SOFTWARE & TECH

God Is Bigger Than The Boogie Man

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Introduction: More Than a Childhood Song

The phrase "God Is Bigger Than The Boogie Man" is instantly recognizable to millions of parents and children who have enjoyed the classic VeggieTales video, *Where's God When I'm S-Scared?*On the surface, it is a catchy, upbeat tune designed to help toddlers overcome their fear of the dark or the imaginary monster under the bed. However, this simple lyric carries a profound theological weight that extends far beyond the nursery. It encapsulates a core tenet of the Christian faith: the absolute sovereignty and supremacy of God over all forces of chaos, fear, and darkness. This article explores the depth of that statement, examining how the truth that God is greater than any "boogie man" applies to the very real, very adult fears we face every day, from financial insecurity and health crises to anxiety about the future.

The Origin of the Phrase: From VeggieTales to Theology

To fully appreciate the power of the statement "God Is Bigger Than The Boogie Man," we must first understand its context. The song was performed by Junior Asparagus and Larry the Cucumber, two beloved characters from the VeggieTales series. The episode addresses the common childhood fear of monsters, a fear that feels paralyzingly real to a young child. The song's simple message—that God's power is infinitely greater than any imagined threat—offers immediate comfort. This concept is not merely a modern invention for children's entertainment; it is a deeply biblical theme that runs from Genesis to Revelation. The "boogie man" in our lives changes form as we age, but the fundamental truth remains unchanged: no adversary, seen or unseen, can stand against the Creator of the universe. The genius of the VeggieTales song is that it packages this heavy, comforting truth into a format a child can sing in the dark. It plants a seed of faith that can grow to overcome the more sophisticated "monsters" of adulthood.

Understanding Childhood Fears and the "Boogie Man"

Psychologists tell us that childhood fears, particularly of the dark or of imaginary creatures, are a normal part of cognitive development. They represent a child's emerging understanding of a world that is not always safe. The "boogie man" is a symbol of the unknown, the unseen threat that the child cannot control. This fear is primal. When we tell a child, "God Is Bigger Than The Boogie Man," we are not dismissing their fear. Instead, we are redirecting it toward a source of ultimate safety. We are teaching them a hierarchy of power. The monster under the bed may feel big and scary, but God is bigger and stronger. This does not simply mask the fear; it replaces it with a foundation of trust. It teaches the child that their security does not depend on their own ability to fight or hide, but on the protective power of a loving Father. This early lesson in faith is the first brick in a wall of spiritual resilience that will be tested later in life. The child who learns that God is bigger than the monster under the bed is better prepared to learn that God is bigger than a difficult exam, a broken friendship, or a frightening diagnosis.

The Theological Truth: God's Sovereignty Over Fear

At its core, "God Is Bigger Than The Boogie Man" is a statement about the sovereignty of God. Sovereignty means that God has supreme power and authority over all creation. Nothing happens outside of His knowledge or

permission. For the believer, this is the ultimate antidote to fear. When we say God is bigger, we are affirming several key theological concepts:

- God's Power is Absolute: He is omnipotent. No force in the universe, physical or spiritual, can overpower Him. Colossians 1:16-17 reminds us that all things were created by Him and for Him, and in Him, all things hold together. This includes the "boogie men" of our lives, whether they are financial struggles, relational conflicts, or spiritual attacks.
- God's Knowledge is Perfect: He is omniscient. The "boogie man" thrives in the shadows of the unknown. We fear what we do not understand. But God knows everything. He sees the future, understands our hearts, and knows the outcome of every situation. There is nothing hidden from His sight. This means our fears, no matter how deep or confusing, are fully known to Him.
- God's Presence is Constant: He is omnipresent. The fear of being alone or facing a threat by ourselves is a powerful one. Yet the Bible repeatedly assures us that God will never leave us nor forsake us. He is with us in the dark, just as He is with us in the light. The "boogie man" may lurk in the shadows, but the light of God's presence is always there.

These three attributes—omnipotence, omniscience, and omnipresence—form an impenetrable fortress against the terrors of the night, whether those terrors are imaginary monsters or very real crises. The simple children's song, therefore, is a profound confession of faith in a God who is truly in control.

Biblical Foundation for "God Is Bigger Than the Boogie Man"

The Bible is filled with verses that echo the sentiment of the VeggieTales song. These scriptures provide the solid foundation upon which this childlike faith is built.

