

# God's Mercy Leads to a Life of Repentance

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Nehemiah 9

In light of who God is, we should lead a life of repentance – praising him, confessing our sins to him and committing our lives to following him.

# Nehemiah 9

# Three Things We can Learn About God from Nehemiah 9

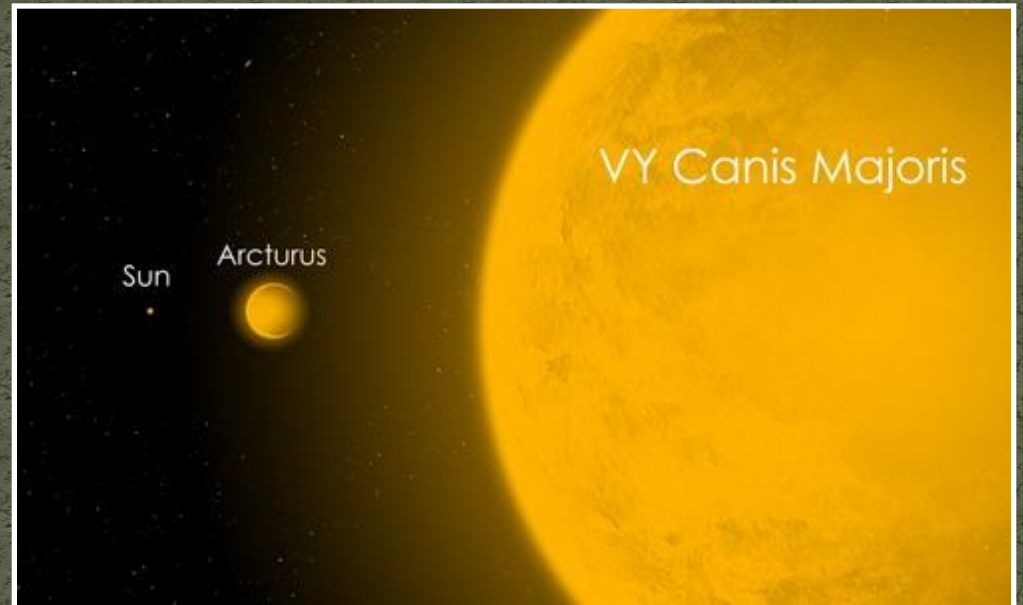
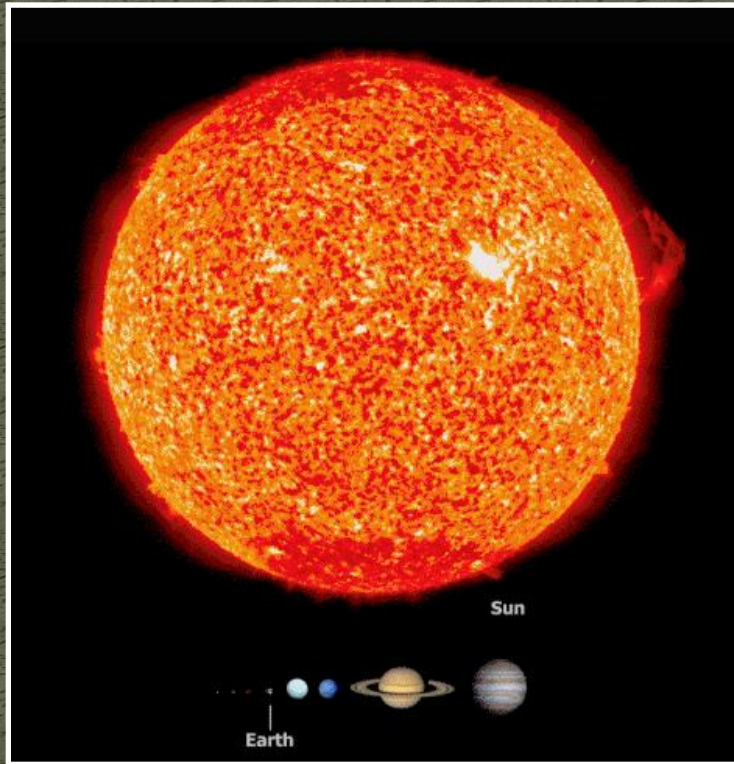
- ① God is powerful (v.5b-6)
- ② God is generous (v.7-15)
- ③ God is merciful (v.16-31)

