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Sermon Notes

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The Immeasurable Majesty of Our God

Isaiah 40:12-17

We yearn this morning to have an encounter with the living God by the words of this text!

Again and again, sinful humanity has trembled in the presence of the infinitely holy God:

- Adam, after he had sinned and eaten the forbidden fruit, heard the sound of the Lord God as He was walking in the garden, and he trembled and hid from the presence of God
- Abraham, when God appeared in the form of a blazing torch to make a covenant with him, was seized with terror and fell into a deep sleep
- Jacob, when God appeared to him in a dream at the top of a stairway to heaven, awoke in terror and awe saying “How awesome is this place! It is none other than the house of God, the very gateway to heaven!”
- Moses, when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in the flames of the burning bush, hid his face in terror and could not look
- Isaiah had a vision of the Lord, high and exalted, and of angels crying to each other, “Holy, holy, holy... the whole earth is full of His glory!” and Isaiah trembled with fear, knowing he deserved to die! “Woe is me, I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips... and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty!”

This vision of Isaiah 40 was presented first to the eyes of his heart; God chose him as a prophet to see revelations of heavenly glory – the glory of God – and write about them. By the Word of God alone today can we see this same glory... the glory of God enthroned! By

the Word of God alone today, can we be made to tremble in the presence of such a majestic God!

This morning, we are going to hear some of the most exalted words in the English language, translated faithfully from the original vision of Isaiah in the Hebrew language... we are going to stare at unapproachable light through the narrow slats and peepholes of human language; we are going to look at the blinding light of the glory of God sneaking in dim rays into our minds through LANGUAGE... nouns, verbs, pronouns... sentences... paragraphs

By faith alone will these words enable us to SEE GOD in His majesty, enthroned above all humanity

I. The Staggering Majesty of God Guarantees the Gospel

A. Isaiah 40:1-11: The Timeless Message of the Gospel

1. Immediate Context: the Restoration of the Jewish Nation from Exile
 - a. God is ABSOLUTELY SOVEREIGN and rules the nations! All the kings of the earth are as nothing to God and they do His bidding
 - b. So do not be afraid, O little Israel! God is able to atone for your sins and restore you from Babylon to the Promised Land!
 - c. But the message is MUCH TOO GREAT to stop at that! This extends to the entire human race!!
2. Big Picture: God Speaks to the Human Race of Our Restoration from the Exile of Sin

Isaiah 40:1-2 Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

- a. A message that requires a radical transformation of the human heart to accept... the valleys raised up, the mountain and hills levelled
- b. A message that proclaims the GLORY OF THE LORD... revealed to all mankind together

Isaiah 40:5 And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

- c. A message based on the eternal WORD OF GOD (vs. 6-8)... all flesh is GRASS, but the word of our God STANDS FOREVER!
 - d. A message in which the messengers go throughout the world and proclaim these words: BEHOLD YOUR GOD!! (vs. 9)
 - e. Ultimately: This message is nothing less than the gospel of Jesus Christ!!
3. BUT the human race CANNOT ACCEPT this message! The world is steeped in UNBELIEF

B. The World Refuses to Believe this Good News!

1. How amazingly tragic! This is the very thing every human being on the face of the earth desires!
2. We desire lasting peace... deep forgiveness... freedom from war and crime... freedom from disease and death... true, lasting happiness...
3. All of these things are offered FREE OF CHARGE to anyone who will simply believe them
4. But the world REFUSES to believe these truths!
 - a. These things just sound TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE or TOO BAD TO BE TRUE
 - i) TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE: The promises are quite incredible... eternal life in a perfect world, free from death, mourning, crying, pain... a perfect world filled with

beauty... a world with no war, no crime, no suffering... all paid for by a glorious Savior—Jesus Christ

ii) TOO BAD TO BE TRUE: On the other hand... this message proclaims that human beings are WRETCHED SINNERS, deserving of eternity in hell; we are under the just wrath of Almighty God; we are ENSLAVED TO SIN and totally UNABLE TO SAVE OURSELVES; we are servants of the devil, deceived and being deceived... that is TOO BAD to be true... we OVERESTIMATE ourselves...

