# The God Who Is

# Transcendent

#### Introduction

The objective of today's message is to try to paint a picture of God in your mind. A proper understanding of "the God who is" will greatly assist us in trusting Him more in our lives.

One of God's many attributes is His transcendency. That is a description of God as being over and beyond the created order in all aspects (McKim). The reality of God being above and beyond His creation has great significance in our lives.

## The God Who Is...above...all

The state of our world today is not progressing in a positive direction. We are living in what Jesus described in Matthew 24:37 as the Days of Noah. Genesis 6 tells <u>us</u> what was going on in Noah's time.

The transcendency of God, however, means that He is above everything, which includes whatever it is that we are currently facing.

So, when we hear the phrase "Heaven is His throne, and the earth is His footstool" the imagery is striking. God is bigger than everything!

Misunderstanding the transcendency of God will cause us to miss out on Him in our lives.

One day, weary from traveling, Jesus had an encounter with a Samaritan <u>woman</u> at a well. This story, told in John 4, is one that we can relate to in a number of ways as it tells of a woman who was struggling with life and searching for significance.

It is easy to have a religion that contains elements of God but not have a relationship that is encompassed by God.

The interaction between Jesus and this woman contains a lot of misunderstanding that had the potential of hindering her from who He wanted to become in her life. The same is true for us. How we view Jesus is crucial to our relationship with Him.

Until we realize that Jesus is God we will never truly experience Him in our lives. He is more than someone who can identify with our problems. He is more than someone who can interpret what we are facing today and alert us to what is coming tomorrow.

He is more than someone who can teach us great truths. He is more than a figment of our imagination. He is God!

## The Benefits of God's transcendence to us

An understanding of God's transcendency in our lives provides us two benefits, in particular, to us.

1. Understanding the transcendency of God makes the incarnation of God through Jesus that much more powerful in our lives.

The God who is above and beyond His creation, came into His creation, as a created being to save us.

Every time we sense His presence we are reminded that the transcendent God is with us.

2. Understanding the transcendency of God reminds us that there is nothing impossible for Him.

#### Conclusion

The woman at the well left everything behind when she finally saw Jesus as the true Messiah, as God. What do you need to leave behind in order to have a life-changing encounter with the transcendent God?

Future references: Matthew 24L:37-39; Genesis 6; John 3:31; Ephesians 1:21-22; 1 Kings 8:27; Matthew 5:34-35; Acts 7:48-50; John 4:1-42; and Ephesians 3:20.