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# **When atheists and Christians agree**

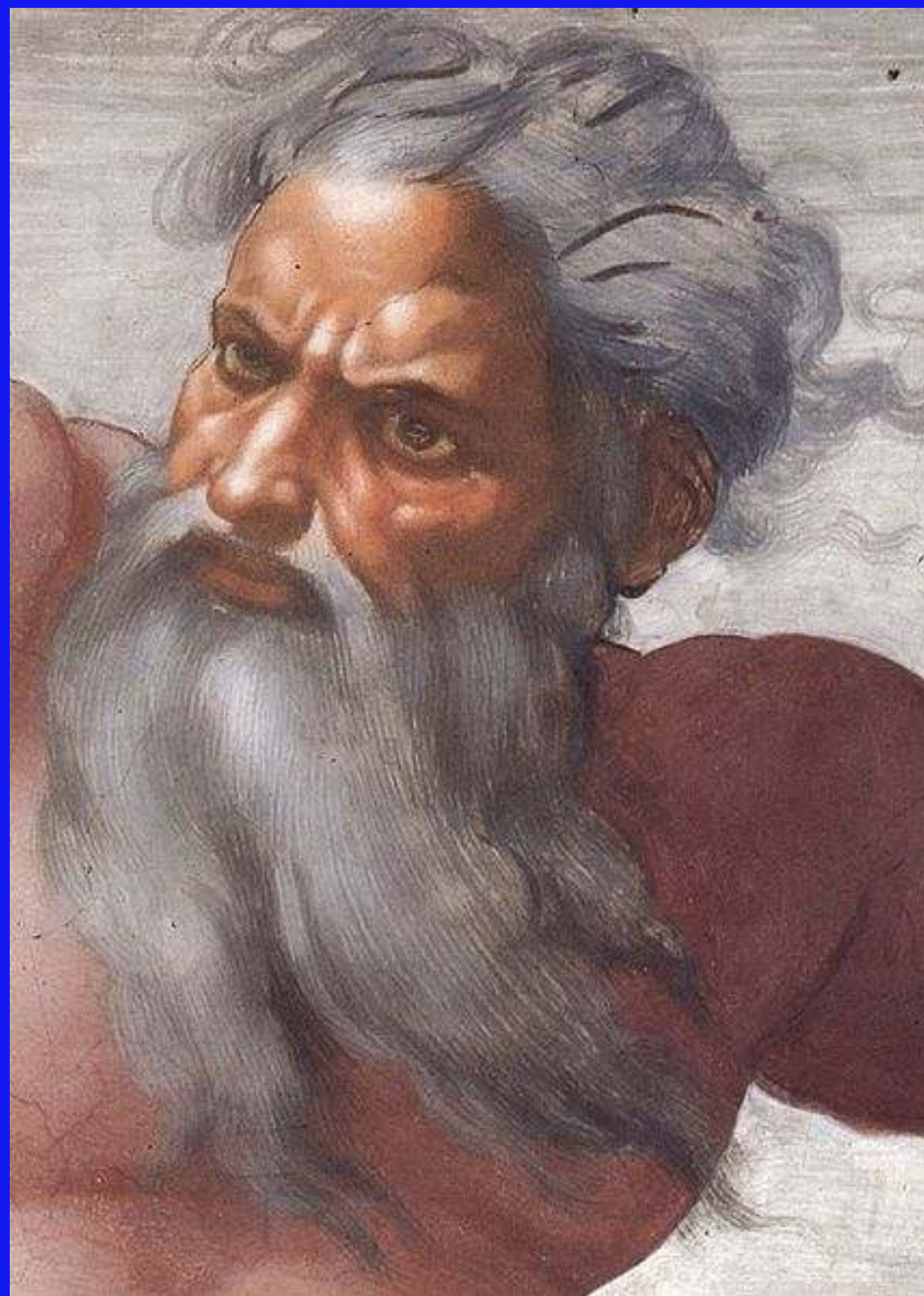
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**What is God like ?**