5. So... we THINK TOO HIGHLY OF OURSELVES, and we think TOO LOWLY OF GOD

6. Why? Because WE DON'T KNOW GOD!!

- a. If we really knew God—His greatness, His power, His wisdom, His mercy, His grace, His love, His compassion—we would not stagger in disbelief at the GOOD NEWS of the Gospel; we would not think it is TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE...
- b. AND... if we really knew God—His holiness, His wrath, His righteousness, His justice, His zeal for His own glory—we would not think so highly of ourselves; we would not stagger and reject the BAD NEWS He has clearly given us of our sinfulness and our need for a Savior

7. Think of yourself... your patterns, your habits:

- a. Do you not frequently think hard thoughts of God?
- b. Do you not frequently question God, wonder about His wisdom in doing this or that?
- c. Do you not question God's love for you? Do you not effectively question His power in the world? Do you not wonder if the world and its problems seem to prove some DEFICIENCY in God?
- d. Do you not speak disrespectfully of God, Almighty God, the One who spoke the universe into existence? The One who said “Let there be light” and there was light? The One who created

the sun, the moon, and the stars? The One who destroyed the world with a flood? The One who knit you together step by step in your mother's womb?

- e. When was the last time you questioned God? When was the last time you challenged God? When was the last time you brought God to the bar of your justice and in some way accused Him of wrongdoing?
- f. This is our ROOT ISSUE!! The reason we stagger in unbelief regarding all the assertions of the Gospel—**WE DON'T KNOW GOD!!!**
- 8. God here in this chapter helps every generation of people to **BELIEVE THE GOSPEL MESSAGE...**
- 9. He takes us by the hand and leads us step by step to understand the infinite majesty and greatness of God
- 10. Through the prophet, Almighty God speaks the words we need most to hear... words that have REAL POWER to CREATE FAITH in our hearts

II. The Stunning Immensity of God Dwarfs the Universe (vs. 12)

Isaiah 40:12 Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens? Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance?

- A. We Can Hardly Conceive of the Immensity of God
 - 1. The more we stand in awe of the incredible immensity of God, we would be silent before Him...
 - 2. Our problems—whatever they are—would shrink into insignificance
- B. God is Humbling Humanity Here
 - 1. A series of questions addressed to the human race
 - 2. Five times, God says “Who has...” to us

- a. Who has measured the waters of the oceans in the hollow of his hand? WHO?? Have any of you puny, tiny humans been able to do that? No? But Almighty God has!!!
- b. Who has used His hand to mark off the dimensions of the heavens? WHO?? Is any human being capable of doing this? Anyone want to step forward and say they've even been close to doing this? But God has done that!
- c. Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket? WHO?? Do you know any human being even remotely capable of such a feat? The entire human race, working together for a century, could not achieve it! God can do it in an instant!!
- d. Who has understood the mind of the Lord? Is there any human being who is willing to step forward and match wits with Almighty God? Any genius scientist willing to take on the infinite mind of God? Yes, some scientists have perceived certain aspects of the universe with amazing clarity and explained it to us in ways no one had up to that moment... but those human geniuses are merely scanning God's work and noticing some details about it.
- e. Who has ever instructed God or acted as His tutor or counselor?
- f. Who? What human being can read these astonishing verses and not immediately be SILENCED? Humbled!! That is the whole purpose here!!

C. The Immensity of God

1. What is the “immensity” of God? It has to do with God’s relationship to the universe
2. It is God’s infinity relative to earth and outer space... God fills every part of His creation with all of Himself all the time
3. There is no place in the universe that you can go that God is not 100% present... present with all that He is
4. There is no “container” for God

1 Kings 8:27 "But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built!"

5. God is not dwarfed by anything... God dwarfs everything Himself
 6. Have you ever seen something so huge that you felt yourself to be tiny?
 - a. Yosemite Half-Dome... rises 4737 feet above the valley floor
 - b. Karakoram Mountains... all of them over 20,000 feet high
 - c. The Grand Canyon... 18 miles across, 1 mile down to the Colorado River
 - d. A deep night sky in the mountains... the stars testifying to your smallness
- D. God's Immensity Compared to the Earth
1. Start with the oceans... God is able to MEASURE the waters of all the oceans with the hollow of His hand... as though He can cup His hand and scoop up the Pacific Ocean and have plenty of room for the Atlantic as well
 - a. Imagine doing this yourself... just go to a small lake nearby your house; go to the edge of the water, crouch down, and scoop up a handful of water and notice if the water level of the lake goes down at all! If you filled a bathtub with a normal amount of water for a child's bath, it would be 30 gallons of water; I guess you could hold a half a cup of water in your hand... there are 16 cups in one gallon... that's about 1000 handfuls of water in a bathtub...it would take about 20 minutes for you to empty the bathtub with a scoop every second! Lake Michie supplies 35 million gallons of drinking water *per day* for Durham... and Lake Michie is a small lake... How much water is there in the Atlantic? And the Pacific? And all the other oceans? Estimates put it at 333 million CUBIC MILES... a cubic mile is = the amount of water that flows over Niagara Falls in one month... or if

