

Ole Miss FCA Weekly Devotional: 9/21/09

The Power and Passion of the Master Coach, Elliot Johnson



Thought of the Week:

God is Infinite

Verse of the Week:

The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and His understanding no one can fathom. Isaiah 40:28

What amazing talent John Elway possesses! "He did some things that I have never seen people do," said Scott Marshall, a high school teammate of Elway's. "Once he told me to go to the fifty yard line and he stood by the goal line. He said, 'Throw the football up in the air and I'll hit it out of the air with this one.'" He did! Elway's talent seemed almost unlimited.

The God of the universe is unlimited and unlimitable. He is great and greatly to be praised! There is nothing that God cannot do. No person or thing can limit God. The greatness of God is beyond our comprehension (Psalm 145:3). Romans 11:34 says, "Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been His counselor?" In Exodus 15:11, Moses asks, "Who among the gods is like you?" In Psalm 139:6, the psalmist is pondering the omniscience and omnipresence of the Lord and says, "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, it is too high, I cannot attain it". All our thoughts, even when stretched beyond their wildest limits, fall short of the greatness of God. Our finite minds cannot comprehend the infinity of God.

Though He has revealed many truths to us, there is a mystery about God. His greatness goes beyond our understanding. Yet, our faith remains weak because we do not see God on a higher level. We view God as being on only a slightly higher level than ourselves. But when we begin to understand the greatness of God, we see things in their proper perspective.

J.I. Packer, in his book *Knowing God*, suggests two steps in forming a correct idea of God's greatness. The first is to remove from our thoughts the limits that would make Him small. In other words, we must consciously remind ourselves of the greatness of God and reject thoughts that make Him less than He is. Practically, we can do this by meditating on Isaiah 40, Psalm 139, or Job 38-41. We must let the greatness of God saturate our souls. The second step is to compare God with powers and forces which we regard as great. The Bible does this in Isaiah 40. Verse 12 implies that God has measured the waters of earth in the hollow of His hand, held the earth's dust in a basket, and weighed the mountains and the hills! In comparison, the nations are like a drop in a bucket against the greatness of God (v. 15)! Wow! The great powers of the world (Russia, China, and the U.S.A.) are nothing before Him! Our fear of God should greatly exceed our fear of a world war. All the inhabitants of the earth are like grasshoppers to God (v. 22), and it is God, not man, who is in control (v. 23-24).

In Isaiah 40:25, God says, "To whom will you compare me? Or who is my equal?" Who compares with God? No one! He continues in verse 26, "Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls them each by name. Because of His great power and might strength, not one of them is missing." It is because of His great strength that Isaiah writes (v. 31), "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength, they will soar on wings like eagles, they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint." God provides great strength for those who hope in Him! He is truly far beyond our highest comprehension!

Time Out:

- 1) How big is your God? Is He big enough to handle any problem?
- 2) Is your perception of God big enough?
- 3) What timeless truths about God can you find in Isaiah 40:22-26?
- 4) What does Psalm 62:8 say about our response to an infinite God?