The Psalms: A Prayer Against the Fear of the Night

Psalm 91 is perhaps the most famous biblical passage on protection from hidden terror. It speaks directly to the fear of the "boogie man." Verse 5 states: **"You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day."** This verse acknowledges that threats come in different forms, both in the dark (hidden, mysterious) and in the light (open, obvious). The Psalmist's response is not to deny the existence of these threats but to assert that God's refuge and fortress are greater. The "terror of night" is the adult equivalent of the monster under the bed, and the Psalmist proclaims that God is bigger.

The New Testament: Jesus Calms the Storm

In Mark 4:35-41, we find a powerful illustration of the phrase "God Is Bigger Than The Boogie Man." Jesus and his disciples are crossing the Sea of Galilee when a furious storm arises. The disciples, many of whom were experienced fishermen, are terrified. They wake Jesus, who is sleeping peacefully. He rebukes the wind and the waves, and there is a great calm. He then turns to his disciples and asks, **"Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"**The "boogie man" for the disciples was a literal storm that threatened to sink their boat. But Jesus demonstrated that He was bigger than the storm. He is the Lord of creation, and even the wind and the waves obey Him. This story is a direct challenge to us. Our "storms" may look different, but the same Jesus who silenced the sea is with us in our boat.

Paul's Assurance: Nothing Can Separate Us

In Romans 8:38-39, the Apostle Paul gives us a definitive list of "boogie men." He writes: **"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."**This is the ultimate expression of the phrase. Death, demons, the future, hidden

powers—these are all "boogie men" of the highest order. Yet Paul declares with absolute confidence that they are all inferior to the love of God. God is not just a little bigger than these things; they are dwarfed by His infinite love and power. This passage moves us from a childish fear to a mature, unshakeable faith.

Applying This Truth to Adult Fears

While we may have outgrown the fear of a literal monster under the bed, we have simply traded it for more sophisticated fears. The "boogie man" of adulthood wears many masks. It might be the fear of cancer, the fear of bankruptcy, the fear of losing a loved one, the fear of failure, or the fear of being alone. These fears are not childish. They are real and they are heavy. How do we apply the truth of "God Is Bigger Than The Boogie Man" to these grown-up anxieties?

1. Name Your Boogie Man: The first step is to identify what you are actually afraid of. Fear thrives on vagueness. The monster under the bed was scary because you couldn't see it clearly. By naming your fear— "I am afraid I will not have enough money for retirement" —you bring it into the light. This does not make it disappear, but it makes it manageable and specific enough to pray about.
2. Contrast Your Fear with God's Character: Once you have named the fear, deliberately compare it to the character of God. Your financial fear may be big, but is it bigger than God, who owns the cattle on a thousand hills? Your fear of illness may be real, but is it greater than God, who is the Great Physician? Your fear of the future may be unsettling, but is it more powerful than God, who holds the future in His hands? This mental exercise of comparison is a spiritual discipline that strengthens faith.
3. Practice the Presence of God: The disciples were terrified because they forgot Jesus was in the boat with them. We often do the same. We look at the storm and forget the Savior. The practice of God's presence—through prayer, scripture reading, and mindfulness—is how we remind ourselves that we are not alone. When you feel the "boogie man" of anxiety approaching, pause and whisper, "God is with me. He is bigger than this." This prayer is not a magic charm; it is a reorientation of your trust.
4. Build a Community of Faith: The VeggieTales song is usually sung in the company of others. Fear is often an isolating experience. It tells us we are the only ones who are scared. By sharing your fears with a trusted friend, pastor, or small group, you break the power of isolation. You also allow others to sing the song with you. They can remind you that God is bigger when you have forgotten. The body of Christ is designed to help us carry our burdens and fight our fears together.

Practical Steps to Embrace This Truth Daily

Knowing that "God Is Bigger Than The Boogie Man" is one thing. Living it out is another. Here are practical, daily steps to help you internalize this truth:

- Start Your Day with a Declaration: Before your feet hit the floor, speak the truth out loud. Say, "Today, I will face challenges, but God is bigger than every one of them. He goes before me, He is with me, and He is my rear guard." Speaking this aloud sets the tone for your day and trains your brain to default to faith rather than fear.
- Use Scripture as Your Shield: Memorize a few key verses that speak to your specific fears. When the "boogie man" of worry attacks, fight back with the sword of the Spirit. For example, if you struggle with anxiety, memorize Philippians 4:6-7, which tells us not to be anxious but to present our requests to God. The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your heart and mind. That peace is stronger than the anxiety.
- Reframe Your Problems: Instead of seeing a problem as a disaster, try to see it as an opportunity to see God show up. When you are faced with a big "boogie man," ask yourself, "How big is my God going to show Himself in this situation?" This reframes the challenge from a threat to a stage for God's glory. It turns your fear into expectancy.

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