The land area of Manhattan Island in New York City is 22.96 square miles. So if we divide 1 cubic mile by 22.96 square miles, we have 1/22.96 miles = 230 ft. So if you built a retaining wall around Manhattan and poured 1 cubic mile of water into it, only buildings taller than 23 stories would break the surface!

And there are 333 MILLION of those on earth... a staggering amount of water

So ponder again this statement:

Isaiah 40:12 Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand

How many of us have stood at the ocean's edge and been intimidated by the crashing of the waves? How many of us have seen videos of tidal waves after tsunamis or in hurricanes and felt a sense of terror at the sheer power of the ocean?

The ocean is a relentless force, pounding the shoreline with awesome power... but Isaiah says God cups his hand and scoops all the water on earth in one motion

God is never intimidated by anything!

God rules the waves with a single word:

Job 38:8-11 "Who shut up the sea behind doors when it burst forth from the womb, ⁹when I made the clouds its garment and wrapped it in thick darkness, ¹⁰when I fixed limits for it and set its doors and bars in place, ¹¹when I said, 'This far you may come and no farther; here is where your proud waves halt'?

Illus. Carolyn's first view of the pounding surf... December, 1996... she was six months old

2. God's immensity on earth extends beyond the oceans... it includes the dry land as well...

Isaiah 40:12 Who has held the dust of the earth in a measure, or weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance?

- a. The “dust of the earth” is the most insignificant part of the dry land... dust surrounds us at every moment... it flies seemingly randomly through the air as the winds blow; God is able to contain the dust of the earth in a single measure, and knows how much there is... that would be a vast undertaking, and impossible for any human being to do
- b. At the other end of the spectrum, God has weighed the mountains on the scales and the hills in a balance; God knows how much Mt. Everest weighs, and all the other mountains on the face of the earth as well...
 - i) If you were to ask Google “How much does Mt. Everest weigh?” be assured any answer given there is based completely on estimates... It starts with these words: “Mt. Everest is more or less a cone”... they estimate the radius of the cone’s base and its height, calculate the volume of the cone; then they have to estimate the density of the rock that makes up Mt. Everest. They arrive at an estimate of 357 trillion pounds... BUT THAT’S JUST A GUESS... God knows exactly how much each mountain and hill weighs
- c. So... from the tiniest speck of dust flying through your living room to the largest mountain and everything in between, from the deepest oceans to the shallowest puddles, God KNOWS WHAT IS ON PLANET EARTH
- d. The immensity and power and knowledge of God is absolutely staggering!!

E. God’s Immensity Compared the Heavens

1. But Isaiah doesn’t stop on planet earth
 - a. Humanity is confined to the surface of the earth
 - b. The heavens above soar beyond our reach for the most part...
 - c. Yes, we’ve escaped earth’s gravitational pull and gotten out into orbit

- d. But the furthest any human being has ever been from earth is orbiting the far side of the moon—248,665 miles from earth... the astronauts James Lovell and his Apollo 13 crew did that on April 15, 1970
 - e. The next closest stop will be Mars... over 100 times farther from that record
 - f. BUT outer space is overwhelmingly immense... seemingly infinite
2. The immensity of space
- a. The nearest star is Alpha Centauri—roughly 4.3 light years away... that is a stunningly far distance compared to the distance travelled by Apollo 13... 100 million times further! Like comparing your baby's first step with a journey around the entire circumference of the earth! But that's just to the NEAREST STAR!!
 - b. The most distant galaxy yet seen by the Hubble space telescope is estimated 13.2 billion light years away... compared to 4.3 light years!!
 - c. Space engulfs our minds with its sheer immensity... it is terrifyingly huge
 - d. BUT Isaiah 40:12 shows the immensity of God compared to the universe itself:

Isaiah 40:12 Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens?

The “span of the hand” is the distance from the thumb to the forefinger on an outstretched hand

Imagine God taking His hand and marking off the entire cosmos like this... “one, two, three...”

