Reflection Prompts for Week 6

Monday’s Reading

Reread Book II, 377a – 383c of Plato’s Republic, and reflect on one of the following:

1. In 380d – 381c, Socrates (Plato) presents an argument on the immutability (changelessness) of God.
   - Attempt to present Plato’s argument. What are the premises (reasons)? And what is the primary conclusion (thesis)?
   - Are you convinced by Plato’s argument? If not, do you think that one of the premises is false or misleading? Is Plato’s notion of a changeless God compatible with scripture?

2. In 379a – 380c, Plato provides his own resolution to the problem of evil.
   - Explain Plato’s resolution.
   - How you satisfied with Plato’s resolution? Why or why not?

Wednesday’s Reading

Read C Hartshorne’s “Receiving God” available online, and reflect on the following:

- Explain what Hartshorne means by the claim that “the highest conceivable form of knowledge is of the past and definite as past and definite and of the future and partly indefinite as future and partly indefinite” (339)
- Explain why Hartshorne (or anyone) would think that this notion of omniscience (all-knowing) is more compatible with the idea that humans are genuine decision-makers.
- Do you think that this is an adequate account of God’s omniscience? Why or why not?