*And God Said*

Genesis 1:1-2

Last week Dennis Henchman lent me a video to watch. As I began to watch I was astounded by the sheer numbers involved in comparing the earth to other bodies of stars and planets in the universe. All of the numbers pointing to the enormity of this God that we worship. The earth itself is but one celestial body in our galaxy. I will not bore you with numbers, but will try to give you some comparisons we may want to pay attention to in our quest to know this God we worship and serve. Our planet, when compared to other planets in our solar system is rather small in comparison to the other planets. In fact it is the 3rd smallest planet and compared to Jupiter is rather small. Our sun itself is far larger than any of its planets and can fit earths inside it. Scientists have discovered a sun far larger than our sun called Canis Major, the big dog. It is the largest sun discovered thus far. We have not discovered the edge of the universe, but when we begin to discover galaxy after galaxy, we begin to see the vastness of our universe, all of it proclaimed and brought into existence by God. This God that we like to try and pin down to size and limit can be called the Star Breather, the one who speaks things into existence. God’s limits are unknown. We don’t know how big the universe is nor do we know how big God is. But we do know that God has to be big enough to breathe a whole universe into existence. We cannot imagine the size of the universe, and we cannot imagine the size of our Creator. It boggles the mind to begin to think about how big an entity has to be to be able to breathe Canis Majors into existence.

Now let’s take things the other way. Within this enormous universe, sits our galaxy with its billions of stars and planets, white dwarves, black holes and other celestial bodies millions and billions of light years apart. And within that galaxy sits our solar system, separate from countless other solar systems, each with its own movement dynamics, spinning, turning, orbiting entities. And within this solar system sits one sun, numbered among millions and billions of others. And orbiting around this sun is the planet we call earth, with its perfect conditions to sustain life as we know it. And upon this planet we call earth, life continues to flourish and humans have become the major influencers of what happens upon the planet. This immense God has created the miniscule compared to the rest of creation. Upon this earth we are each but a pinprick, a tiny blob of life moving, breathing, living, laughing, playing.

So this enormous, infinite God has created something infinitesimally small in a seemingly unlimited universe, something He cares about and watches over with love and concern.

But the comparison goes on. So much has to work together in order for us to continue existing. So we are made up parts made up of atoms and molecules, each doing its part to make it all work. Did you know that every 3 seconds 50,000 cells die within each of us and are replaced. And God cares for each and every cell. This God of the universe promises to carry us through life. He speaks again and says, “I will renew your strength!” He tells us we will keep going.

Now one more astounding thing about our bodies that completely changed the preacher’s life that I listened to on the video. Through the help of another scientist he found an image that spoke volumes to him about God and who God was and is in relation to these tiny creatures of the universe called humans. And I would like to share that with you. It is called laminin. Laminin is the cement that holds our bodies together. It is the basis of what allows our muscles and ligaments, and joints and organs to hold together and work together. It is the basis of all life. Now we each have dna within us that helps determine how we will grow and be who we are. But laminin has its own dna shape and I will share that with you. (show first pic) This is the genetic makeup of laminin. Look familiar? Now this is what it looks like under an electron microscope, its true shape and form. (show second picture)

Nowhere else have I seen nature proclaim more clearly what God has done for us. The preacher’s statement had impact after viewing those images. He says, “the star breather became the sin bearer! The universe maker became mankind’s savior!” This is perhaps one of the greatest testimonies to what God has done through Jesus. Jesus is in all things and holds all things together. I find it intriguing that millions of crosses hold us together. Isn’t that quite a statement.

This enormous God has planned us into existence and has a plan for how we are going to exist in relationship with him. And that plan will prevail through all circumstances. That brings me much hope. In the blink of an eye God could speak us out of existence! That was very clearly illustrated in the flood. Perhaps the flood story is more about what God is capable of doing rather than about saving one family. Perhaps that one story shows us God’s potential and what God could do if we continued down the wrong road. But more than that it shows that God was unwilling to completely wipe out the human race. God loved human beings so much that he wanted us to survive.

The whole history of God’s people is about God’s plan being carried on in spite of our waywardness, our resistance to his ways, and our stubbornness in not doing his will. God has always had something in mind. It’s what the image of laminin is all about. When humans were ready for it, God, the infinite became Jesus the finite. God limited himself enough to walk with us on earth, to show us the way to eternal life, life beyond all we know, life beyond the limited existence we now know in our time on earth.

This tiny planet was created with a purpose. We fragile humans were created with a purpose, each walking, talking entity created with a purpose. We cannot fully know the completeness of this unlimited God’s plan. We only can think on terms with our finite mind, those things that will allow us to imagine and try to get a grasp on what we are here for.

But one thing remains true. God will be with us when we need Him the most. God will continue to accept who we are and understand why we do things contrary to His will. God has cleared the way for us to continue to love Him in spite of what we do and say and act contrary to his will.

God may have created an immense universe, but within that universe God created the finite creature we call humans. Out of all that God could have loved in what he created, he chose to love us with his infinite love. And he gave us a wonderful way to love him back. In his embodiment of Jesus Christ, we can touch the untouchable, we can better know the unknowable, we can see what God intends for us and how God intends for us to live.