1 Kings 8:27 "But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you.

F. The Immensity of God Compared to Heaven and Earth is Meant to Humble Us AND Encourage Us

1. God is immensely greater than things that are immensely greater than us...
 - a. the oceans dwarf us in their sheer magnitude; their raging waves could sweep us all away in an instant; but God scoops the oceans in His hand as a child scoops water out of a bowl
 - b. the dust of the earth overwhelm us with the sheer volume of its specks... they seem limitless to us; but God has weighed them all in His measurement cup
 - c. the mountains of the earth overwhelm us with their imposing height and massive weight; they could threaten to crush us if they started to slide down toward our cities; God has weighed them on his scales and could easily hurl them all into the sea
 - d. the heavens overwhelm us with their seemingly infinite distances; our minds stagger at the impossible distances; but God measures the heavens with the span of His hand
 - e. ALL OF THIS IS MEANT TO HUMBLE US... but also to ENCOURAGE US
2. This infinite God is at work ON OUR BEHALF! He is working out a vastly complex salvation plan to bring us to Himself in perfect righteousness
 - a. Restoring the Jews to their promised Land after the exile to Babylon is NOTHING to God... He can do it with almost no effort whatsoever
 - b. Saving sinners through the shed blood of Christ is WELL WITHIN God's power to achieve, and He will do it!

III. The Inscrutable Wisdom of God Humbles Humanity (vs. 13-14)

Isaiah 40:13-14 Who has understood the mind of the LORD, or instructed him as his counselor? ¹⁴ Whom did the LORD consult to enlighten him, and who taught him the right way? Who was it that taught him knowledge or showed him the path of understanding?

A. The Infinite Wisdom of God is On Display Here

1. It was the MIND of God that enabled Him to craft the heavens and the earth in perfect physical balance to achieve His ends
2. God created the stars, the sun, the moon, the earth and set them in complex motion, with gravity holding everything in proper relation to each other
3. God calculated the best heat for the sun, the best distance from the sun to the earth, the best size of the moon and its gravitational effect on the earth
4. God calculated the chemistry of water, its astonishing amazing characteristics—the fact that ice floats in water means that rivers and ponds and lakes freeze from the top down, allowing them to thaw again in the spring and allowing fish to survive the winter... the MIND OF GOD figured out water
5. The mind of God figured out the structure of the mountains, the nature of the dust, the best depth of the oceans, how to make the waves halt at the shoreline
6. It was the mind of the Lord that figured out how to make the immensely complicated human body

B. The Mind of God on Display in Human History as Well

1. More than merely the physics of the universe or the chemistry of the oceans or the biology of the human body, there is the WISDOM OF GOD on display in the unfolding of human history
2. It was the wisdom of God that worked out what to do in response to Adam's sin... He had already determined that before He created the world... it is called Redemptive History
3. The MIND of the Lord worked this astonishingly complex plan out in human history... woven in amongst the rise and fall of many world empires, woven in amongst the triumphs and tragedies of millions of people and countless towns, villages, and cities

C. Who Has Known the Mind of the Lord?

1. No one has understood all this!!!
2. No one is intelligent enough to trace all this out and comprehend it all
3. There is not a human being on the face of the earth whose intellectual capacity reaches to a fraction of 1% of the mind of the Lord

D. Who Has Instructed Him as His Counselor?

1. Erwin Lutzer: “Has it ever occurred to you that nothing has ever occurred to God?”
2. God has NEVER LEARNED ANYTHING... and HE NEVER WILL!!!
3. So God needed NO COUNSELOR when He was crafting the universe and setting forth His eternal plan for the human race
4. None of us was born then, and even if we had been, we could have added nothing to the mind of God

Job 38:4-7 "Where were you when I laid the earth's foundation? Tell me, if you understand. ⁵Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? ⁶On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone-- ⁷while the morning stars sang together and all the angels shouted for joy?"

5. We could not have brought forward a single shred of a detail that God had not already pondered completely and understood down to the atomic level
6. God's plan cannot possibly be improved upon... God worked out the best possible way to display His glory and to redeem His elect in the midst of the explosive destruction of sin

E. No One Taught God the “Path of Justice”

1. This is a specific statement made here in verse 14
2. The “path of justice” is translated by the NIV as “the right way”... but that is weak

3. The “path of justice” is the way by which God can display His justice in the world

4. Many times, we sinners want to question God about His justice:

Jeremiah 12:1 You are always righteous, O LORD, when I bring a case before you. Yet I would speak with you about your justice: Why does the way of the wicked prosper? Why do all the faithless live at ease?

