



WHAT IS GOD?

The title is correct. I am asking, what is God? I am not asking, who God is, or where is God, but what is God. As I have reflected on America today, I believe we need to start answering the question, what is God. The most common answer to 'your religious preference' in America today is NONE. I am seeing extensive national efforts to rid America of any concept of the God of the Bible. Many people under the age of 50 do not really have any concept of God. They never thought about or bothered to ask about God. As we try to interest these people in Bible study or conversations about God, we will find that they have little interest because they see no need to be concerned. For them life as we see it today is all there is to life. There is no concept of life after physical death. So, if this life is all there is to life, then why be concerned about God?

We need to consider how and where to start a discussion with these people about God. I don't know all the answers, but I want to cause you to think seriously about the question of "What is God". For many today, God would be a new thought concept to them. How and where do we start. One must understand the concept of what God is, before one is interested in asking the question, "Who is God". For eons of time diverse populations have been asking the question "What have the Gods to do with our lives on earth today". This question is too advanced for many under 50 years of age in America. They have not thought much about the concept of God or What is God.

Reading the Bible would be a strange thought to these people; because, they have not asked or thought about God. Many have never seriously taken the time to ask where all this orderly universe and cosmos came from, or how it got here. Many of the basic concepts Christians have about all this have never crossed the thought process of many in America. They are in control

of their life, and they will do with it whatever they please. They see no need to teach their children about God; because, they have lived several years and have been making it alright without God in their lives, so why consider the question of God or why teach their children about God.

I believe many, if not most, people in America under 50 years of age are fundamentally different in thought process than those who are older or those who know God. Many of these people are fundamentally ignorant of where anything needed for life comes from. If it can't be developed on their iPhone it doesn't exist in their minds. They don't know where their food comes from, where the electricity they use comes from, many have never experienced real needs. They have never been truly hungry, never had a need that wasn't filled, and basically have never had to be responsible for their actions. Responsibility is a new concept to them. So why consider God. They are perfectly happy without thinking about God, so why complicate life. Considering God will complicate their lives and could cause them to make some changes, and they are not interested in changes. One of the fundamental axioms of Marxism is to do away with all concepts of God. Today in America, many have no concept of God. They give no thought to God.

Where do we start with these people when we want to introduce them to God? There are many religions in the world today, and each of these has their own God or Gods. All religions, except Judeo/Christian, have man deciding who is God and how God interacts with mankind. They all have man explaining God. In the God of the Judeo/Christian religion, we have God explaining to man who God is, and all man needs to know about God. So maybe, we just start where God started when He wanted to explain to man what He is, who He is, and What He has done and will do for man. Start with the concept God started with in Genesis 1. Start with the idea of the universe showing us the handiwork of God. Cause the person who does not have any concept of God to discuss the universe we can see around us, and thus begin to get the person to think about the universe in a way he never thought about it before. It had to come from somewhere. It has continued to work correctly for a long time. This starting place worked for God

when He began to explain to man What God is, Who God is, and what God can do for man. God was more interested in establishing, that He made the universe, than in telling man the details of, how He made the universe. He began with what man could see around him and could not deny. He used this to cause man to think about the fundamental concept of God. It worked.

So, maybe starting with this same approach will work with those who know nothing about God. Then the door will be opened to teach about which God is the true God of the Universe. The God of the Bible is a powerful God and is capable of defeating any man-made Gods the other religions of the world have to offer. The people in America have changed in the last 50 years and we need to recognize this and understand that we must begin where man is today. In December 1968 (52 years ago) Apollo 8 carried 3 astronauts into space to circle the moon and return to earth. As they look back at the earth after successfully circling the moon, they read a message to earth. It was from Genesis chapter 1. America rejoiced and applauded the message from Genesis 1, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth....".

Today, these astronauts would probably be publicly censored for the same reading. The evening news would be madly condemning them for reading from the Bible or mentioning God on television, for all the world to hear. This is how much America has changed in 50 years and why we must start with those under 50 today in a different place, to broach the subject of God. Many in America know far less about God than we think they know. Think about it....'What is God', is the relevant question to begin our discussions with many people today.

--Johnie N. Jenkins