

# How Big Is Your God Part 2

Steve Berger

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## Review

- started this series hopefully to awaken us to the “Bigness of God”
- **Noticed** — historical precedence in God’s people who allowed Him to become small to them
  - Israel into the Promised Land — right after Exodus miracles — they said, “God can’t,” — they wandered for 40 years!
  - Sadducees — theological opinions based on experience — rather than Word
  - Homies — their offended familiarity with the person of Jesus limited His work in their midst

## Self-Existence of God, Transcendence of God, Eternalness of God

**Today** — *unpack **BIG truths about God**, prepare to be **stretched, challenged** and **hopefully inspired** to have **bigger thoughts** about God. **No big thoughts — no big God!***

- Self-Existence of God, Transcendence of God, Eternalness of God

**So important** — *how you see God determines everything about your spiritual life... you see Him as **BIG, good, and willing**... leads your life into **joyful adventure**. You see Him as **SMALL, indifferent, unwilling**... life is **joyless routine**. **Seeing Him as He is...CRITICAL***

- **Psalm 9:10**

And those who know Your name will put their trust in You; For You, LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You.

**Application** — *know Your name — character, **know name leads to trust!** Trust is in God’s Character, comes by seeking Him*

- **Daniel 11:32**

...the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.

**Application** — *knowing God leads to **strength, doing great exploits, Kingdom impact!***

**Conversely** — not knowing Him as He is, believing lies about character, leads to trouble

- **Genesis 3**

“God didn’t really say” — “You won’t die” — “You’ll become like Him” — FALL!

**When people think and act on wrong thoughts of God, they fall....**

- **Romans 1:18-21**

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

*Application — suppress truth, knew Him without glorifying Him, futile thoughts (wicked), foolish hearts are darkened... next 11 verses describe wicked acts...*

**Knowing God leads to godly results, rejecting God leads to ungodly results!**

**Must get it right** — return to knowing Majesty, Might, Glory of our Awesome God!

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## **God's Self-Existence**

**God's Self-Existence** — *God exists all by Himself, He is the “**Undependent One**.”*

- God SPEAKS to Moses, in desert, prior to the Exodus, when Moses asks, “who will I say sent me?”
- **Exodus 3:14-15**  
And God said to Moses, “**I AM WHO I AM**.” And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘**I AM** has sent me to you.’” Moreover God said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: ‘The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.’”
- **I AM** — Greek “*hayah* — ‘haw yaw’” to exist, to be... **Because He Is in every “now,” He Is, I AM!**
- God never began to be, He lives in the everlasting now!
- **LORD** — YHWH, add *Adonai*, *Elohim*= *YAHWEH*, to make it pronounceable; **Self-Existent, Self- Sufficient, I AM** — 6521 times from Genesis to Malachi, most-used Name for God in Bible — **constant reminder of BIGNESS!**
- “God has no origin” Novation, Church Father, 200-258 AD
  - He Is the Non-Origin of every origin, He Is the Un-Caused cause of all. He Is Un-Created Essence.
- “The Father is made of none; neither created, nor begotten. The Son is of the Father alone; not made, nor created; but begotten. The Holy Ghost is of the Father and of the Son; neither made, nor created, nor begotten; but proceeding.” Athanasian Creed, 6<sup>th</sup> Century
  - **Jesus claimed to be I AM, John 8:58**
- **Exodus 3:16-17**  
Go and gather the elders of Israel together, and say to them, “The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared to me, saying, “I have surely visited you and seen what is done to you in Egypt; and I have said I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the

Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey.”

