

Conversations for Common Questions and Doubts:

If God is Real, Why Doesn't He Come Down and Show Himself Right Now?

The First Human to Journey into Outer Space



*"I looked and looked
but I didn't see God."
— Yuri Gagarin, 14th
April 1961*

A Brilliant Apologetic Response

"The Russians, I am told, report that they have not found God in outer space...

Looking for God—or Heaven—by exploring space is like reading or seeing all Shakespeare's plays in the hope that you will find Shakespeare as one of the characters or Stratford as one of the places. Shakespeare is in one sense present at every moment in every play. But he is never present in the same way as Falstaff or Lady Macbeth. Nor is he diffused through the play like a gas..."

"To some, God is discoverable everywhere; to others, nowhere. Those who do not find Him on earth are unlikely to find Him in space... But send a saint up in a spaceship and he'll find God in space as he found God on earth. Much depends on the seeing eye."

- C.S. Lewis, The Seeing Eye, February 1963



The Problem of Divine Hiddenness: If God Exists, Why Isn't It More Obvious?

The Question Assumes:

1. There is no reason for God to remain "hidden"
2. He has made little or no effort to reach the people of this world
3. He hasn't actually already done so
4. If God were to show himself, all would believe and receive his salvation
5. The world and their entire way of life would not end should God come to earth.

Flawed logic:

"I don't think there is enough evidence to prove he exists."

"Therefore, he doesn't exist."



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The Bible Doesn't Shy Away from This Topic

Psalm 10:1 Why, O LORD, do you stand far away? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?

Psalm 44:24 Why do you hide your face? Why do you forget our affliction and oppression?

Hebrews 11:27 By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible.

The Invisibility of God Is Actually a Function of His Transcendence

1st Timothy 1:17 To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Exodus 33:18 - 20

Moses said, "Please show me your glory." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live."

Isaiah 55:6 - 9

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts... For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Romans 1:19 - 20

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

James 2:19 You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!

"But I wonder whether people who ask God to interfere openly and directly in our world quite realize what it will be like when He does. When that happens, it is the end of the world. When the author walks on to the stage the play is over. God is going to invade, all right: but what is the good of saying you are on His side then, when you see the whole natural universe melting away like a dream and something else—something it never entered your head to conceive—comes crashing in; something so beautiful to some of us and so terrible to others that none of us will have any choice left? For this time it will be God without disguise; something so overwhelming that it will strike either irresistible love or irresistible horror into every creature. It will be too late then to choose your side. There is no use in saying you choose to lie down when it has become impossible to stand up. That will not be the time for choosing: it will be the time when we discover which side we really have chosen, whether we realized it before or not. Now, today, this moment, is our chance to choose the right side. God is holding back to give us that chance. It will not last forever. We must take it or leave it."

- CS Lewis, Mere Christianity, Book 2, Chapter 5: The Practical Conclusion