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# The big picture



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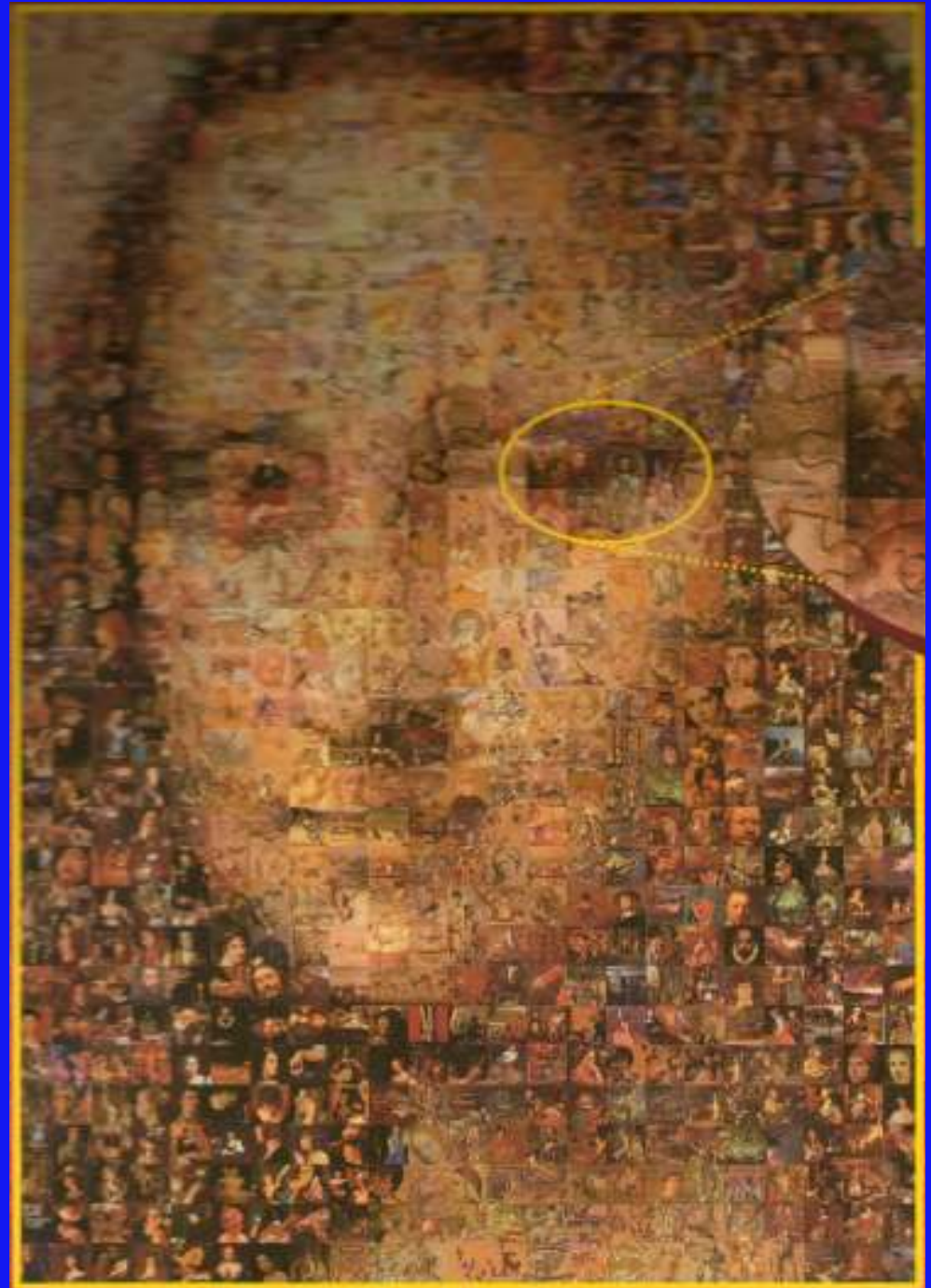
Thousands of **miniature**  
**photographs** combine

