

GOD IS EVERYWHERE ALL THE TIME

(Not entirely original with me)

1 Kings 8:27; Jeremiah 23:23; Acts 17:27-28; Psalm 16:8; 139:7-10

Introduction: There is no question that the thought of God being everywhere at the same time is impossible to believe much less understand. How can such a thing be? No matter how great God is, in the human mind, it's just impossible to understand how one can be in more than one place at a time. "Omnipresence" is a word that the Bible uses to mean that God is all-present.

I. WHAT IS "OMNIPRESENCE?"

1. "Omnipresence means that God is all-present, that He is near to everything and everyone.
2. God is also equally near to all parts of His universe.
 - One might compare God filling heaven and earth as a bucket submerged in the ocean a mile down.
 - The bucket is full of the ocean, but the ocean still surrounds the bucket in all directions.
 - The heaven and the earth are "submerged" in God as well as all space.
 - *"...The heaven of heavens cannot contain Him..." (2 Chronicles 2:6)*
3. God is not contained, but God contains.
 - *"...For in Him we live, and move, and have our being..." (Acts 17:28)*
 - *"...If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there; if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there..." (Psalm 139:8)*

II. PEOPLE ARE SEPARATED FROM GOD

1. Mankind is shut off from God because there is an unlikeness in nature.
 - People have their own concept of "spiritual" things which is different from the actual reality.
 - The Holy Spirit tries to bring believers in Jesus to no longer think of spiritual things in human logic.
2. God and man are unlike, separated, therefore remote from one another.
 - God made man in His own image, but man sinned and became UNLIKE God in moral nature.
 - Because man became unlike God, communion was broken.
3. God is not far away in distance, but in character.
 - God is unlike man because man has sinned and God is holy.
 - *Ephesians 2:1-3; 4:17-19*
 - The separated sinner has his/her understanding darkened, the exact opposite of Jesus.
 - The separation is that of character, not space for God is not a single inch away from man, yet He is far away from the sinner.
 - Two people riding together have to find something common to talk about for each one has his/her own thoughts, personalities.
 - So it is with God and man - God is away from man in thoughts and personality and man is away from God in the same manner.
 - God is perfect in holiness and man is perfect in sin, therefore God seems far away.

III. GOD'S PRESENCE MUST BE REVEALED (MADE MANIFEST)

1. There is a big difference between God's presence and God's revealed presence.
 - God's presence is in heaven, on earth and in hell but His revealed presence is only in heaven where all is like Him.

- God can hear one's slightest whisper, yet that person can still be alienated from God and think that God is nowhere to be found.
 - People invent all sort of entertainment because there is a vacancy that only God can fill, but they try to satisfy that emptiness themselves, in their own ways, but each fails.
2. It is the revealed presence of God that makes heaven heaven.
 - As God refuses to reveal His presence to those who don't want to be like Him that makes hell what it is and what the world what it is.
 - It is the revealed presence of God that gives spiritual life to those who believe and the absence of God that gives everlasting woe to those who reject being like God.
 3. Human nature is so foreign to God's nature that it creates an unbridgeable gap.
 - The Ehtiopian cannot change his skin nor the leopard his spots and the person born in sin (everyone) can't get out of it.
 - God will never change and people can't change themselves - creating a problem that only God can solve.

IV. HOW THE DIFFERENCE CAN BE RECONCILLED BETWEEN GOD AND MANKIND

1. The reconciliation can be done only by ONE who is BOTH God and man.
 - No man can "educate" him/herself or bring him/herself into God's likeness.
 - People can't right themselves.
 - Religions have tried it, school systems have tried it, etc....
2. How can two who are alienated compromise and get together?
 - Shall God meet the sinful person half way?
 - Shall the sinful person made concessions and meet God half way?
 - God never compromises, God stays the God that He is.
3. What did God do about bringing Himself and mankind together?
 - God came down and became flesh, thus becoming BOTH God and man without sin being involved.
 - By dying as God-man, God could remove everything out of the way so that lost, sinful, separated man could come back.
 - When a person (separated from God), comes home, repents and believes in Jesus Christ in the saving manner God means, then God implants in that person's HEART some of His own nature and they are then ONE.
 - Without compromising Himself in any way, God can receive that returning sinner and puts a deposit of His own nature and life in that sinful person.
 - This act is called "THE NEW BIRTH" - implanting divine life.
4. Holy God cannot compromise Himself to fellowship with sinful man and neither can sinful man understand God, for the natural cannot understand God and therefore no fellowship.
 - However God moved in Jesus Christ and died on a cross, taking all the obstacles away.
 - By the new birth, God gives some of His own divine nature to the believing sinner.

CONCLUSION:

1. Any person who has truly believed in Jesus Christ has received a transplantation of God's nature into his/her heart and can then have fellowship with God
2. Heaven is heaven because of the revealed presence of God. Hell is hell because the revealed presence of God is not there.
3. That's the joy of conversion, not bringing God from some distant place, but knowing God by a change of human nature into divine nature.
4. Only God has the ability to reveal, to make Himself known personally to a person and that comes only through Jesus Christ.
5. Those who believe in Jesus Christ receive a bit of God's divine nature and will spend eternity in God's heaven in the revealed presence of God.
6. Those who refuse to believe in Jesus Christ will spend eternity in hell where the revealed presence of God is absent.
7. Each person is free to make his/her own choice. It is the Christian's mission to make these choices known to every person all over the world.