

Teaching Letter 2

Our God Is Bigger

"For the Lord is a great God and a great King above all gods, in whose hand are the depths of the earth, the peaks of the mountains are His also. The sea is His, for it was He who made it, and His hands formed the dry land" (Psalm 95:3-5, NASB).

How big is our God? That may seem like a strange question. Scripture tells us clearly He is great. In Isaiah 66:1 we read, "Thus says the Lord, 'Heaven is My throne and the earth is My footstool...." So, our God is *very* big.

The question is an important one for us personally. Some time ago the Lord showed me in a dream that my vision of Jesus was too small. I needed to gain a new perspective of His power and ability to work—of His greatness. Somehow I had come to hold a different view in my heart than Scripture portrays. I didn't realize it, but by doing so, I was limiting my faith in His ability to help with my problems. Although this revelation surprised me, after thinking about it, I knew it was true.

A vision of God that is too small will cause us to fear when we face large difficulties. A Scriptural example is when Israel faced the Red Sea with Pharaoh's army behind them and mountains on either side. (See Exodus 14.) Humanly speaking, there was no way of escape. Do we read that the people calmly thanked God that He was on their side and was about to deliver them again? No, they panicked. Just like we often do when we hear a doctor say, "Cancer." Or when we see storm clouds and hear warnings of tornadoes or a hurricane.

A vision of God that is too small can cause us to miss the destiny God wants for us. When God leads us to do something bigger than we've done before, we may back up rather than moving forward. The assignment may look too big. And you can just expect Satan to try to distort our vision of both the assignment and of God.

A small vision of God will cause us to downsize or abandon our dreams. Like Joseph, God may give us a dream about our future. Then, like for Joseph, difficulties arise and all prospect of that dream's fulfillment seems lost. Difficulties multiplied, but did God change or did He cancel the dream? No, God didn't change and the dream remains. Scripture says, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8, *NASB*).

God is bigger than anything we will ever face. God told Abram in Genesis 17:1, "... I am God Almighty" In Isaiah 46:9, God says, "... For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like me." God was saying to Abram—"I can do that which is impossible to man—I am God Almighty. See Me as who I am." And God was saying to Israel through Isaiah—"I am bigger than anything you will face and anything you need—I am God. I alone can help you."

Just like Abram and Israel who for a time lost their vision of God's greatness and ability to help them, we can find ourselves doing the same. It's not a new phenomenon. However, we need to see God as He is. What are you facing right now that seems huge? It could be anything. Life throws big difficulties at us. There is no shortage of trouble. But there is no shortage with God either. We serve a God who is bigger than anything and everything. There is nothing that life or the devil can send our way that God is not able to handle and to help us through. We need to keep or regain that perspective.

Paul tells us that for now we "see through a glass darkly," (1 Corinthians 13:12) meaning our vision is cloudy. He continues, "... but then face to face" or perfectly clearly. One day we won't have any difficulty at all with our vision of God. When we find ourselves in that predicament now, however, we need to do something to regain our perspective.

First, let's repent of holding a false perspective of God. Just say, "God, I repent. I want to see You as You are—in truth. Help me to do so. Please reveal Yourself more clearly to me." God will answer that prayer.

Next, speak Scriptures that focus on God's greatness and power. Write them on note cards to keep in conspicuous places. Following is one to get you started—". . . our God whom we serve is able" (Daniel 3:17, NASB)

Finally, refocus your thoughts to God's greatness whenever troubles or difficulties threaten. Remember, our God is a great God. SH

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