

"SOLITARINESS"

God is an independent being. God is self-contained, self-sufficient, self satisfied, in need of nothing. AW Pick refers to this as the solitariness of God. God was solitary or alone in His existence and excellency. Although God was alone, He was never lonely. God is supremely joyful in the fellowship of the Godhead—three Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—beholding and expressing His eternal and unsurpassed delight in the all-satisfying perfections of the Godhead. God is under no obligation to anyone or anything outside Himself. He chose to create the universe and mankind for His glory. God is to be revered, worshiped, adored. He is solitary in His majesty, unique in his excellency, peerless in his perfections. Such a majestic God cannot be found by human searching. God can only be revealed to the heart by the Holy Spirit working through the word. Such a majestic God should engender praise from all His creation.

// GETTING THE MESSAGE

:: God is solitary, self sufficient and independent. How do the following scriptures demonstrate His solitariness?

a. Genesis 1:1

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b. Colossians 1:16

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// GETTING THE MESSAGE

:: Read **Exodus 3:13-14**. How does God's name "**I am that I am**" reveal God's self-sufficiency?

:: Though God was solitary in eternity past, why isn't He lonely?

:: There's a modern worship song that contains the line, "*You didn't want heaven without us*". How does God's existence before creation challenge the idea that God created the world because He needed something or someone to love?

:: Such a majestic God cannot be found by man searching on his own. God must reveal Himself to man. How does Ephesians 1:4-6 support this?

// GETTING TO CHRIST

:: **Colossians 1:16** says that all things were created *through* and *for* Christ. How does this reflect God's absolute sovereignty over all things? How does it shape humanity's purpose?

// GETTING TO CHRIST

:: In **John 17:5**, Jesus speaks of glory He shared with the Father before the world existed. What does this reveal about His divine identity and eternal relationship with the Father?

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:: Jesus said He came to serve, not to be served and give His life as a ransom for many (Mark 10:45). How does the self-sufficiency of Christ make his voluntary sacrifice that much more remarkable?

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:: In John 17:24, Jesus speaks of the Father's love for him before the foundation of the world. How does this eternal love deepen our understanding of the gospel and our adoption into God's family?

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// GETTING TO YOU

:: Read **Ephesians 1:11-12** and **Isaiah 43:7**. If we were made for His glory, how do we bring glory to the Father?

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:: God’s self sufficiency should lead us to praise. How does 1Timothy **6:15b-16** demonstrate this?

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// GETTING TO YOU

:: How might a deeper grasp of God's self-sufficiency change the way you respond to suffering, unanswered prayer, or seasons when you cannot see the fruit of your labor?

// GETTING TO OTHERS

:: **Read Ephesians 1:13**. By what means does the Holy Spirit “seal” His people? How does that inform our evangelistic methods?

:: Read **Romans 10:14-15**. If one must hear the gospel to respond to the gospel, what is our responsibility?

:: If God does not need humanity, why does he command us to make disciples of all nations?

:: Acts 17:24-27 says God does not live in temples made by human hands and He needs nothing. How does this challenge the assumptions of those who think religion is about earning God's favor?