



REFLECTIONS

February 28, 2010

**He determines the number of the stars
and calls them each by name.
Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
his understanding has no limit.**

Psalms 147:4-5

Discoveries

It was meant to be a science project, but to my fourth grade class it was a work of art. From a dowel, clothes hanger wire, thread spools, and a lump of clay, we made a model of the solar system. It demonstrated the relative size of the planets, their distance from the sun, and how they spun on their axes as they circled it. We were all very proud of our work. It was a model of the creation as it was known to be back then.

If we recreated that model today it would still be much the same, but there have been new discoveries about the solar system and the universe around it that might cause us to make it a little differently. And the understanding of outer space is not the only subject where the knowledge of mankind has grown.

I have always been in wonder of the transformational discoveries my grandparents experienced in their lifetimes. Radio, telephone, and television transformed the way the world communicated. Automobiles and airplanes changed the mode and speed of travel; and space exploration ignited imaginations of what the future might hold. But as I pause to think for a moment, I am in awe of the discoveries made during my lifetime too.

Some of those discoveries have revealed intricate complexities of our world. In a matter of a few generations new levels of unimagined smallness have been discovered. And increasingly powerful telescopes have produced discoveries of a much larger universe than was once believed.

Knowledge has increased since my fourth grade class displayed that model of the solar system so many years ago. Understanding of the universe has grown, but there have also been many other discoveries that have changed our scientific beliefs and transformed the way we live our lives. They leave me in wonder of God's creation. I am awestruck by the diminutive details that continue to be found, and unable to comprehend the ultimate size that God's kingdom could be. It has all led to a discovery of my own. I think you have discovered it too.

Our God is an awesome God.

"You are the light of the world."

Richard +

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