

Isaiah 55:8-9

"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.

I think we all know this verse in today's devotional, and we all love it, because it reminds us of how awesome God is and how He does awesome things in our life, and He does them in ways we would never have thought of doing them. But if you think about it, today's verse has to do with perspective and how you see things, versus how God sees them.

Here's an example: Let's say you walk outside and look around. Based upon what you see, it would appear that the earth was flat, like a pizza. Now we know that it's not flat, but for how long was the earth considered to be flat based upon how people saw it, which would be from the ground. But, if you were to go in a rocket into space and see the earth, you would realize that it's not flat, but that it is actually round like a ball. Once again perspective.

Think of Jesus going to the cross. The perspective of the Apostles was that they didn't want Jesus to suffer or die, they wanted Him to be the King that the Old Testament spoke of, the Messiah being a conquering King, not one who would submit Himself to the authorities and be crucified. Yes, Jesus will come back as the conquering King, but that is when He rules and reigns on this earth after the seven-year tribulation.

Don't we remember Peter saying to Jesus, ***"Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!"***

† ***Matthew 16:21-22 From that time Jesus began to show to His disciples that He must go to Jerusalem, and suffer many things from the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised the third day. Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!"***

But we know that Peter had an earthly perspective, and satan used that perspective to have Peter say this, we know this by Jesus' response.

† ***Matthew 16:23 But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."***

If you think about it, perspective is based upon Who, or who you listen to and believe. When you read back in scripture, one of the earliest books written is the book of Job, and in it, Job says, ***"He stretches out the north over empty space; He hangs the earth on nothing."*** Job 26:7 Showing that the earth is not flat and resting on the backs of elephants as they used to believe. But satan wanted everyone to believe that, because if it were true, then there is no God, only the false gods they used to worship.

Also God says through Isaiah, ***“It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.”*** **Isaiah 40:22** Remember this was written thousands of years before rockets or even planes were invented, yet God showed man even then that the earth is not flat but is round like a ball (*circle of the earth*). God was not giving His perspective of what He saw but instead gave us the truth of what we can not see, in this case, the earth from space or from Heaven.

So, no matter what’s going on in your life or even on this earth, our perspective is based upon what we see here on the earth. But if you want to see things through God’s eyes, you need a heavenly perspective, and that is recorded for us in the bible, so that we would have a true perspective through the eyes of God.

† **Hebrews 11:1** *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*

† **Hebrews 11:1-3 (MSG)** *The fundamental fact of existence is that this trust in God, this faith, is the firm foundation under everything that makes life worth living. It's our handle on what we can't see. The act of faith is what distinguished our ancestors, set them above the crowd. By faith, we see the world called into existence by God's word, what we see created by what we don't see.*

† **Psalm 56:4a** *In God (I will praise His word), In God I have put my trust.*