5. God already knows justice perfectly... we, the unjust, can teach God NOTHING about justice!

Psalm 97:2 Clouds and thick darkness surround him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

6. Rather, God is constantly demonstrating His justice to a wicked human race

a. First, by the Law of God

Isaiah 51:4 The law will go out from me; my justice will become a light to the nations.

b. Second, by the sacrifice of Christ

Romans 3:25-26 God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished-- ²⁶ he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus.

The commitment of God to justice is absolutely immeasurable!! He would rather slaughter His own Son than allow sinners into heaven unjustly!!

So what can the human race teach God about justice??

IV. The Infinite Power of God Towers Over the Nations (vs. 15-17)

Isaiah 40:15 Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as the dust on the scales; behold, he takes up the coastlands like fine dust.

A. The Immensity of God Compared to the Nations

1. The nations are a daunting, terrifying obstacle to the peace of God's people
2. Human beings, highly organized, militarily powerful, organize themselves into a world conquering force known as an empire
3. The nations—Gentile nations—are the very ones who were terrorizing the Jews, invading them, conquering them, carrying them into exile
4. First, the Assyrians swept into the northern Kingdom of Israel and laid it waster; then they almost succeeded in doing the same to the southern Kingdom of Judah
5. Then, the Babylonians swept into Judah and wiped it out; they destroyed Jerusalem and completely levelled the temple
6. They carried off into exile the tiny remnant of Jews they didn't slaughter
7. But that was just the beginning! After Babylon would come one Gentile power after the next—dominating the Jews and ruling over them: the Persians, the Greeks, the Romans... then more and more Gentile empires
8. These words from Isaiah are timeless, however... they tower over the wrecks of those empires!

Isaiah 40:6-8 All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

9. God is speaking to His chosen people... not just the Jews, but in the New Covenant, all Christians—both Jews and Gentiles... though you may feel tiny compared to the nations, the nations are tiny compared to God!!

B. The Nations are a Drop from the Bucket and Dust on the Scales

1. Two images teach the exact same thing!

2. The nations are absolutely NOTHING compared to God... they are inconsequential in power... lightweight... not worth speaking about
3. The nations cannot alter God's plan one bit; the nations cannot make God afraid in the least; the nations are a DROP FALLING OUT OF A BUCKET
 - a. Imagine some farmer carrying water to his barn to water his cows
 - b. Imagine as he crosses from the pump to the barn a tiny drop sloshes out of the bucket
 - c. Imagine the farmer stopping, horrified... he gets down on his hands and knees and scoops up the damp soil where the drop fell, trying to rescue and reclaim this single drop of water!
 - d. You would call such a man insane!
 - e. In the flow of human history, God is like the Niagara Falls, and all the nations put together are like a single particle of water mist hovering in the air
4. The nations are dust on the scales!
 - a. Imagine a vendor selling produce in the market back in the Middle Ages
 - b. Imagine a woman coming to purchase his turnips and seeks to buy 2 pounds for her family
 - c. The vendor begins to weigh out the two pounds, and the woman shrieks that he is cheating her!
 - d. "Why?" He asks her? "Because I saw you! There is a piece of dust on the scales and you didn't wipe it off before you weighed my turnips! You're cheating me!"
 - e. The scales cannot even weigh the dust... it is immeasurably small! On the scales of human history, all the nations together amount to a single piece of dust, and God is like a 50 pound

weight! Whatever side God weighs in on, that is what will happen!

5. Even the distant islands, the mysterious coastlands are like fine dust
 - a. The world, even in its unexplored nether regions, will produce no surprises that can threaten God
 - b. God created those distant islands, those unexplored coastlines... they are as nothing to God!

C. Applied Today!

1. We look at the swirling events of the nations and it's easy to be daunted
2. We look at an assembly of enraged militant Islamic extremists with their fists in the air, chanting about death to their enemies, willing to slaughter innocent people or die martyr's deaths to accomplish their ends
3. We look at the massive tide of opinion in the USA on issues of immorality—abortion, homosexuality, legalization of drugs, etc.—and are easily intimidated
4. We look at the deadness of hearts in post-Christian Europe, the rise of secularism and materials and science and communist China and all these supposed threats to the gospel and to the Christian church
5. God means for us to read these verses and laugh with Him at His enemies!!
6. The nations are as NOTHING compared to Almighty God!

