*In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty, and the hem of His robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above Him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory.” The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!” Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying: “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said: “Here am I; send me!”* Isaiah 6:1-8

*So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh, for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry: “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him.*

Romans 8:12-17

*A very nervous airline passenger began pacing the terminal when bad weather delayed his flight. During his walk, he came across a life insurance machine. It offered $100,000 in the event of an untimely death aboard his flight. The policy was just three dollars.*

*He looked out the window at the threatening clouds and thought of his family at home. For that price it was foolish not to buy, so he took out the coverage. He then looked for a place to eat. Airports now carry a good variety of eateries so he settled on his favorite, Chinese.*

*It was a relaxing meal until he opened his fortune cookie. It read: “Your recent investment will pay big dividends.”*

Here am I! Send me.

1. Our is a very perplexing world. The truth has become irrelevant because it is disturbing. We may not asked certain questions because we may offend someone. We cannot inquire and ask for clarification because we will be label *“phobic.”* Even the modern Church is not an exception. There are many questions people may have regarding God, but many religious leaders worry about asking them, or answering them, so they remain untouched. However, to truly know God, we must ask these questions and seek answers to them, even if there is a bit of confusion in answering some of them. To know anything, we must be able to ask questions, and in the case of God there is no difference. How can we know God if we do not know Him? I have already shared with you in the past a very common question asked by the students of philosophy: *“Can God create a boulder large enough that even He is unable to move it?”*

2. This philosophical question is nothing else but a *“theoretical, philosophical and logical”* question, and does not have anything to do with God, but with our concept of wisdom. In that concept, our *“wisdom”* is based on the limited understanding, and with it we may not truly understand God, because He is beyond our comprehension. What we do understand about God is what He reveals to us. The Old Testament describes God as *“Powerful”* and *“Great.”* The New Testament adds to the description of God with more attribute: *“Loving”* and *“Forgiving.”* These concepts we may understand, but even though we with our comprehension, we cannot fully grasp neither God’s power and greatness, nor His love and forgiveness, because we do not fully realize what they are. The Bible lists a number of God’s attributes and recognizing them allows us to understand God better, but we have to accept the fact that sometimes we are, and will be, unable to fully understand God, even if we study His attributes very carefully.

3. The Scriptures describes God as the *“Only One,”* and yet as humanity we created a multitude of visions of god, but once again in our *“human, limited wisdom.”* This is very important to see and to understand God as the *“Only One,”* because it clarifies the concept that He is above of all the *“man-made”* or *“man-created”* gods. The people of Canaan, among others, worshipped god Baal. The ancient Egyptians worshipped Ra, a dominant god of Egypt with the pleiades of other gods. The Greeks gave the world the mount Olympus with Zeus and the host of other gods. The world history and archeology uncover names of gods that are long passed, and long forgotten. The “pantheon” of the man-made gods existed even in the history of Israel, despite the fact that they knew the *“Only One God,”* and they worshipped them. In the end however, it is only our Triune God who truly revealed His greatness. All the other *“gods”* have passed and are gone, found only in the charts of history, while so many more have completely disappeared. The *“Only One God,”* the Father of Jesus Christ still remains because He is indeed the One and only true *“God.”*

4. The Bible teaches that *“God is Holy.”* *“Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of His glory*, writes prophet Isaiah 6:3. The New Testament goes even further, because it not only calls God *“Holy,”* but indicates that God wants us, His followers, to also be *“holy.”* God offered His *“Law”* to the Hebrews so they could achieve *“holiness”* by obeying this *“Law”* and becoming *“holy,”* but unfortunately, just as the humanity always does, in the *“human wisdom”* the Hebrews tried to *“improve”* on God’s Law, and this led to the disaster, namely the Babylonian Exile. Whenever, and whatever, anything created by God, we as the people wanted to improve on, in the end leads to a disaster. For God is not the *“partially holy”* only so we may improve on His *“holiness,”* but He is the *“wholly holy,”* and He also wants us to be *“holy,”* just like Him, by following His call and His guidance.

5. In the 1st Letter of John 4:8 we read that *“God is Love.”* John’s words indicate the probably most complex and the most descriptive vision of who God is and what He offers. My question is: *“Do we understand that love and what love is?”* I the past I sherd with you the meaning of the word love in the Greek language, the New Testament is written in, and pointed out to the difference between this word in the English and the Greek. There are at least seven different definitions of love in the Greek language, while only one in English. *“Love”* according to the Scriptures is more than just *“eros”* – the sexual love so predominantly displayed in the popular culture today, *“psyche”* which includes the attribute of the *“parental love”*, or *“agape,”* the love of others through *“fellowship,”* and caring for each other’s needs. Apostle John writes: *“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life”* (3:16). God wants us to have the same sort of *“love”* for others, as He loves us with. This *“love”* embraces all, and has been offered us even before we were or are able to love. Because *“God is love,”* He wants His love to determine who we, as the humanity, truly are. But we cannot know or have this love without Him in our lives.

6. Jesus died on the cross for us all, and when we see the image of Jesus dying on the *“cross,”* we cannot forget the *“Calvary,”* the Roman soldiers, the criminals on both sides of Jesus’ cross, and the crowd shouting: *“Crucify Him, crucify Him!”* We cannot forget His voice crying aloud at the moment of His death: *“Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing.”* This is the indication of true of love and of us *“being truly loved.”* Jesus’ is the *“true and unselfish love,”* which does not pay attention to any of the human errors and human hatred. On the cross of *“Golgotha”* Jesus is brutalized, but His words indicate that even in that mortifying experience, He loves all the wicked present there. It was possible only *“Because He is Love.”* Again, it is John who says: *“This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent his only Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.”* (1st John 4:10). Once upon a time the humanity lived in the unity and harmony with God, but these were broken when Adam and Eve embraced sin and the sinful actions rather than God. On the cross of *“Golgotha”* we became once again united with God and led into the harmonious relationship with Him. It was the uniting love of God that brought us closer to Him, not our wisdom, nor our understanding, or our improving on God’s *“Law.”*

7. There are many more attributes of God the Scriptures speak about, but I would like to focus on one more. Psalm 90:1-4 says: *“Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. You turn us back to dust and say: ‘Turn back, you mortals.’ For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past or like a watch in the night.”* God is *“Eternal.”* This is very important portrayal of God because in His *“eternal presence”* is an important message for us. God wants us to be eternal as well. We are temporary because of our sinfulness, but He wants us to be *“eternal”* just as He is, and for that reason in His holiness, greatness, love and eternal presence, He gives us a chance to be with Him and to be like Him. I find this fascinating that the issue of eternity is not only found in the religious literature but also in the popular culture, even though with many different twists. Whether in the belief in the reincarnation, the Vikings *“Valhalla,”* the Egyptians *“afterlife,”* the native Indians *“eternal hunting grounds”* and many others, including some modern *“sci-fi”* based religions where the souls move to the *“alien worlds,”* all these views are quite uniform in all the cultures over the ages.

8. As Christians we may have many questions about our future, our past or present, and even though at times we cannot find satisfactory and full answers, one truth remains constant and certain. The eternity belongs to God and He wants us to share in it with Him. Through His Son’s sacrifice and through our acceptance of Him and His atoning death, God offers us the *“eternity.”* Apostle Paus writes: *“For now we see only a reflection, as in a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known.”* He could say these words and to trust God because: *“God so loved this word that He offered His Only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.”* Now is our turn, until that time comes, to share our God with the world, and following Isaiah respond to God: *“Here am I! Send me.”*