

PUTTING GOD IN A BOX

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By His very nature God is omnipresent (Revelation 1:4, 8; 4:8; Psalm 90:2). He declares the end from the beginning (Isaiah 46:10). He sees all and knows all (I John 3:20). He created man (Genesis 1:26, 27), directs man's steps (Jeremiah 10:23) and will eventually judge man by His Word (John 12:48; Acts 17:31). He has the power (and will eventually use it) to destroy the universe (II Peter 3:10-12). He inhabits eternity (Isaiah 57:15). He is not as we are (Psalm 50:21). There is nothing (that doesn't violate His Will and/or His nature) that is too difficult for Him to do (Genesis 18:14; Jeremiah 32:17; Matthew 19:26).

Knowing this about God, it is passing strange that some brazenly think they can confine God to their own little corner of the world, their own little time slot or their own standards. Quite frankly, many people think God is a being that can be put in a box and forgotten until needed or restricted to being just what they want Him to be. Like storing articles in a closet that are only needed once a year, they "put God in a box," label it and put it away until some need for Him arises.

Some "put God in a box" regarding worship. God, the object of worship, has regulated how He is to be worshipped (John 4:24). Many refuse God's way of worship and then "put God in a box" labeled their own way of worship and smugly think God will be pleased with them. For them, God's way is not "exciting" enough or "entertaining" enough or "popular" enough. So, out goes God's way and in comes theirs, and God will just have to be pleased with that.

Others "put God in a box" concerning salvation. God's way is not "sophisticated" enough or "elaborate" enough or, perhaps, it is "too elaborate". His way doesn't "make sense" (*What could water possibly have to do with anything?*), or His way is "not very popular with people". So, God is made to reside "in a box" marked whims, fancies and ideas of man.

Man has decided that his way is best, and God will just have to live with it. Dear friend, the *"high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity"* (Isaiah 57:15) will not be confined to any of man's "boxes". He issues the mandates and is not one to be dictated to by man. His Will must be obeyed, His commandments must be kept (John 14:15; I John 5:3).

He is foolish indeed who thinks he can bring God down to his level and force upon Him his likes, desires and opinions, thinking God will be pleased with them and accepting of him.

God will not be placed in man's "box". Rather, man must conform to God's Will and ways. He is the Master, and we are the servants. Far too many seem to have these roles reversed.