**Application** — *because I AM the Self-Existent, Self-Sufficient, Un-Dependent, Eternal One, I can accomplish what concerns you — deliver you from bondage, give you the land of milk and honey!*”

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## God Is Trinity

### Father, Son, Spirit — Three distinct Personalities — One God, not Three

- “We worship one God in Trinity, and Trinity in Unity; Neither confounding the Persons; nor dividing the Essence. For there is one Person of the Father; another of the Son; and another of the Holy Ghost. But the Godhead of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, is all one; the Glory equal, the Majesty coeternal... And in this Trinity none is before, or after another; none is greater, or less than another. But the whole three Persons are coeternal, and coequal. So that in all things, as aforesaid; the Unity in Trinity, and the Trinity in Unity, is to be worshipped.” Athanasian Creed, 6<sup>th</sup> Century

**Important** — the issue ISN’T can I completely comprehend or satisfactorily explain this mystery of the Trinity — *the issue is does the scripture teach it, and do I believe it? The answer is Yes! and Yes!*

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## God’s Transcendence

**“Highness,” “Loftiness,” in Being/Essence — not geography!**

- **Psalm 145:3**  
Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; And His greatness is unsearchable.
- **Isaiah 55:8-9**  
“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” says 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.”
- **Romans 11:33**  
Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!

**When we understand the Transcendence of God,  
we have no problem with His Self-Existent, Trinitarian, Miraculous Essence...  
He’s all-together Transcendent...  
no human thought can fully conceive or fully articulate Him!**

***One glimpse at the Transcendent Awesomeness of God — is looking at the activity around the Throne of God***

- **Isaiah 6:1-5**  
In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!” And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. So I said: “Woe is me, for I am

undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.”

**Application** — *sits on throne, high and lifted up, train filled temple, 6-winged seraphim, holy, holy, holy, doors shaken, house filled smoke... Woe is me! Unclean lips! I've seen the Self-Existent, Self-Sufficient, Eternal!*

- Isaiah's experience needs to be our understanding
- **Revelation 5:11-14**  
Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice: “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom, and strength and honor and glory and blessing!” And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying: “Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!” Then the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the twenty-four elders fell down and worshiped Him who lives forever and ever.

**Application** — *throne, angels, creatures, elders, saints, loud voice, worthy, power, riches, wisdom, strength, honor, glory, blessing, elders fall down, worship — declare His essence!*

**If we had a fresh encounter with our Transcendent God,  
our humility would increase, our confessions would increase,  
our worship would increase, louder, God-centered, intelligent,  
declaring what our Transcendent, Eternal God is worthy of!**

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## God's Eternalness

*The eternal, everlasting, foreverness of God, concept beyond human time constraints, God's Eternalness is outside of man's time-space continuum*

- CS Lewis analogy — unroll paper as far as you can imagine in every direction, that's God — make a 1-inch pencil mark on it, that's all of human time and history, against the backdrop of God's Eternalness.
- **Isaiah 57:15**  
For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy...
  - God inhabits eternity, He Is I AM!
- **Psalms 90:2**  
Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.

**Application** — *God is from everlasting to everlasting, He Is Alpha and Omega, Beginning and End*

**Take every thought as far back or forward as you can,  
God isn't just there, He's beyond there!  
He's Eternal, Transcendent, Self-Existent!**

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## More BIG Thoughts

- **Isaiah 46:9-10**

Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things that are not yet done, saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure’

***Application** — no one like God, declares end from beginning, from ancient times things that are not yet done*

**God sits in His Eternalness, outside our time and space,  
and sees the end from the beginning,  
that’s what makes prophecy happen,  
God says what’s going to take place,  
He sees it before it happens!**

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## He’s not too BIG for you — Abba Father

- **Jeremiah 31:3**

The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: “Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.”

- **Psalms 139:17-18**

How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; When I awake, I am still with You.

- **Isaiah 49:15-16**

Can a woman forget her nursing child, and not have compassion on the son of her womb? Surely they may forget, yet I will not forget you. See, I have inscribed you on the palms of My hands; Your walls are continually before Me.

***Closing thought** — God’s Bigness isn’t to blow our minds, or intimidate us — it’s to create a humble, hope-filled, trust-filled, worshipful, dependency in us — let it! in Jesus Name!*

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## Discussion Questions

1. Why is how you see God critical in determining everything about your spiritual life?
2. Pastor Steve said that God revealed to him, “My people can be supernatural OR super-rational.” What does that mean?
3. Personally, do you struggle with God’s Self-existence, OR Transcendence, OR Eternalness?
4. Or, do you struggle with the fact that He is NOT too big for you, but loves you intimately?
5. How will today’s sermon — having a glimpse into the greatness of God — affect your daily life!