

Ruminations II: **The Mental Acuity of The Almighty**

The physical power of God – consider his grasp of the size of the Universe - is daunting indeed. But consider for a few moments the power of his mind. Everything in God's creation is a product of the creative genius of the Almighty. The order of the Universe, the angle of earth to sun, the atmosphere of the earth, the magnetic fields, the process of photosynthesis, the food chain, the human eye, the design of every atom, molecule, microorganism, plant, insect, animal, and human – all attest to a God who is infinitely superior as conceiver, engineer, designer, and producer. He envisions a thing – works it out in his mind – and then simply speaks it into existence!

It helps me to consider our own limitations. At the time of this writing, I am discipling nine men. I am hard pressed to deeply consider on a consistent basis the ongoing needs of these men. I try to pray for every soul in my church (216) at least once weekly, and it stretches me. But in Psalm 33 the Bible tells us this:

*From heaven the Lord looks down and sees all mankind
from his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth –
he who forms the hearts of all, who considers everything they do.*

Did you catch that? While I fumble around mentally with my little group of nine, God considers the motives, the thoughts, the actions, and the prayers of over 7 billion people simultaneously! He knows every thought in every heart on every street in every neighborhood in every village, town and city of every nation on every continent on the globe! He records the sins of the unsaved, sorts through the unnamed multitudes looking for those whose hearts are open, arranges meetings, dispatches angels, answers millions of prayers daily, all the while taking care of his creation, holding everything together, dealing forcefully with Satan and his demonic hordes, and somehow, in his infinite holiness and capacity, loving each of us individually much more than we love our own children!

One day Philip the evangelist was in a city in Samaria, perhaps the city of Sychar. God noticed an Ethiopian in a chariot riding on the road from Jerusalem to Gaza. Sychar is about 28 miles from Jerusalem and 65 or so from Gaza. The Ethiopian was reading, or maybe just thinking about reading, Isaiah 53. God knew that he would struggle to understand the verses, so he dispatched Philip from Samaria, on foot, to intercept the Ethiopian. God had to work out all the timing, with rest stops, so that Philip, after walking maybe 30 to 40 miles, would intercept the official a certain number of miles from a small body of water on that road. Philip initiated a conversation with the man, got in his chariot, and it just happened that shortly after he had explained the plan of salvation, they reached this oasis in the desert so that the man could get baptized!

Can you imagine the complications that occur because of our prayers, the way

God has to arrange things so that he can provide protection for our children, angels for the struggling and strong, extra energy, spirituality and wisdom for all the saints, and still answer the innumerable, sometimes trivial and inane prayers of all the saints worldwide?!

The generation in which we live is shallow, fickle, demanding and easily bored. We would rather watch a film than read, enjoy a game than think, be spoon-fed insights instead of spending the hours in the deep thought and meditation that lead us to conviction and awe. We must ensure that this is not true of us as disciples. We of all people on the globe, enjoying the privileges of salvation and the hope of heaven, must take the time to think, to pray, to meditate on our God until we all, like the great prophet Ezekiel, are knocked off our feet, overwhelmed at the greatness, majesty, and power of our awesome God.