



# Knowing About God's Greatness...

# ...Results in Peace and Patience

Saturday, 2/6 at 4:00 | Sunday, 2/7 at 9:00

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany – 2021

**Introduction:** Dear friends in Christ: Are you afraid of something? *Most people are!* **These are some of the MOST COMMON FEARS:** ♦social anxiety (*fearing others will judge you*); ♦heights; ♦spiders or snakes; ♦flying; ♦darkness, ♦getting a disease; and ♦dying.<sup>1</sup> No matter what we are afraid of, the result is anxiety – *which is a peace-destroyer!*

Therefore, in this sermon, we are going to focus on **GOD'S GREATNESS** – with these desired results:

- ✓ Knowing of God's greatness, *we will trust in Him more!*
- ✓ Trusting in Him more, *our fears will shrink and our peace will grow!*
- ✓ Trusting in Him more, *we will grow in our patience to accept our circumstances and wait on Him to act!*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.youper.ai/most-common-fears>

These are a few statements of God's greatness from earlier in Isaiah 40: He "measured the waters in the hollow of his hand... And weighed the mountains in a balance" (12); the nations are like a drop from a bucket, And are regarded as a speck of dust on the scales (15). // **From our perspective**, ♦oceans, ♦mountains, and ♦nations are SO LARGE, yet, **to GOD, they are so small!** We now continue in Isaiah 40...

1. **God's Greatness in Comparison to Us:** <sup>21</sup> 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? <sup>22</sup> It is He [**Yahweh, the Lord God**] who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, [He] stretches out the heavens like a curtain And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.
  - a. What about US in comparison to GOD? We are so much smaller than ♦oceans, ♦mountains, and ♦nations; **to God we are like grasshoppers**. Yet ☞He loves us, ☞provides all we need, ☞sent His Son to take away our sins, and ☞calls everyone to repent and believe!
  - b. What about OUR FEARS in comparison to GOD? Since He is **SO GREAT** and what we fear – *in comparison to Him* – is so small, let us ♦trust in Him and ♦be at peace!
2. **God's Greatness in Comparison to Rulers, Judges:** <sup>23</sup> He it is who reduces **rulers** to nothing, Who makes the **judges** of the earth meaningless. <sup>24</sup> 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.

- a. Think of great rulers in ▶the world, ▶our nation, ▶the past, and ▶the present – *such longevity, such influence, such power!* And what about judges who can ☹imprison or release, ☹uphold justice or pervert it – *they seem so powerful and so untouchable!*
- b. HOWEVER, we need not fear rulers and judges who are evil because – **to God** – they are **like an annual** that is so quickly sown, grown, and dead. For **rulers, judges, and all** who continue without repentance, *they will face the Divine Judge and experience His eternal wrath!*

3. **God Created the Stars and Calls them by Name:** <sup>25</sup> “To whom then will you liken Me That I would be *his* equal?” says the Holy One. <sup>26</sup> 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.

a. How **BIG** is our **GALAXY**? If you were traveling at the speed of light, *which is about 670 million MPH,<sup>2</sup>* you would have to travel at that speed for 200,000 years to cross our average-sized Milky Way galaxy!<sup>3</sup>



b. The Bible says about our **great God**, “*He made the stars* (Gen. 1:16 NAU). What does that mean? In our one galaxy, there are about **100 billion stars**; if you counted *one every second*, it would take you *over 3,000 years* to count them. But how many galaxies are there? At least **200 billion**; *possibly as many as 2 trillion!* All

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.space.com/15830-light-speed.html>;

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.space.com/41047-milky-way-galaxy-size-bigger-than-thought.html>

those stars point to ➡ **the GREATNESS of our God** and  
➡ the smallness of our problems and fears!

#### 4. **God Knows Everything, So Let Us Wait on Him:**

- a. <sup>27</sup> 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 ever feel that way, like ➡ God doesn’t know what’s going on or ➡ you will never get the justice you deserve?
- b. <sup>28</sup> 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 [*incomprehensible*]. <sup>29</sup> He gives strength to the weary, And to *him who* lacks might He increases power. <sup>30</sup> Though youths grow weary and tired, And vigorous young men stumble badly, <sup>31</sup> 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. // The energy of children, the strength of young men – WOW! Yet the LORD has even more strength **for those who patiently wait on Him!**

**Conclusion:** **Truth**—*God is SUPER-GREAT!* **Relevance**—*God is FAR GREATER than my fears, so I am at peace!*

**Inspiration**—*Since God knows everything and will take action when the time is right, I will patiently wait on Him!*

**Let Us Pray:** Father in heaven, we are SO IN AMAZEMENT OF YOU! Help us 😊focus on You and 😊have Your perfect peace!

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Podcast: Benefit from the Bible | Facebook: Bethlehem Lutheran Church Parma  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134, 440-845-2230