to make **one**  
**awesome**  
**portrait!**



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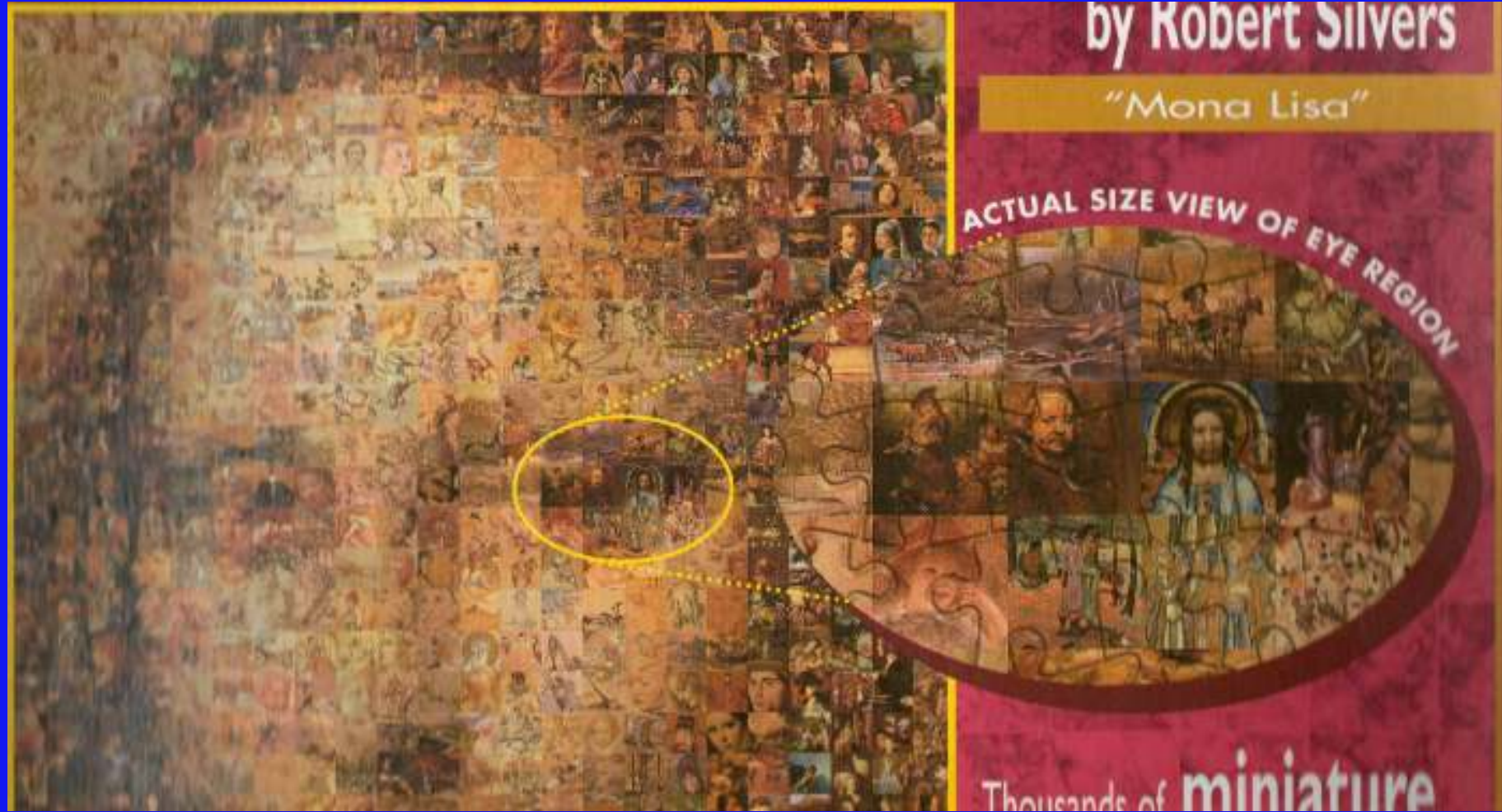
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# **The bible - a celebration**



## Nehemiah 8 v1 ff

.... all the people assembled .... They told Ezra the scribe to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel.

