

1 Kings 8:27

God is Infinite

Open your Bible to...

1Kg. 8:27 “But will God really live on earth? Why, even the highest heavens cannot contain you. How much less this Temple I have built!” ~ NLT

Pray

Intro

✓ Intro

If I were to ask you who said...

“To infinity and beyond!”

There’s a good chance that everyone in the sanctuary this morning would correctly respond...Buzz Lightyear!

While Buzz Lightyear’s catchphrase made for a great and memorable movie line the concept of infinity is a bit more difficult for us to grasp!

That’s because there’s nothing infinite in the physical world in which live that we can relate to!

Oh, some would argue that the Universe is infinite but modern physics has shown that to be untrue, for we can now see with the sophisticated tools that we’ve developed that the universe had a beginning...

...and anything that has a beginning is by definition not infinite.

So, to try and wrap our minds around something that has no boundaries, no limits, and no end is difficult. Yet, that is our privilege and purpose this morning...

...to dig into God's Word and try our best to comprehend the next attribute of God in our series, and that is God's infinitude!

God is Infinite ~ a definition

√ Definition

If you were to look up the word "*infinity*" online or in a dictionary you would find a definition something like this...

"Unlimited extent of time, space, or quantity, boundless."

So, when we say that God is infinite, we mean that He is a...

Limitless in His Being

He has no boundaries

His Being is beyond the edge of the created universe (which by the way is growing—yet because God is infinite the universe will never catch up with His infinite Being!)

Finally, He exists outside of, and is not limited by time and space

Think about it—that means God is free of all limitations!

Or we might say that God cannot be constrained, boxed in, or out maneuvered by anyone or anything...

...because He already exists beyond any and all boundaries!

That's because God is infinite!

The Biblical Foundation for God's Infinitude

Of course, I wouldn't ask you to believe that God is infinite based solely upon my word!

Rather, our authority regarding anything to do with God's nature is the Bible...

...His Word.

So, let's look at a few scriptures that describe God's infinitude.

✓ Biblical Foundation

We begin with the musings of Job's friend Zophar who asked...

*"Can you search out the deep things of God?
Can you find out the limits of the Almighty?
They are higher than heaven—what can you do?
Deeper than Sheol—what can you know?
Their measure is longer than the earth
And broader than the sea."*

Job 11:7-9

The implied answer to Zophar's rhetorical question is a resounding "no"!

No, we cannot plumb the depths of God's knowledge, nor can we find the extent of His existence...

...Zophar and the ancients understood that God is infinite and therefore beyond all human capacity to comprehend.

Turning to the Psalms we read...

*“Great is our Lord, and mighty in power;
His understanding is infinite.”*

Psalms 147:5

To which Paul adds...

*“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!”*

Romans 11:33

And to his friends in Ephesus, Paul writes...

*“Now to the one who can do infinitely more than all
we can ask or imagine according to the power that is
working among us—”*

Ephesians 3:20 ISV

In just this handful of scriptures we're told that God is infinite in His...

Being
Wisdom
Knowledge
Ways
Power

In fact, the Bible tells us that God is infinite in all of His attributes for whatever the infinite God is He is without limit.

And He alone is infinite for everyone and everything else was created by God...

...and anything that is created has a beginning, and that which has a beginning cannot be infinite.

So, when we think about God's infinitude, we are reminded just how majestic, unique and incomprehensible our King is...

...for He is not just above all things—He is beyond all things!

The Implications of God's Infinitude

√ Implications

Earlier in our series of God's attributes we learned that God is One, that is, He has no parts nor division within Himself.

Therefore, everything that He is, He is perfectly such that every attribute of His Being is in perfect harmony with His infinite character.

Therefore, since God is infinite then He must be infinite in all of His attributes!

That's an important point because if He wasn't infinite in all of His attributes then God could potentially be limited by some conflict between two or more of His attributes.

Let me illustrate that thought by looking at a problem that comic book and fantasy writers have to work around when creating the characters in their stories...

...that is the concept of selective infinity.

