

The Omniscience of God

Lesson for Sunday, June 1, 2025

INTRODUCTION:

- ⇒ Humanly speaking, who knows you better than anyone?
 - Probably a spouse, best friend, a mom or dad...
 - If your class is fun have them share something about themselves that no one else knows!
- ⇒ Even the people that know us best don't know us completely. To be completely known means that they know our every thought and even our motives.
- ⇒ At the same time, there has been much research conducted that reveals that the majority of people have a deep longing to be known by someone else.
- ⇒ In recent years, even with the evolution of connectivity, people report being more "unknown" than ever before. Coupled with the desire to be known at a deep level, this leads to skyrocketing percentages of depression, anxiety and despair.
- ⇒ For the Christian, this should not be a problem because we serve an omniscient God who knows us even better than we know ourselves!
- ⇒ Once again, the theology of God brings us great comfort and meets our deepest needs.

BIBLE STUDY:

1. God knows everything.
 - a. Omniscience is most simply defined as: God knows everything.
 - i. God knows Himself and all other things; actual or possible, past, present and future. He knows things immediately, simultaneously, exhaustively and truly.
 - ii. Consider these texts: Proverbs 15:3; 1 John 3:20; Romans 11:33
 - b. God has infinite knowledge of everything.
 - i. No created being has complete and perfect knowledge of himself (Jeremiah 17:9). But God knows Himself perfectly.
 - ii. God knows all things existing: inanimate creation (Ps. 147:4), men and all their works (Ps. 33:13-15), men's thoughts and hearts (Prov. 15:3), and men's burdens and wants (Matt. 6:32).
 - iii. God knows all things possible. He has knowledge of the possible as well as the actual.
 - iv. God knows the future.
2. God knows everything about you (Psalm 139:1-6).
 - a. Verse 1:
 - i. "Searched" implies thorough examination, like a miner digging for precious metals.
 - ii. "Known" signifies relational, intimate knowledge (not just factual awareness).
 - iii. *Takeaway*: God's knowledge of us is both exhaustive and personal.
 - b. Verse 2:

- i. God knows our actions (daily routines) and thoughts (even unspoken ones).
 - ii. *Takeaway*: God is well-aware of even the smallest details of our lives.
 - c. Verse 3:
 - i. God sees our journey (choices, habits, struggles) and is “acquainted” (familiar) with every detail.
 - ii. *Takeaway*: God is interested in every aspect of our lives.
 - d. Verse 4:
 - i. God’s knowledge is preemptive. He knows our words before we speak.
 - ii. *Takeaway*: God hears us before we even speak!
 - e. Verse 5:
 - i. “God has beset me behind and before” means to “encircle” or “protect” or “to hem in.”
 - ii. *Takeaway*: God’s knowledge is coupled with His presence and protection.
 - f. When we consider God’s omniscience, we are led to respond as David did. Think of what we have learned these first few weeks about God: All-loving, perfectly holy, always with us. Why would God be so interested in us?
 - i. Verse 6: *“Such knowledge is too wonderful... I cannot grasp it”*:
 - ii. David’s response is awe, not fear.
- 3. The Difference God’s Omniscience Makes
 - a. There are three key themes that we notice when considering God’s omniscience.
 - b. First is God’s intimacy. He knows us better than we know ourselves. Our response to this is two-fold. It scares us but should also bring us great comfort. We long to be known at a deep level, and God fulfills that longing.
 - c. Second is God’s sovereignty. His knowledge is active, not passive. He “searches” and “hems us in.”
 - d. Third is our humility. How do we respond to such a great God? With awe, trust and humility.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ⇒ How does knowing God sees *everything* (actions, thoughts, words) affect how you live daily?
- ⇒ Why might David describe God’s knowledge as “too wonderful” (v. 6) rather than frightening?
- ⇒ How can God’s omniscience comfort you in moments of loneliness or uncertainty?
- ⇒ God’s omniscience is not a cold, distant truth - it’s an invitation to live freely, knowing we are fully known, fully loved, and never alone.