



## THE GOD WHO IS MAJESTIC

Isaiah 40:21-31|

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### RELATED SCRIPTURES

Psalms 93:1-2 + 139:1-2 | Jeremiah 23:23-24 + 32:17

### SUMMARY

When was the last time that you walked outside at night and stared at the stars? Not a fleeting glance, but a good, long stargaze? **Is it hard to recall? Why is that?** Why do we live our lives with our heads down, unaware or avoiding the majesty of the One who made not just the stars, but dreamed up the intricacies of the veins which run their courses inside tree leaves, and who differentiated these from the veins which run throughout my body? We are odd creatures, aren't we? It seems wrong on all levels not to be taken aback by all the things we consider mundane.

**Our thoughts about God are too human-oriented.** Jim Packer says, *"This is where most of us go astray. Our thoughts about God are not great enough; we fail to reckon with the reality of his limitless wisdom and power. Because we ourselves are limited and weak, we imagine that at some points God is too."*

So what's the corrective? How do we fix this fatal flaw? God tells us in Isaiah 40:25: Look! Ask! Marvel! **When our thoughts about God become big, our thoughts about ourselves will become appropriately small.** Not only that but our thoughts about ourselves will be corrected! Instead of thinking of ourselves as being abandoned by God or at the opposite pole: self-sufficient, we will come to see ourselves as "pursued by his mercy and goodness all the days of our lives" (Ps. 23) and desperately in need of God's loving pursuit!

Eugene Peterson's translation of Isaiah 40 helps us see what we too often miss about God:

*"So—who is like me? Who holds a candle to me?" says The Holy. Look at the night skies: Who do you think made all this? Who marches this army of stars out each night, counts them off, calls each by name—so magnificent! so powerful!—and never overlooks a single one?" ... Don't you know anything? Haven't you been listening? God doesn't come and go. God lasts. He's Creator of all you can see or imagine. He doesn't get tired out, doesn't pause to catch his breath. And he knows everything, inside and out. He energizes those who get tired, gives fresh strength to dropouts. For even young people tire and drop out, young folk in their prime stumble and fall. But those who wait upon God get fresh strength. They spread their wings and soar like eagles, They run and don't get tired, they walk and don't lag behind."*

## GROUP QUESTIONS

- From the sermon, or your direct reading of Psalm 90:1-2 + 93:1-2, share something that surprises, encourages, or troubles you about the God's majesty (his greatness).
- Isaiah 40:21-31 tells us that no one is like God, no one holds a candle to him, but we tend to forget, discount, and distrust God's greatness. Why do you suppose God tells us this?
- God tells us in Isaiah 40:21-31 that he sees our weakness, he knows what troubles our minds and hearts and, here's the miraculous thing, he promises that if we trust him that he renew everything about us. How is God and the gospel at work renewing you now?
- If there's one thing Jesus would want you to walk away believing and receiving as a result of these portions of Scripture, what is that thing?