



El Ojo de Dios
October 7, 2007

There is a design in New Mexico called “Ojo de Dios” – the Eye of God. It’s usually made by crossing two sticks, and weaving various colors of thread or yarn around the sticks to make a geometric design.

As we begin to think about God’s perspective on things, God’s ‘Eye,’ the axis lines of the shape seem to suggest some categories for our thinking.

The top of the shape could represent God’s universally inclusive care. There is no person, nor any part of life that is beyond God’s care. If we would see things as God sees them, we would know that every child in Darfur, every soldier on both sides of any and all wars, the seas and their creatures, the air and the land are in God’s sight and in God’s care.

The bottom of the shape could represent God’s profound penetration into each of us. All the events that have happened to us, all the decisions we’ve made, the illusions that attract us and the joy and pain in our lives are real, visible, fragile and embraced in God’s irresistible love and justice. Our most precious possessions, and our dearest friends, may be whisked away in our lives, but we are still in God’s sight and in God’s care.

To the left seems to be our past. All the events that have shaped our lives and our world are part of God’s perspective; the genocides and the defenders of the oppressed, the feet of clay and the profound insights of those who have gone before us. Devastation and recovery, peoples and languages lost from history, dinosaurs and forests, all are embraced in God’s sight.

The right then seems to be the future. Open, un-decided in shape and form, filled with possibility for terror and fulfillment. Never a simple, determined pattern, but always unfolding in the interaction between limits and possibilities, all are in God’s sight and care.

At the center – the cruciform shape of the cross. The cross is God’s promise of reconciliation without revenge, forgiveness and freedom without getting even. God does not demand scapegoats or shaming, and releases us from the traps of greed and pride in Jesus as the Christ.

Let us see ourselves and our neighbors, our world and our care through El Ojo de Dios, the Eye of God.