

God's Thoughts

Some things are hard to measure, almost impossible to quantify. Infinity in math, for instance, represented by a symbol that looks like a sideways eight (∞), is so difficult to define that its very definition includes a frustratingly vague term: “An *indefinitely* large number or amount”; so define “indefinite.” Nevertheless, according to our learned math gurus, even though it is not a real number, infinity must be acknowledged in order to describe the behavior of functions and sequences. Clear as mud, right?

This concept of infinity reminds me of Isaiah 55:8-9, where God is trying to explain to a wayward and rebellious people how differently He thinks in comparison to human thought. “*‘For My thoughts are not your thoughts. Nor are your ways My ways,’ says the Lord. ‘For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.’*”

No one can legitimately or reasonably claim to know all of what God knows; “*His understanding is infinite*” (Psalm 147:5), “*declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things that are not yet done*” (Isaiah 46:10). There will always be those who claim to be speaking for God but “*wisdom is justified of all her children*” (Luke 7:35), i.e., wait around and a charlatan’s contradictions become obvious. And, this is because “*There is a way that seems right to a man, but (because, we see only a partial picture and can’t even imagine everything within the frame), its end is the way of death*” (Proverbs 14:12). We see things in the here and now with a vague, selective remembrance of the past and no clue about the future, whereas God sees everything in the absence of time’s restrictions.

However, what we can know is that God’s Word “*shall not return to (Him) void, but it shall accomplish what (He) pleases*” (Isaiah 55:11). If we place our faith and trust in God, He will order our steps (Psalm 119:133). Therefore, “*Seek the Lord while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the Lord, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon*” (Isaiah 55:6-7). Such is God’s knowledge, such is God’s mercy and these are God’s thoughts.