

What Can We See?

"Flatland: A Romance of Many Dimensions" by Edwin Abbott was required reading when I was growing up. Amazingly, the book was written in 1884 and was about an imagined world that existed on a 2-dimensional plane (sort of like existing on a very thin piece of paper).

Imagine what one of us might look like to the creatures of such a world...if in fact we could be seen at all. If we could enter a 2-dimensional world--If we could stick a finger through that "paper"--only a cross section of that finger could be seen. Only a part of us would seem real.

Imagine, then, if someone existed in a higher dimension than our own. What might that "being" see? And how might we view that "being"?

Scientists believe that we live in a 4-dimensional space-time continuum. According to Einstein, the 4th dimension was "time" and that reality could only be seen, mathematically, if our 3-dimensional world was linked with that 4th dimension of time.

I once carried on a conversation with my 7-year old son about such a concept and what we might see if we could enter into a higher dimension...a dimension beyond "time".

He thought that if we were asleep when we entered, we would sleep forever (because time didn't exist). And if we were awake, we would be awake forever. Not bad for a 7-year old! Not bad at all!

The concept of time is tricky. It depends on whether you are viewing it from the "inside" or the "outside." Or...more precisely, from within a 4-dimensional space-time continuum or from some higher dimension existing beyond/outside the "universe" in which we reside.

A 3-dimensional space is composed of an infinite number of 2-dimensional planes.

Might, then, a 4-dimensional space-time continuum encompass an

infinite number of 3-dimensional spaces?

When we look around us, what do we see?

We see ALL the 3-dimensional spaces as if they were a single picture of our 4-dimensional space-time continuum. A picture that appears as a single composition of the world around us.

What might a higher-dimensional-being (a being we refer to as “God”, for example) see? Might He not easily see ALL 4-dimensional space time continuums? Perhaps, all at once and as a single composition, too?

We have been given a single composition that consists of the first five books of the Bible; and many believe that this composition was given to humanity by God.

Might this “single composition”, then, contain a number (perhaps, an infinite number) of 4-dimensional space-times (i.e., timelines)? And if we’ve been given the privilege of a glimpse at how God sees things, perhaps we should look at it, again...and again...and again...and, each time, see what else we can see.