Ex. Superman

If you were Jerry Siegel the author who created Superman and you made him fast enough to outfly a bullet...

...then you would also have to make him smart enough not to run into anything while he's outrunning that bullet!

In other words, Superman can't just be fast, he must also be smart!

Otherwise, being faster than a speeding bullet is of no practical benefit to Superman because he would always be running into things!

The point is that every attribute that Jerry Siegel wrote into the character of Superman cannot exist independently of each other.

They must all work together in harmony.

The point here is that every attribute of Superman, Wonder Woman, or any other superhero is intrinsically tied to every other attribute...

...if you don't harmonize those attributes then the reader isn't going to believe that Superman can really outfly a bullet.

1) God's infinitude

So too, when we consider the attributes of God—if He is infinite then by necessity, He must be infinite in the expression of all of His attributes...

...because God Who is infinite cannot have any limits!

For if God was not infinite in even one of His attributes, then He wouldn't be infinite at all because He would have some limitation in Himself.

Ex. Consider just a few of His attributes

The Bible tells us that God is all-powerful, that is, His power is unlimited.

And that by His infinite power God created the universe.

But He must also be infinite in His wisdom so as to create a universe that works together and supports life.

Otherwise, we would have this beautiful earth but one that could not sustain life.

So, the God Who has the infinite power to create the universe must also have infinite wisdom to make it all work as He designed it to.

Which, by the way, scientific observation confirms that is exactly what we observe in the cosmos...

...the testimony that God exists!

For example, author and researcher Fred Heerem writes...

“The big bang (theory) could not have been a random explosion. Rather all observations point to an incredibly finely tuned, carefully orchestrated chain of events that lead to the solar systems necessary for intelligent life.”

**Show Me God, page 149*

Even the late atheist, Stephen Hawking when he observed the ratio between the masses of protons and electrons found in the universe admitted...

“The remarkable fact is that the values of these numbers seem to have been very finely adjusted to possible the development of life.”

**Show Me God, page 201*

That is to say that scientific observation reveals evidence for a Creator! What kind of Creator...

...a Creator with infinite power and wisdom.

So, it goes with all of God's attributes, everything that He is, He is infinitely, therefore, there is nothing in all of the created universe (material and spiritual) that can limit God!

He cannot be controlled because He has infinite power

He cannot be contained because His infinite being has no boundaries

He cannot be corrected because He has infinite knowledge and wisdom

He is limitless! Because God is infinite in His power, presence, and knowledge, then Man and the demon hoards cannot...

Thwart His plans

Run from His presence

Know what He has not revealed

Our great God is infinite therefore there is nothing impossible for Him because He knows everything and has the power to do anything...

...therefore, we can trust Him to do the impossible in our lives!

2) God is beyond human comprehension

Because God is infinite in His being it follows that He is beyond our finite human comprehension.

Said simply, God is greater than our brains can fully understand!

Therefore, the only things that we can know about God are those things that He has chosen to reveal of Himself!

For if God were to choose to hide Himself from mankind, then we would be powerless to discover whatever He's hidden.

That's because we don't possess the brain capacity, nor do we have the technological tools to unravel the mystery of the infinite divine.

So, when it comes to the nature of God, we must recognize and accept that there are aspects of His infinite Being that He tells us are true...

...but will not make sense to us!

Ex. The Trinity

I believe it to be true because God's Word says so.

I can explain how the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are One God, yet three Persons, and even provide a robust biblical defense of the doctrine of the Trinity...

...but I really don't understand how it all works!

However, I'm okay with that mystery because God is infinite, and I am not.

I accept the fact that my tiny finite brain cannot completely nor fully grasp the nature and existence of God because my brain is limited...

...and the unlimited God is beyond my limited comprehension!

Therefore, what God says is true of Himself and anything else is true...

...even if I can't understand it.

- Ap. God's infinitude is helpful when dealing with tragedy and disappointments in life

I find comfort in the fact that while I cannot see any good coming out of a tragedy, I can trust that the God who has infinite wisdom has a perfect plan that will produce good.