So .... Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were able to understand.

He read it aloud from daybreak till noon .... in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand.

And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.





## Nehemiah 8 v1 ff

Ezra the scribe stood on a high wooden platform built for the occasion....

Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up.

Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

The Levites ..... instructed the people in the Law while the people were standing there.

They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people could understand what was being read.



## Nehemiah 8 v1 ff

Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, “This day is sacred to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep.” For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law.

Nehemiah said, “Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

Then all the people went away to eat and drink, to send portions of food and to celebrate with great joy, because they now understood the words that had been made known to them.



## Nehemiah 8 v1 ff

..... Day after day, from the first day to the last, Ezra read from the Book of the Law of God.

They celebrated the feast for seven days, and on the eighth day, in accordance with the regulation, there was an assembly.



# **5 reasons not to read the bible**





## **5 reasons not to read the bible**

- it's too long



## **5 reasons not to read the bible**

- **it's too long**
- **it's too difficult**



## **5 reasons not to read the bible**

- **it's too long**
- **it's too difficult**
- **it's too boring**



## **5 reasons not to read the bible**

- **it's too long**
- **it's too difficult**
- **it's too boring**
- **I'm too busy**





## **5 reasons not to read the bible**

- **it's too long**
- **it's too difficult**
- **it's too boring**
- **I'm too busy**
- **I'm too tired**



**Before a person can KNOW**



**Before a person can KNOW**

**- they have to want to know**

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- **read the bible more**



- **read the bible more**
- **understand and apply it**



- **read the bible more**
- **understand and apply it**
- **experience it in new and creative ways**



- **read the bible more**
- **understand and apply it**
- **experience it in new and creative ways**
- **raise money to translate it for Burkina Faso**



Quand je parlerais les langues des hommes et des anges, si je n'ai pas la charité, je suis un airain qui résonne, ou une cymbale qui retentit.

Et quand j'aurais le don de prophétie, la science de tous les mystères et toute la connaissance, quand j'aurais même toute la foi jusqu'à transporter des montagnes, si je n'ai pas la charité, je ne suis rien.

Et quand je distribuerais tous mes biens pour la nourriture des pauvres, quand je livrerais même mon corps pour être brûlé, si je n'ai pas la charité, cela ne me sert de rien.

La charité est patiente, elle est pleine de bonté; la charité n'est point envieuse; la charité ne se vante point, elle ne s'enfle point d'orgueil,

elle ne fait rien de malhonnête, elle ne cherche point son intérêt, elle ne s'irrite point, elle ne soupçonne point le mal,



elle ne se réjouit point de l'injustice, mais elle se réjouit de la vérité;

elle excuse tout, elle croit tout, elle espère tout, elle supporte tout.

La charité ne périt jamais. Les prophéties prendront fin, les langues cesseront, la connaissance disparaîtra.

Car nous connaissons en partie, et nous prophétisons en partie,

mais quand ce qui est parfait sera venu, ce qui est partiel disparaîtra.

Lorsque j'étais enfant, je parlais comme un enfant, je pensais comme un enfant, je raisonnais comme un enfant; lorsque je suis devenu homme, j'ai fait disparaître ce qui était de l'enfant.

Aujourd'hui nous voyons au moyen d'un miroir, d'une manière obscure, mais alors nous verrons face à face; aujourd'hui je connais en partie, mais alors je connaîtrai comme j'ai été connu.

Maintenant donc ces trois choses demeurent: la foi, l'espérance, la charité; mais la plus grande de ces choses, c'est la charité.





**Before a person can KNOW**

**- they have to want to know**



## **Before a person can KNOW**

- they have to want to know**
- they have to be willing to know**



## John 14 v5 - 10

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us."

Jesus answered: "Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me?

# Remember Me



