

THE MOSES PARADOX

Introduction – A paradox consists of true statements that lead to an apparent or real contradiction in logic or intuition. In Moses we see the God who is far away but so close.

A. The life of Moses illustrates the conflict between God being so close but so far away.

Exodus 3:5-6

Exodus 19:9-12

Exodus 33:18-20

Deuteronomy 34:10

The nature of the tabernacle/temple illustrates this paradox.

B. The nature of God

1. The immanence of God literally means to be within or near. God is always present within the universe.

Jeremiah 23:23-24

2. The transcendence of God means that He is above, other than, and distinct from what He has made.

Isaiah 55:8-9

3. To affirm God's transcendence and deny His immanence is to arrive at deism. To deny His transcendence and affirm His immanence is to arrive at pantheism.

C. In Jesus we see the resolution of this paradox of God being far away but so close.

John 1:1-3, 14

D. The presence of the Holy Spirit in every disciple's life is the beginning of the solution for us.

Ephesians 2:18-22

Conclusion – The paradox of God's immanence and His transcendence will be resolved for us in God's good future.

Revelations 21:1-3