- Ex. Preston and Jeremy

The Blessings & Benefits of God's Infinitude

- ✓ Blessings & Benefits

Because God is infinite in all that He is there are probably an infinite number of blessings and benefits that we can experience with God...

...but since we don't have an infinite amount of time, we'll just look at a few!

- 1) Because God is infinite, nothing will be impossible for you

In Paul's 1st letter to the Church in Corinth he reveals this incomprehensible truth, he says...

*"Do you not know that you are the temple of God
and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?"*

1Corinthians 3:16

We learned earlier that the Temple that Solomon built wasn't big enough to contain the infinite God, yet here the apostle tells us that the Infinite God lives in us!

That truth ought to blow our minds—that the infinite God whose existence is beyond the edge of the universe dwells inside of me!

Well, let's consider the implications of this truth that the infinite God lives in you.

First, there is nothing that God might lead you to do that is beyond your perceived human limitations!

So, if Jesus were to ask you to feed 5,000 people with the lox and bagels that you brought for lunch...

...you know it can be done because the infinite God dwells in you!

Remember, Jesus promised...

“... I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.” ~ Matthew 17:20

Ap. What is God asking you to do today?

To volunteer for Children's ministry, to take a venture of faith, to reconcile with your spouse, to minister to the homeless, to write a book?

If you're like me, or Moses, the first thing you do is list all of the reasons why you can't do whatever it is that God is asking you to do.

We do that because our inclination is to first look at all of our limitations and conclude that God should ask someone else more qualified.

But God isn't asking you to use your own resources, skill or talent.

Rather, God will always provide His infinite resources that you need to accomplish His will—the very thing that you and I think is impossible!

Ex. The faith of George Muller

“There is no limit to what God can do through a person who is willing to be used for His glory.”

Because God is infinite you can be confident that no one, and nothing will be able to stop the work that God plans to do in and through your life...

...because the God who lives in you is free of all limitations.

Ap. Only you can stop you

Because God is a Gentleman and would never force you to do anything, the only hinderance to God's work in you is you. For example, when Jesus visited the village where He grew up the Bible tells us...

“Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. And He marveled because of their unbelief.” ~ Mark 6:5-6

The implication of Mark's record is that Jesus wanted to do so much more in the lives of the people of Nazareth...

...but He was hindered by their unbelief.

The same is true of us...God wants to do a supernatural work in and through our lives, yet we can hinder that work by our unbelief.

- 2) Because God is infinite, He is always attentive to your prayers

It is estimated that there are 2.4 billion Christians in the world today. While that number seems high to me even if it is half that many, I often wonder how God can hear all of our prayers at once!

I have trouble thinking clearly when two people are talking to me at the same time!

However, because God is infinite when you come before His Throne of Grace you have His full and undivided attention!

You'll never have to worry that your prayers are being drowned out by the voices of a billion other believers!

Or that God is too busy to focus on the cares and concerns that you bring to Him.

Because God is infinite, He is able to communicate one-on-one all day, every day, with every single praying person in the world at once!

So, we can pray with confidence in the knowledge that because God is infinite, we have an Audience of One!

- 3) Because God is infinite nothing can separate you from His love

As we have already established because God is infinite so too are all of His attributes, including His love.

However, that doesn't just mean that His love is endless...

...it also means that His love cannot be contained nor restricted for His love have no boundaries.

That's the idea that Paul had in mind when he penned...

“For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.” ~ Romans 8:38-39

What an amazing truth to consider—that in Christ we cannot be kept from God's love!

There's no dungeon so deep that His love cannot reach us.

No demon so strong who can keep God's love from comforting us.

Even our own failure, like Peter's, cannot keep God's love from us!

Taking a cue from Marvin Gaye we might sing there...

*“Ain't no mountain high enough
Ain't no valley low enough
Ain't no river wide enough
That can keep God's love from you!”*

It may have been that reality that gave Paul and Silas the courage to sing praises to God when they were locked in that Philippian prison.

For they knew that stone walls, metal gates and chains could not restrain the love of the unrestrainable God.

