

Women & More

The Most High

April 3, 2014

Who will introduce God—the Most High? Do we know that the Most High kept a journal—that he was and is a skillful writer, Psalm 45:1—and that he introduced himself to us by opening his jottings with “**a day in the eternal life of...God**”?

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. ²And the earth was without form, and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

³“And God said, ‘Let there be light:’ and there was light;

⁴“And God saw the light, that it was good, and God divided the light from the darkness.

⁵“And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.” **Genesis 1:1-5 KJV**

The “beginning” wasn’t for God, He already was, but his creation would need it—a beginning. And God didn’t need light either, but his creation would. What was there in that beginning besides darkness when the Most High spoke light? There was the Trinity: *In the beginning God (Father)...and the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters and God (Word) said “Let there be....”* And ultimately the things God spoke into being begun to speak back. Psalm 19:1-4

“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. ²Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. ³There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. ⁴Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens he has pitched a tent for the sun....”

That was not the Eternal God’s first day, of course, but it was the first day we hear Him; the first day we meet the Most High as Creator God. And before he created us, he prepared an environment in which we could live and things for us to care for when we arrived. He would speak and stoop and fashion and form for six days, and then He rested. We know that God didn’t need the rest, but he modeled it for us because he knew his creation would require rhythmic rest.

Do we understand that God Is **THE Most High**? We may agree: “Yes, yes, we know that.” But do we know that he is above everyone and everything; no one or no thing comes remotely close! No one is more important, more central; and His Highness never changes in the least: God is as “High” today as He was in the opening pages of Genesis! In Genesis we find the three primary names of Deity: Elohim, Jehovah and Adonai, and five of the most important compound names. And Genesis is quoted more than 60 times in 17 Books of the Bible!

But “*In the beginning God*” ends “*in a coffin in Egypt.*” Because it didn’t take us long to question, to resist, to defy, to disobey, to sin against Holy God! It didn’t take us long to bring God’s judgment on ourselves; to cause the earth to be cursed; to define a deadly destiny for animals, and to bring God’s righteous wrath into play. The moment sin entered the garden, God left, because sin goes against everything that God is! Sin is what set Lucifer against God; the Most High drove him out of heaven, and will soon drive him out of earth for good.

But the Most High was all over a plan to redeem his creation! C. I. Scofield explains: “Of the eight great covenants which condition human life and progressively unfold the divine redemption, four—the Edenic, Adamic, Noahic and Abrahamic Covenants—are in Genesis. The Mosaic, Palestinian, Davidic and New Covenant are related chiefly as adding detail or development.”

Psalm 97:9 “*For you, O LORD, are the Most High over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.*” There’s nothing like knowing and being known by the Most High!

He is always the Magnanimously Magnificent
and Masterfully Motivational Majority!

Three, yet One: Father, Spirit, Son,

Infinite and Eternal—Most High Supernal—

God only wise without compromise,

Almighty, Holy and Awesome!

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Let nothing ever set our hearts beating so mightily as knowledge of the Most High. And even though committed Christians are fast becoming a minority in these United States, make absolutely no mistake the Most High God of the captive Christian is the Majority! How can we be carnally casual in the face of the Most High? “Nothing teaches us so much the preciousness of the Creator as when we learn the emptiness of all besides,” says Charles Spurgeon.

Remember Job? He gets to hear the Most High, personally, recount his Highness and details of his creation. In talking with Satan the LORD had singled Job out for his blamelessness and uprightness and says, “*Have you considered my servant Job?*” Well into the Book, after Job has suffered and his three friends have proffered poor advice for we don’t know how long, Job desperately wants to hear from God, and in Chapter 37:19-24 he says:

“*Tell us what we should say to him; we cannot draw up our case because of our darkness. 20Should he be told that I want to speak? Would any man ask to be swallowed up? 21Now no one can look at the sun, bright as it is in the skies after the wind has swept them clean. 22Out of the north he comes in golden splendor; God comes in awesome majesty. 23The Almighty is beyond our reach and exalted in power;*

in his justice and great righteousness, he does not oppress. 24Therefore men revere him, for does he not have regard for all the wise in heart?"

Chapter 38:1-12 begins with the LORD speaking—describing himself and his work to Job and his company:

"Then the LORD answered Job out of the storm. He said:

2 "Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge?

3 "Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me.

4 "Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand.

5 "Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it?

6 "On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone—while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?

8 "Who shut up the sea behind doors when it burst forth from the womb, when I made the clouds its garment and wrapped it in thick darkness, when I fixed limits for it and set its doors and bars in place, when I said, "This far you may come and no farther; here is where your proud waves halt?"

12 "Have you ever given orders to the morning, or shown the dawn its place, that it might take the earth by the edges and shake the wicked out of it?"

SKIP to verse 18-19: *"Have you comprehended the vast expanses of the earth? Tell me, if you know all this.*

19 "What is the way to the abode of light? And where does darkness reside?"

"What is the way to the abode of light?" God asks, "And where does darkness reside?" We read about it in Genesis 1:1-5. So how high is the Most High? And we're talking about the high place of his abode, yes, but also about his exalted-in-character magnificence. Can we ever know on this side of 'high'? What is high to us? To fall off a ladder, 20 feet would be too high; to see a bird take wing and mount up, 1000 feet would be terribly high; to fly in one of those very big planes, 30,000 feet would be awesome, but to contemplate a further high, we have to witness it through a documented event that we can trust happened.

