

## ANTHROPOMORPHISM

Lesson text: *Isaiah 59:1-2*

A. Anthropomorphism - "the representation of objects (especially a god) as having human form or traits" (Worldnet dictionary) giving God certain human characteristics. See also Psalms 18:6-9

1. The only way we can think of anyone is in terms of physical, human body as we know it.
2. John 4:24, Luke 24:39 – we have no idea how to visualize or imagine God. When we think of someone we think of them having features as we have.
3. These descriptions: The hand, ears, of God, etc. is figurative language; God's way of helping us to think of Him.

Body

### I. "The Eyes of the Lord" - *Proverbs.15:3*

- A. This describes the omniscience of God. "There's an all seeing eye watching you."
- B. **Psalms 139** - Omnipresence. A constant awareness of God. Definition of "godliness" – having an awareness of God. I Tim.4:8; II Pet.1:6

### II. "The Hand of God" - *I Peter 5:6*

#### A. A Humbling Hand

1. Always there to remind us that when we begin to think too big, powerful, can pretty well rule our own lives, there's a gigantic hand to humble & remind us.
2. \*Little girl playing with a spider on desk. **Psalms 100:3**
3. Whenever we think we can direct our own steps and live independent of God, His hand has a way of coming down into our life to alter our course and actions and to humble us & make us realize we can't direct our own steps. **Jeremiah 23:10**

#### B. A Hand of Security. **John 10:27-29**

1. In which we dwell, protected, shielded from all harm.
2. **Romans 8:28-39** - as long as we stay there and not leave Him, He'll see to it we're protected.

#### C. A Hand of Blessing - **Eccl.2:24**

1. The abundance of blessings we enjoy are a gift from the Father's hand - **James 1:17**
2. We ought to be filled with genuine thanksgiving.
3. Too often, we're like the hogs that devour the acorns but never look up to see from whence they come.

#### D. A Punishing Hand - **Isaiah 5:2**

1. Like the hand of our parents - a helping hand & love. That served us cookies, cakes, but sometimes was a punishing hand, to discipline us.

2. His hand is always there to humble us and guide us and for our protection, but that same hand if we rebel against Him - **Isaiah 5:25**

E. A Saving Hand - **Isaiah 59:1-2**.

1. That's the hand that can lift us from the mire of sin.
2. David found that joy - **Psalms 40:1-4** - reached down to David to lift him up and made new paths.

III. "The Ear of God" – I Peter 3:12

- A. God has a listening ear, ever listening for the prayers of His people. \*just as He heard Elijah – I Kings 18... God is near - **Acts 17:27**.
- B. When we ought to pray. Three times in life of Jesus:
  1. Luke 6:12-13 - **before an important decision**.
  2. John 6:15 - tried to make Him a King by force; a **time of triumph**.
  3. Luke 22:42f - a **time of seeming defeat**.
  4. Phil. 4:6 - in **time of anxiety and worry**.
- C. What a wonderful privilege to call upon Him as our Father; He hears and answers. **I Thess. 5:17**

IV. "The Face of the Lord"

- A. There's something that separates man from the saving hand & the listening ear, and the face of God - **SIN**.
- B. **Romans 6:23** - spiritual death "separation". (\*Man drowning separated from the shore by the waters in which he's drowning. But if someone throws him a rope, a means by which he can be saved...)
- C. God saw man's plight - so He threw man a rope as it were and provided the means for salvation. **John 3:16**
- D. **Romans 5:6-8** - why Jesus had to die, to make atonement, so that sin could be erased that separates man...

Conclusion

God has made every provision possible for your salvation and God wants all men to be saved. **II Peter 3:9** But the human will stands in between what God wants and what man does. What is your decision?