# Three Things We can Learn About God from Nehemiah 9

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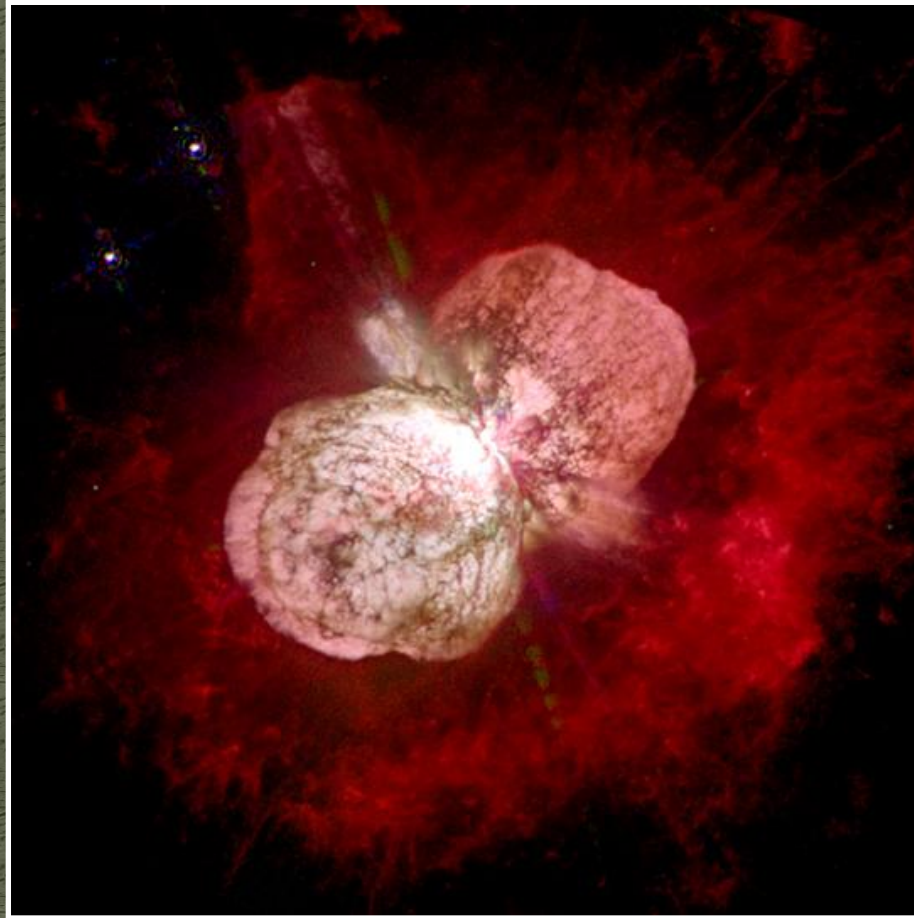
# Canis Majoris

Over 2,000 times the size of the sun!



# Eta Carinae

4-5 million times brighter than the sun!



“The heavens declare the glory of God, and  
the sky above proclaims his handiwork.”

-Psalm 19:1

# Three Things We can Learn About God from Nehemiah 9

- ① God is powerful (v.5b-6)
- ② God is generous (v.7-15)

“For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. *It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the Lord set his love on you and chose you*, for you were the fewest of all peoples, *but it is because the Lord loves you and is keeping the oath that he swore to your fathers...*”

-Deuteronomy 7:6-8a

“God does not do good only to those who obey him. He blesses his people before there is any inclination in their hearts to obey. His blessing begins before time. And he blesses us in time, not only as a reward for faithfulness, but before we are faithful. God’s grace initiates the covenant. We obey him because he has delivered us. So God has been good to us even when we have hated him and rebelled against him. It was while we were yet sinners that Christ dies for us (Rom. 5:8).”

- John Frame, *Doctrine of God*, p.411

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“The mercy experienced by Israel through the great acts of God found articulate and personal expression in the ministry of Christ. He disclosed God’s mercy at the level of human relationships.”

-Phillip Towner, *New Dictionary of Biblical Theology*

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In light of who God is, we should lead a life of repentance – praising him, confessing our sins to him and committing our lives to following him.

# Our Response: A lifestyle of repentance

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- ② In light of who God is, we should confess our sins to him (v.16-18)

“If we are to appreciate the wonder of God’s forgiveness, our sins need to be identified as the distinctly individual, personal and damaging transgressions they really are, and not mechanically lumped together in some ritualistic phrase at the beginning of a formal prayer. We must name them honestly before God as we ask that they might be washed away; only in this way will we admit their seriousness and acknowledge our shame.”

-J.A. Motyer, *The Message of Nehemiah*, p.150

“For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to you and I did not cover my iniquity. I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,’ and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.”

-Psalm 32:3-5

# Our Response: A lifestyle of repentance

- ① In light of who God is, we should praise him (v.6-15)
- ② In light of who God is, we should confess our sins to him (v.16-18)
- ③ In light of who God is, we should commit our lives to following him (v. 38)

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