

ROBERT'S REFLECTIONS **ROBEKŁŹ REFLEKCIOWŹ**

To a lot of people, God is seen as a jealous, vengeful and unpredictable power up above us. They see Him as playing favorites and punishing even the innocent, instead of how the Bible portrays Him — a loving and impartial Ruler who has the right to demand justice and to expect righteousness in his followers (Romans 2:1-11; Acts 17:22-31).

The Bible also portrays God as the God who gives and demands love from His people, just like a father does from his children (Matthew 6:24-34; Matthew 22:34-40; Hebrews 12:5-11).

The Bible teaches that the Lord remains the same, unchanging since the beginning of time (Malachi 3:6; James 1:17). It is only man's concept of God that changes. Numbers 23:19 says, "God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?" (English Standard Version). God does not change. God means what He says. God is still the same God that He was at creation, or with Abraham. He has not changed since the time of Moses or during the 400 years of silence. God is the same God today as He always was.

How we think of God, makes a difference in our behavior. Joseph would not sin with the wife of Potiphar because he recognized it to be a great wickedness and a sin against God (Genesis 39:9). However Ananias & Sapphira thought nothing of trying to deceive God with their greed and trickery in pretending to be giving all they got from the sale of their property (Acts 5:1-11).

The individual whose God is too small, will be inadequate to address the demands of life. A God that is small enough for us to fully understand, is not large enough to meet our needs.

Even if we diligently search all of our lives, we will never know all there is to know about God (Ecclesiastes 8:16-17; Isaiah 55:8). Romans 11:33-36 says "Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! 34 "For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has become His counselor?" 35 "Or who has first given to Him And it shall be repaid to him?" 36 For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen" (NKJV).

However, it is entirely possible and desirable for us to keep on spiritually growing in our knowledge and love of God (1 Peter 2:1-2; 2 Peter 3:18). We should continue worshiping the God that is big enough to handle all our problems and struggles. Philippians 4:19 And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus (NKJV). 1 Peter 5:6-7 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, 7 casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you (NKJV).

The God of heaven and earth is big enough, wise enough and powerful enough to be worthy of all our praise, all our love, all our respect and all our faithful obedience. Philippians 4:20 Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Robert