporal infinity*, His omniscience could be called His *cognitive infinity* and His omnipresence His *spatial infinity*.

Contrast God's boundlessness with man's boundaries:

- He has no boundaries to His strength. We are weak.
- He has no boundaries to His knowledge. We are ignorant.
- He has no boundaries to His sovereignty. We are not in control.
- He has no boundaries in His creation (time, space and matter). We are slow, small and finite.

Other helpful words:

- Boundless
- Measureless

The Bible both implies and overtly states that God's riches are impossible to measure or comprehend:

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! 1 Kings 8:27

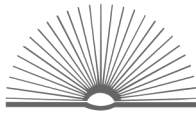
Behold, God is exalted, and we do not know *Him*; the number of His years is unsearchable. Job 36:26

Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised, and His greatness is unsearchable. Psalm 145:3

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who became His counselor? Or who has first given to Him that it might be paid back to him again? For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him *be* the glory forever. Amen. Romans 11:33-36

There is no better place in Scripture to find a description of God's infinite character than Isaiah 40. Isaiah prophesied to a Israel and Judah, illustrating the folly of idolatry by setting the infinite creator next to gods of our making.

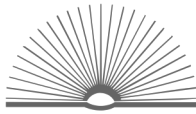
Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand,



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And marked off the heavens by the span,
And calculated the dust of the earth by the measure,
And weighed the mountains in a balance
And the hills in a pair of scales?
Who has directed the Spirit of the Lord,
Or as His counselor has informed Him?
With whom did He consult and *who* gave Him understanding?
And *who* taught Him in the path of justice and taught Him knowledge
And informed Him of the way of understanding?
Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket,
And are regarded as a speck of dust on the scales;
Behold, He lifts up the islands like fine dust.
Even Lebanon is not enough to burn,
Nor its beasts enough for a burnt offering.
All the nations are as nothing before Him,
They are regarded by Him as less than nothing and meaningless.
To whom then will you liken God?
Or what likeness will you compare with Him?
As *for* the idol, a craftsman casts it,
A goldsmith plates it with gold,
And a silversmith *fashions* chains of silver.
He who is too impoverished for *such* an offering
Selects a tree that does not rot;
He seeks out for himself a skillful craftsman
To prepare an idol that will not totter.
Do you not know? Have you not heard?
Has it not been declared to you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?
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.
He *it is* who reduces rulers to nothing,
Who makes the judges of the earth meaningless.
Scarcely have they been planted,
Scarcely have they been sown,
Scarcely has their stock taken root in the earth,
But He merely blows on them, and they wither,
And the storm carries them away like stubble.
"To whom then will you liken Me
That I would be *his* equal?" says the Holy One.
Lift up your eyes on high
And see who has created these *stars*,
The One who leads forth their host by number,
He calls them all by name;
Because of the greatness of His might and the strength of *His* power,
Not one *of them* is missing.
Why do you say, O Jacob, and assert, O Israel,
"My way is hidden from the Lord,
And the justice due me escapes the notice of my God"?
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.
He gives strength to the weary,
And to *him who* lacks might He increases power.
Though youths grow weary and tired,
And vigorous young men stumble badly,
Yet those who wait for the Lord
Will gain new strength;
They will mount up *with* wings like eagles,
They will run and not get tired,
They will walk and not become weary. Isaiah 40:12-31

Understanding the infinitude of God helps you understand why even a little sin against an infinitely good person is the ultimate crime. The violence done to the sinless Son on the cross becomes that much more treasured for those who understand the measureless love that brought about that substitution.



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This should make a difference in your life. Because God is infinite...

1. Genuine worship is never boring. Curious? Seek the satisfier of the curious.
2. You have no hope for improvement apart from Him. In other words, every shortfall revealed in your character and your physical makeup is evidence that you stand in need of an Redeemer who has what you lack.
3. Eternity in heaven will include endless discovery. Heaven will not be boring.

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