

G.I.F.T. Growing In Faith Together
Systematic Theology-- Doctrine of God

Paterology comes from two Greek words which mean "father" and "word" - which combine to mean "the study of the Father."

Theology proper is the study of God and His attributes.

Can we really know God? How much of God can we know?

I. Explanation and Scriptural Basis

"Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable *are* His judgments and His ways past finding out!" Romans 11:33

The Bible makes God knowable to us, because the Bible contains or reveals truth about Him.

A. The Need for God to Reveal Himself to us

**If we are to know God at all, it is necessary that He reveal Himself to us.
(Rom.1:19; Matthew 11:27; *1 Cor. 1:21*)**

B. We Can Never Fully Understand God

**"Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable."
Psalm 145:3**

**"Great is our Lord, and abundant in power, his understanding is beyond measure"
Psalm 147:5**

**"Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain it" Psalm 139:6
(Isa. 55:9; Job 26:14; cf. 11:7-9; 37:5; Ps. 139:17-18)**

C. Yet We Can Know God Truly

Even though we cannot know God exhaustively, we can know true things about God.

God is love (1 John 4:8); God is light (1 John 1:5); God is spirit (John 4:24); God is just or righteous (Rom. 3:26)

**Several passages speak of our knowing God in a personal way as His children.
(1 John 5:20; Gal. 4:9; Phil. 3:10; 1 John 2:3; 4:8; 1 John 2:13)**