

Women of the Word
Image Bearers
Made for Relationship, Worship, Service and Holiness
The Omniscience of God

Tuesday, March 1, 2017
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I Introduction

We are looking at the second ‘Omni’ perfection of God – one of three that overlap in their meaning. If omnipresence means God is eternally and fully ‘everywhere present’ and He is described as ‘seeing’ everything, there must accompany this perfection the truth that He too ‘knows’ everything. Those in Scripture who bear clear witness to this are:

1. Elihu says about God ‘...is the One who is perfect in knowledge’ (Job 37:16)

That God is omniscient is the of knowing everything. Because God knows everything, He is said to be omniscient. Omni means that God has knowledge of H and all things ac and pos in one simple (not divided into parts) and eternal act. (He does know what would have occurred if circumstances had been different but in His mind and plan they would never occur).

A Song of Ascents, of David

Psalm 131

1 O Lord, my heart is not proud, nor my eyes haughty;

Nor do I involve myself in great matters,

Or in things too difficult for me.

2 Surely I have composed and quieted my soul;

Like a weaned child *rests* against his mother,

My soul is like a weaned child within me.

3 O Israel, hope in the Lord

From this time forth and forever.

For the choir director. A Psalm of David.

Psalm 139

O Lord, You have **searched me and known *me*.**

2 **You know when** I sit down and when I rise up;

You understand my thought from afar.

3 **You scrutinize** my path and my lying down,

And are intimately acquainted with all my ways.

4 Even before there is a word on my tongue,

Behold, O Lord, **You know it all.**

5 You have enclosed me behind and before,

And laid Your hand upon me.

6 **Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;**

It is *too high*, I cannot attain to it.

13 For You formed **my inward parts;**

You wove me in **my mother’s womb.**

14 I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

Wonderful are Your works,

And my soul knows it very well.

15 My frame was not hidden from You,

When I was **made in secret,**

*And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth;
16 Your eyes have seen **my unformed substance**;
 And in Your **book were all written**
The days that were ordained for me, When as yet there was not one of them.*

II The Eternal PRORITY of God's Knowledge

1. **God's omniscience is eternal** – 'a priori' meaning 'from the prev_____'. It proceeds from a kn_____ or assu_____ cause to a necessarily related effect.
2. **God's knowledge precedes** all things ou_____ God; it is never derived f_____ reality outside Himself as Paul so clearly states in Romans 8;28-30.
3. **God's omniscience is perfect**, never inc_____ (Is. 40:13, 14; Rom. 11:34)
4. **God's omniscience is definite**, clearly de_____, precise, cert_____, sure and compre_____! (Ps. 139:1-3 leaves **no doubts**; Heb. 4:13 describes truth for ALL)
5. **God's omniscience is eternally active**, never pas_____ because God's essence is eternally active! That Jesus and His Father **are always working** (Jn. 5:10-18) upsets the Jews! Paul confirms **God's continued work** in those created in Christ Jesus - Eph. 2:8-10

III What God KNOWS

1. H_____ as the Triune God – Matt. 11:27; John 1:18; 10:15; 1 Cor. 2:10
 Since God fully knows Himself, He knows all things and everything He is _____ to do.
2. All things at once – 2 Chron. 16:9; Is. 40:13; Rom. 11:34; Heb. 4:13;
 He knows our hearts; no one informs HIM; or becomes HIS counselor; none are hidden from HIM; 'greater' than our hearts, He knows ALL things!
3. All the things we need – Matt. 6:6-8, 25-32;
 He sees in secret; He knows what you need b_____ we you ask Him!; He knows what you need when you are an_____; (e.g., clothing, food, drink)
4. The smallest things and most valuable – Matt. 10:28-31
 From your h_____ to your physical l_____!
5. The heart of man – Psalm 15:11; Jer. 11:20; 17:9,10; Luke 16:15;
 He knows the state of everyman's heart – open to all hearts, deceived hearts, hypocrites, searches, examines believers' hearts.
6. The thoughts, meditations of man and before he is born – Ps. 139 (v. 2); 1 Cor. 3:20
 He knows everything about us including those who think they are w_____ in their own eyes.
7. Man's sin and wickedness – Ps. 69:5; Jer 16:17, 32:19
 Our wrongs are not hidden; iniquities are not concealed; gives to everyone according to their wa_____.
8. He sees things that are contingent from a human perspective: Ps. 81:6-16; Mt. 11:20ff
 The Lord describes His protective relationship to Israel, Israel's choice to f_____ other g_____. (v, 11m 12)
9. He sees and knows future things that WILL come to pass – Is. 42:8,9; 44:6-8; 46:8-11

He calls sinner to remember what He has said in the past about the future, so His established purposes and pleasure will be established! He will do what He planned! (v. 11)
He knows the e_____ from the beg_____ and is working according to plan!

10. He knows and has purposes for the sufferings we experience – Job

11. He has ordained days and geographical limits for each person – Ps. 31:14,15; 39:1-6; Job 14:1-6, esp. 5; Acts 17:26. Our days are NOT haphazard; He has measured our days as handbreadths and set our life limits and habitat boundaries.

IV Responding to the LORD'S KNOWLEDGE and WISDOM

1. God's omniscience describes His knowledge and wisdom. He has kn_____ of all things; His wisdom is ma_____ in His intelligent choice of the best possible ends or goals in the things that He does, His actions. We KNOW _____

Romans 11:33-36 NASB

33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! **34** For *who has known the mind of the Lord, or who became His counselor?* **35** Or who has first given to Him that it might be paid back to him again? **36** For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him *be* the glory forever. Amen.

2. God's wisdom is manifested in His intelligent use of the best possible means and circ_____ for His action. We KNOW _____

Galatians 4:4-5 NASB

⁴But when **the fullness of the time came**, **God sent forth His Son**, born of a woman, born under the Law, ⁵so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

3. God's wisdom is manifested in His intelligent acting for the best possible reasons or judgments. So God's wisdom then is manifested in His actions, in that He selects the best goals, He uses the best means and circumstances, and also operates from the best possible re_____ or judgments. We KNOW _____

Ephesians 1:5- 12 NASB: In love ⁵**He predestined us to adoption** as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, **according to the kind intention of His will**, ⁶to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace ⁸which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight⁹ **He made known to us the mystery of His will**, according to **His kind intention which He purposed in Him** ¹⁰with a view to an **administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ**, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him ¹¹also we have obtained an inheritance, **having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will**, ¹²**to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory.**