

Scriptures: Exodus 20:1-17 & Ps. 145 Series: *Knowing God #8*
Singing: 374:1-5 – 141:1-2 – 211:1-3 – 397:1-4 – 202:1-3

THE UNSEARCHABLENESS OF GOD

We hear much about the Gospel of God,
but very little of the God of the Gospel. (W. Reed)

- A. God's unsearchable glory is hinted at in Exodus 24:10; Ezekiel 1:26-28
1. This description matches many other passages (Ps. 145:3)
 - a. Ex. 33:20, 23: *Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me and live ... thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen.*

 - b. 1 Tim. 6:16: *Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see.*
- B. God's incomprehensibility is stated in opening verse of Bible
- a. Gen. 1:1: *In the beginning, God ...* (John 1:1)
 - God existed as a *solitary Being*

 - God is not dependent upon His creation (Acts 17:23-28)

 - God is never on our level: Gen. 18:27, Is. 6:1-3; 66:1-2
- C. God's incomprehensibility is revealed in 3 Biblical words
1. Ps. 145:3: He is *unsearchable* (Job 11:7-8; Rom. 11:33-36)

 2. 1 Tim. 6:15-16: *invisible – unapproachable*

 3. Is. 9:6: *wonderful* (Judges 13:18)
- D. Our inability to comprehend God should not dampen our worship of Him
1. Meditate on the *incomprehensible* readiness to pardon us
 - Ps. 86:5: *For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all that call upon thee.* (Is. 55:7-9; 1 Cor. 2:10-12)

 - Eph. 3:8 ... *the unsearchable riches of Christ!*

2. Meditate on the incomprehensibility of His providence: *Thy way is in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known. (Ps. 77:19)*
 - Rom. 8:28 *and we know **that** (not how!) all things work together for good (Rom. 11:33-37)*

3. Meditate on the unfathomable fruits of His works in His people
 - Phil. 4:7: *peace of God that passeth all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus (Phil. 4:12-13)*

E. Not being able to comprehend God is not fruit of our *fallenness* but fruit of our *humanness*: *For we are but of yesterday, and know nothing, because our days upon earth are as a shadow. (Job 8:9)*

Four applications ...

- A. Be not embarrassed to admit that *God is incomprehensible*
 1. Many saints of old admitted this openly: Job 5:8-9; 11:7; 37:5; Ps. 18:11; 97:2; Eccl. 3:11; Is. 40:28

- B. Be not or become not an atheist because God is incomprehensible (Ps. 36:1; Is. 40:12-26)

- C. In Jesus God declared Himself as much as we need to know Him now
 1. Moses only saw God's back parts (Ex. 33:23) but in Jesus we see God's face and heart declared (John 1:18)

- D. Live in anticipation of the future glory of knowing God more/more
 1. Eph. 2:4-7 ... *that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus*