

10/23/18

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“To infinity and beyond!” Children and adults alike recognize Buzz Lightyear’s famous catchphrase from the Toy Story films. Can the toy astronaut’s words catch anything of God’s own description of himself, revealed in the Bible verses for today?

We make some progress toward the height of God’s wisdom and ways when we ponder the wonders and precision of his creation. A total eclipse of the sun, or the complexities of the human brain are amazing, but we’re still so very limited in understanding. More profound are the unsearchable things that God permits or sends into our world. They perplex us, frighten us, and can take us to the verge of doubt. “How could God permit or send such a thing?”

The continuing evils of life began with the disobedience of Adam and Eve, that day when sin entered our world. To this day, however, God has not forced anyone to obey his holy will or to believe his holy Word. An inherited sinful nature is demonstrated in the thoughts, words, and actions of every human being. “Why does God permit such lovelessness and violence? When will his judgment come?”

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.” Isaiah 55:8-9

When God sends Judgment Day warnings, whether by disastrous hurricanes or earthquakes or by personal calamity, we often fail to grasp the wisdom of such ways, and unbelievers scoff: “Why should we trust God, if his ways are so unsearchable?”

Jesus is the reason! Jesus is the reason to rely on what the Holy Spirit has revealed in the sacred Scriptures. It's the most amazing thing! God so loves sinners that he sent his holy Son to be a man as mankind's substitute. Jesus paid the full debt for the sins of us all. He lived, he died, HE ROSE AGAIN! It truly is finished! Jesus' payment is the sufficient price for all sinners to reach heaven. Forgiveness in Christ, along with the Bible's revealed truth for thankful living, are enough for now. We don't have to understand everything. God does!

God is infinitely wise. Trust him! Yes, his saving wisdom reaches "to infinity and beyond."

Prayer: *Lord God, help me overcome any uncertainties about your infinite wisdom with humble trust in Jesus and in your trustworthy promises. Amen.*

(WELS E-Devotion, adapted)

...See you in worship.

Keep looking up because the Lord is always looking down – Psalm 121

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