Isaiah 46:10 I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ will spread from shore to shore; God will convert His elect; Jesus Christ will build His church, and the Gates of Hades will not prevail against it!!

V. What Can We Possibly Offer to Such a God? (vs. 16-17)

Isaiah 40:16-17 Lebanon would not suffice for fuel, nor are its beasts enough for a burnt offering. ¹⁷ All the nations are as nothing before him, they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness.

A. What Could Tiny Sinners Like Us Possibly Offer to Such a God?

1. Even if we were not sinners, but merely emissaries from a distant kingdom trying to get an audience with such a king... we walk into the outer courts of His palace and look around at the wealth—infinitely greater than Solomon's staggering kingdom;
2. We look in our hands at what we brought to offer such a king—it is a simple linen garment the women of the community wove... but you see all the servants of the King wearing magnificent silk garments such as you've never seen in all your life; you are also offering a bushel of carrots from your garden, and you see the servants of the King hustling to prepare that evening's feast, and their produce is of far better quality than what you brought, and in vast supply
3. You realize you have nothing to offer that would even be worthy of notice in the slightest amount
4. But how much more is this true when we are SINNERS! We have been in rebellion against this majestic Emperor! What could we offer then?
5. If the entire human race came to their senses and organized together an offering to the Holy God of the Universe... our tiny planet were scoured for the best wood with which to burn the sacrificial offering, and the best animals were found in huge numbers... it would be INSUFFICIENT as an offering
6. LEBANON... that place of towering cedars, which grow to heights of over 130 feet, with diameters of 8 feet... all put together would not be enough to offer such a God
7. All the beasts of Lebanon also are NOT ENOUGH for the altar fires God deserves... nor do they atone for the vast record of human wickedness!!

- 8. All the nations put together are as NOTHING... they are
EMPTINESS compared to the majesty of this Holy God
 - B. So... What Offering Could We Make that is Equal to the Majesty of
God?
 - 1. Simple answer... NONE!
 - 2. Even more, what offering could we make that would atone for our
sins?
 - 3. Simple answer, again... NONE!
 - C. Christ Alone is Sufficient!
 - 1. God saw that there was nothing we could offer
 - 2. God knew that there was no way that we could atone for our sins
 - 3. So God prepared His own sacrifice, His own atonement
 - 4. Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of God, whom God presented as a
propitiation for our sins
- Romans 3:25-26 God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through
faith in his blood. He did this to demonstrate his justice, because in
his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand
unpunished-- ²⁶he did it to demonstrate his justice at the present
time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith
in Jesus.*
- 5. By this offering alone can our sins be atoned for!!
 - 6. This is the point of the meditation on the greatness of God's
majesty... that we would be humbled and realize the only possible
offering there could ever be before such a majestic God is the
sacrifice of Jesus Christ for us
- ## VI. Application
- A. Come to Christ!
 - B. Have an Encounter with this Majestic God... and Be Truly Humbled!

C. Look Over these Verses Again... and Allow Your Problems to Sink into Insignificance

1. I do not minimize the suffering of anyone in this room... our sufferings are real and weighty
2. You may be suffering daily physical pain... you may have a diagnosis of cancer... you may face a very uncertain future in connection with your medical trials; or perhaps all of that is true of a loved one in your life—a wife, a husband, a son or daughter; an elderly parent; and you may be struggling every day with the compassion for their pain, and with the trial of caring for them
3. You may be deeply lonely, and feel that very few people know about you or care about you; you may go a week or more with no one reaching out to you
4. You may be struggling financially in ways that few people know about... you may be struggling to make ends meet
5. You may have a array of trials of various combinations... maybe you have no great trial, but you're anxious about the future—where you're going in life
6. This vision of a God who measures the waters in the hollow of His hand and measures the universe with the breadth of His hand has always been intended by God to ENCOURAGE His weak, small, frail people to trust in Him and believe the gospel of His power and provision for their sins

D. Though God is so Mighty and Majestic, He Truly Cares for Us!!

1. If it weren't for the compassion of God, He wouldn't even look at us or care for our tiny issues in the least
2. But the Scriptures again and again reveal a God who is tender and compassionate to our needs and sufferings, and who is willing through Christ to forgive our sins

Isaiah 40:11 He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

3. Allow this amazing combination of verses to minister to you as you may need: if you're arrogant and lifted up, let these verses level you, humble you, lay you low; if you are crushed and broken-hearted, allow these verses to lift you up to full trust in such a God!!