

Subject: Our Omniscient God

Scripture: Psalm 147:1-5

Last week we explored the subject of God's power. He is omnipotent, all-powerful. In this message we are going to consider the subject of God's wisdom and knowledge. Can you imagine if God was all-powerful and yet not all-wise? That would be frightening. Even on a human level, think about it. We are alarmed whenever a dictator somewhere in the world has access to great military power or even atomic power and yet we have reason to question if he is a wise leader. Omnipotence and omniscience work well together. As we pointed out last week, in order to accomplish a task three things are necessary: the wisdom to know what to do, the desire to do it, and the ability to get it done. God has all three, and therefore He can do whatever He wants to do.

1. THE RICHES OF GOD'S KNOWLEDGE

God has infinite knowledge – That means it cannot be measured. God knows all things. He knows all things about all things. He knows all things about all people. *Psalms 147:5 Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.*

God has instant knowledge – *Romans 11:33-36* ³³ *O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!* ³⁴ *For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counselor?* ³⁵ *Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again?* ³⁶ *For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.* He knows all things without having to learn them over a period of time. He doesn't acquire knowledge like we do. God has foreknowledge. We only have after knowledge. The only things we know about the future are the things that God tells us such as the prophecies and promises found in His Word. We learn by observation, by experience, and by reasoning. We learn from others, but God is not dependent on anyone or anything. Who has been His counselor or His teacher? He needs no advisor, counselor, or teacher. *Isaiah 40:13-14* *Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD, or being his counselor hath taught him? With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and showed to him the way of understanding?*

God has in-depth knowledge – He knows all things past, present, and future. *Isaiah 46:9-10* ⁹ *Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me,* ¹⁰ *Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.* *Acts 15:18* *Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world.* He knows all things possible and actual. He knows not only what did happen, but He knows what could have happened. *Matthew 11:21* *Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.* He knows everything from the names of the stars (Ps. 147:4) to the number of the hairs on your head. God knows how to provide comfort to the brokenhearted (Ps. 147:3). God provides some wisdom and knowledge with us. *Daniel 2:20-22* ²⁰ *Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his:* ²¹ *And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:* ²² *He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him.* He provides wisdom and guidance in His written Word (Ps. 147:19-20). God shares some of His knowledge with us (Deut. 29:29).

2. THE RESULTS OF GOD'S KNOWLEDGE

We have considered “what” God knows and how He knows it. Now let's think about the “so what” of God's knowledge. What difference does it make that God knows all things?

Nothing can surprise God – Since He knows all things, nothing can blindside Him. Has it ever dawned on you that nothing ever dawns on God? There is never an emergency session in Heaven. God never has a panic attack.

Nothing can escape God – Since He knows all things, nothing escapes His notice.

Hebrews 4:13 *Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.*

Nothing can confuse God – Since He knows all things, nothing ever frustrates Him. There is never a problem too big for Him to solve.

No one can deceive God – Since He knows all things, He can see right through a hypocrite and a liar. You can't fool God. How foolish to play games with God. Abraham Lincoln once said, “You can fool all of the people some of the time and you can fool some of the people all of the time, but you can't fool all the people all the time.” You can't fool God anytime.

Since God knows all things, He plans perfectly – God has a plan and purpose for all things. He plans His work and works His plan. **Acts 15:18** *Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world.*

Since God knows all things, He predicts accurately – All the predictions (prophecies) in the Bible have been or will be fulfilled. The Bible is the only religious book in the world that contains prophecy. The reason is obvious: only God knows the future. Someone described prophecy as “pre-written history.” Many times in the Bible God spoke through the prophet something that would happen hundreds of years later, and He would speak of it in the past tense. For example, **Isaiah 53:5** *But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.*

Since God knows all things, He judges righteously – For a judge to make accurate decisions and render accurate verdicts, he must have accurate information. God knows all the facts. He sees everything we do. **1 Samuel 2:3** *... the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by him actions are weighed.* **Proverbs 15:3** *The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.* **Hebrews 4:13** *Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.* Nothing is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and exposed to His eyes and we must give an account to Him.

Since God knows all things, He provides wisely – God knows our needs even before we ask Him. **Matthew 6:7-8** *But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.* **Matthew 6:31-32** *Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.*

3. THE REALIZATION OF GOD'S KNOWLEDGE

God knows what you do (Ps. 139:1-3) – Would it make any difference what we do and where we go if we knew God is watching? He is. David realized that God “searched” him, a word that means to explore, dig deeply into. He knows every detail of your life. He knows when we sit down and when we rise up. He compasses (vs. 3, lit. “winnows”) our path and our lying down. Winnowing refers to separating the chaff from the grain. In other words, He sorts through all our activities and knows all the details, the good and the bad.

God knows what you say (Ps. 139:4) – Would it make any difference what we say and how we say it if we knew God is listening? He is. David knew that God knew what he was going to say even before he said it. **Matthew 12:36** *But I say unto you, That every idle (Gk., argos, useless) word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.* Not only does God know every word, He holds us accountable for it.

God knows where you are (Ps. 139:5-12) – You can run from God but you can't hide. You can run from God, but you can't outrun God forever. God “beset” him (vs. 5, enclosed, hedged in). God's hand was always on him. God's intimate knowledge is more than wonderful. It is far beyond our comprehension (vs. 6). No wonder Paul said, **Romans 11:33** *O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!*

God knows how you are made (Ps. 139:13-18) – He knows all the details of your body and your physical makeup. Several years ago at Bristol Regional Medical Center there was a book fair. As I was browsing some of the books, I saw a massive two-volume set on the hand, just the anatomy of the human hand. We are fearfully and wonderfully made.

God knows how you think and feel (Ps. 139:21-24) – He knows what makes you laugh and what makes you cry. He knows what makes you happy and what makes you angry. He knows the worst about you, and He knows the best about you. God's knowledge is deep and penetrating. Everything about us is an open book to Him.

Realizing all that God knows all about you, how does it make you feel? It will either comfort you or it will convict you. It will either ease your mind or it will make you uneasy. Actually, God's omniscience is both comforting and convicting. More than anything, it is humbling. It humbles us to know that God knows all about us and loves us anyway.