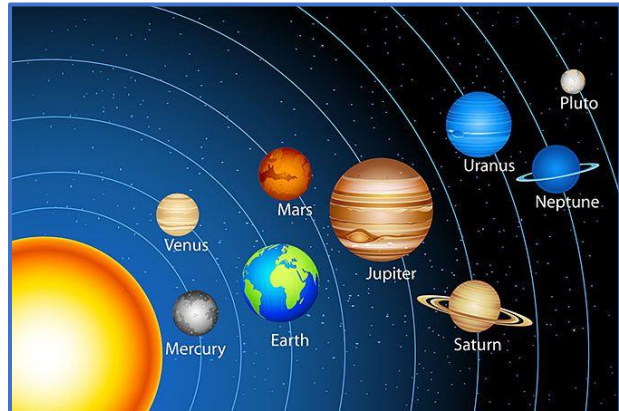


Do You Feel Plutoed?

Poor Pluto. First, it's a planet and then it's not anymore. It has become the Rodney Dangerfield of our solar system.

Pluto was discovered by Clyde Tombaugh in 1930, and was originally considered to be the ninth planet from the Sun. After 1992, its status as a planet was questioned following the discovery of several objects of similar size in the Kuiper belt, according to *Wikipedia*.

In 2005, Eris – a dwarf planet in the *scattered disc* (a distant circumstellar disc in the solar system that is sparsely populated by icy small solar system bodies) which is 27 percent more massive than Pluto – was discovered. This led the International Astronomical Union to define the term *planet* formally in 2006 during its 26th General Assembly. This definition excluded Pluto and reclassified it as a dwarf planet.



In an award-winning move that probably did not make the dwarf planet feel better, the term *plutoed* was declared the Word of the Year in 2006 by the American Dialect Society in Anaheim, California. The word means “to demote or devalue someone or something.”

Which raises the question: Do you ever feel “plutoed?” Do you believe that people don’t appreciate you like they should? You may get that feeling on the job when you’re working harder than anyone else and somebody else gets the credit, the promotion and the attention. You may have that thought in your marriage or in the home – whether you’re the husband, wife, parent or child. You may even sometimes conclude that you have been plutoed by the church.

Maybe you think your difficulties or problems are being ignored. You might decide your contributions or ideas are not taken seriously enough. Probably, many people have to deal with that “plutoed” feeling on occasion.

Just remember a few truths:

1. Remember the value God placed on your soul by sending Jesus to die to save it.
2. Remember that God’s system of rewarding is on His time and His terms, but He will not let faithful service go unnoticed or unblessed.
3. Remember that you are valuable because of who you are: a child of God.
4. Finally, remember your obligation to help everyone around you feel valued. After all, isn’t that the way you prefer to be treated?

(more)

There are plenty of people who are sorely in need of being “de-plutoed,” even as God has uniquely equipped you for the task.

Experience the value that God has attributed to you by showing it to all those for whom Christ died.

In his letter to the Galatians, the Apostle Paul said: *I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me* (Galatians 2:20 NKJV).

That makes you a very valuable person!

– Beecher Hunter