For us this morning God's infinite love is available to...

Warm the heart of the wife trapped in a loveless marriage
Breath hope into the life of the brother who is struggling with depression

Remind the lonely that they have a friend in Jesus

So be encouraged this morning that nothing in all of the universe can keep God's infinite love from reaching you!

- 4) Because God is infinite, His mercy is more abundant

One of my favorite songs that we sing here at Calvary includes the lyrics...

"Our sins may be many, His mercy is more."

Those lyrics celebrate God's infinitude Jeremiah wrote about in Lamentations...

*"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.
Lamentations 3:22-23 ESV*

Both the song and the scripture recognize that sin is limited while God's mercy is unlimited!

Think about...no matter how many times we as human beings sin there is a limit to the amount we can sin.

For all our sin is the product of finite hearts and minds!

But God's mercy is greater than our sin because it is an infinite gift of God.

So, we can rejoice as believers that no matter how many times we fall into sin...

...God's infinite mercy and grace and are more than sufficient to wash away our sins!

Ap. Confess your sins!

One of Satan's favorite strategies to destroy the child of God is to continually remind us of our sins.

Then we can become overwhelmed by the weight of those sins and begin to doubt whether or not we can still ask God to forgive us.

We end up wallowing in the pain of inward guilt, may even stop attending church because we feel unworthy.

That's when we need to rehearse in our mind the truth that because God is infinite that so too is His mercy...

...and that though our sins may be many, His mercy is more.

So, if you're stuck in sin ask the Lord to forgive you today and He will!

5) Because God is infinite His love extends to everyone

Within the Christian family there is ongoing argument about what Jesus meant in John 3:16, when He said...

“For God so loved the world...”

Taken at face value, and in its normal grammatical sense anyone would conclude that Jesus meant that God loves the whole world!

But there exists within the Church a small and loud group that rejects this interpretation and instead claims that Jesus meant that God only loves His elect rather than everyone in the world.

Furthermore, this same group claims that God hates a huge number of people whom He has predestined to spend eternity in Hell!

Well, the attribute of God’s infinitude settles the argument!

For as we’ve already established God is infinite in all of His attributes...

...including the attribute of His love.

That means God loves everyone. If He did not love everyone then He would be limited in His love, and if He is limited then He is not infinite.

If He is not infinite in love, then God is imperfect.

If He is not perfect, then He is not the God of the Bible.

But God is perfect and therefore infinite in His love. Listen to how A.W. Tozer applies God’s infinitude to the attribute of His love...

“The Christian witness through the centuries has been that “God so loved the world . . .”; it remains for us to see that love in the light of God’s infinitude. His

love is measureless. It is more: it is boundless. It has no bounds because it is not a thing but a facet of the essential nature of God. His love is something He is, and because He is infinite that love can enfold the whole created world in itself and have room for ten thousand times ten thousand worlds beside.”

While God’s love is infinite in its expression to all people, nonetheless...

...as with all of His attributes each of us must choose which of God’s attributes we will experience in life and eternity.

That’s what Jesus communicates in the second part of John 3:16, when He said...

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

Whoever chooses to believe in Jesus will come to experience the infinite love of God and gain everlasting life...

Whoever rejects Jesus and will never experience His infinite love.

The choice is ours to make.

Close

✓ God is Infinite

He is a...

Limitless in His Being

He has no boundaries

His Being is beyond the edge of the created universe

He exists outside of, and is not limited by time and space

God cannot be constrained, boxed in, or out maneuvered by anyone or anything...

...because He already exists beyond any and all boundaries!

Ap. Question for you to consider

Are you limiting God in your life like the children of Israel did...

*"Yes, again and again they tempted God,
And limited the Holy One of Israel."*

Psalms 78:41

Brothers and sisters—the infinite God lives inside of you and wants to do a supernatural work in and through your life...

If you're already living that life, then keep on.

If you're not, then choose today to stop putting limitations on the Infinite God...

...so that you can experience and enjoy the supernatural power of God working in and through your life.