◆ On January 28, 1986, at T minus 68 seconds, Commander Dick Scobee confirmed a call from Control with this response: **"Challenger, go at throttle up,"** in his last controlled message to the ground.... Seventy-three seconds into its flight—48,000 feet up—the space shuttle Challenger broke apart, and the seven crew members perished and fell into the sea. It was one of those days when many of us remember where we were when it happened. Fledgling CNN was the only station covering it live, and many of us were glued to the screen for hours while they replayed the lift-off, final communication between ground and Scobee, and the explosion—the breaking apart and falling to earth.

In a eulogy prepared by Peggy Noonan, Ronald Reagan told the families of the dead, and the nation, "...they slipped the surly bonds of earth to touch the face of God." And conservative, political cartoonist, Chuck Asay, with the Colorado Springs Sun, drew the right hand of God extended down through the heavens and the space shuttle flying into the palm of His hand for the next day's edition. This illustration made the front page of every syndicated paper...and beyond.

Asay, a Christian, through his poignant illustration of this tragedy brought believers and unbelievers alike back to an awareness of the awesomeness of the Most High and *Who* it is we all will answer to at the end of our lives—our Creator. Psalm 20:6-8 *"Now I know that the LORD saves his anointed; **he answers him from his holy heaven with the saving power of his right hand.** ⁷Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God. ⁸They are brought to their knees and fall, but we rise up and **stand firm.**"*

The king of Aram made plans to make war on Israel, but his every plan was interfered with, because Elisha warned Israel's king of his every plot. 2 Kings 6:11-17 *"This enraged the king of Aram. He summoned his officers and demanded of them, 'Will you not tell me which of us is on the side of the king of Israel?'"*

¹²"None of us, my lord the king," said one of his officers, 'but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the very words you speak in your bedroom.'

*¹³"Go, find out where he is,' the king ordered, 'so I can send men and capture him.' The report came back: 'He is in Dothan.' ¹⁴Then **he sent horses and chariots and a strong force there.** They went by night and surrounded the city.*

*¹⁵"When the servant of the man of God got up and went out early the next morning, **an army with horses and chariots had surrounded the city.** 'Oh, my lord, what shall we do?' the servant asked.*

*¹⁶"Don't be afraid,' the prophet answered. '**Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.**' Remember the Most High is always a Majority!*

*¹⁷"And Elisha prayed, '**O LORD, open his eyes so he may see.**' Then the LORD opened the servant's eyes, and **he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.**" Hannah Whitall Smith: "This is the prayer we need to pray for ourselves; for the world all around us is full of God's horses and chariots, waiting to carry us to places of glorious victory."*

2 Kings 6:18-23 *"As the enemy came down toward him, Elisha prayed to the LORD, 'Strike these people with blindness.' So he struck them with blindness, as Elisha had asked.*

¹⁹"Elisha told them, 'This is not the road and this is not the city. Follow me, and I will lead you to the man you are looking for.' And he led them to Samaria.

20 “After they entered the city, Elisha said, ‘LORD, open the eyes of these men so they can see.’ Then the LORD opened their eyes and they looked and there they were, inside Samaria. Exactly where they had wanted to be, but not like this!

21 “When the king of Israel saw them, he asked Elisha, ‘Shall I kill them, my father? Shall I kill them?’

22 “‘Do not kill them,’ he answered. ‘Would you kill men you have captured with your own sword or bow? Set food and water before them so that they may eat and drink and then go back to their master.’ 23 So he prepared a great feast for them, and after they had finished eating and drinking, he sent them away, and they returned to their master. So the bands from Aram stopped raiding Israel’s territory.”

Whatever does not begin with God will end in failure. The Bible’s 911 verse is **Psalm 91:1** “He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.” **Psalm 92:5, 8** “How great are your works, O LORD, how profound your thoughts... 8 But you, O LORD, are exalted forever.”

“Christian minds have been conformed to the modern spirit: the spirit, that is, that spawns great thoughts of man and leaves room for only small thoughts of God. The modern way with God is to set him at a distance, if not to deny him altogether...allowing God to become remote,” says J. I. Packer.

But the Most High is never remote and he never does anything by accident! Back to the Book of Job: God spoke on and on for four chapters about his Highness and his creation and asked Job “who” he is to question Who God Is? Then in chapter 42:2-6 Job humbly responds:

“I know that you can do all things; **no plan of yours can be thwarted.** 3 You asked, ‘**Who is this that obscures my counsel with knowledge?**’ **Surely I spoke of things I did not understand, things too wonderful for me to know.**

4 “You said, ‘Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you, and you shall answer me.’ 5 **My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.** 6 Therefore I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes.”

Job’s ears had heard and now Job’s eyes see: He saw things about the Most High that brought him to his knees. Job learned that His Highness—*De profundis*, as Charles Spurgeon would proclaim—checks in with no one; he reports to no one, and he answers to no one. When we are confronted with the Highness of the Most High, it should bring us face to face with our comparable lowness, and bring us to humbled repentance!

The more we contemplate the true Worth-ship of His Highness, the more we will comprehend the true worship that is due Him! And we would then always be ready to give a defense—reasons why we believe in His Majesty, His Excellency, His Eminence—the Most High—God!