

Theology Proper

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3. Specifically the reason why is because God is greater in terms of His:
 - a. Ways
 - b. Thoughts
4. Note there is a poetic emphasis of “Ways” with this verses’ Chiasm (Hebrew word ‘sandwich’):
 - a. Thoughts
 - i. Ways**
 - ii. Ways**
 - b. Thoughts
- ii. *“Oh, the depth of the riches ^[1]both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! ³⁴For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, OR WHO BECAME HIS COUNSELOR?” (Romans 11:33-34)*
 1. This is a doxological praise that Paul broke into after some serious intense theology of God’s predestination and the role of Israel and Gentiles in **Romans 9-11**.
 2. No one can search His ways and His Judgment.
- f. Other verses on the Creator/Creature Distinction
 - i. He is different than other false gods
 1. *“For even though they knew God, they did not ^[2]honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. ²²Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and ^[2]crawling creatures.” (Romans 1:21-23)*
 2. *“For they exchanged the truth of God for ^[2]a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed ^[2]forever. Amen.” (Romans 1:25)*
 - a. Both Passages imply that the Creator ought to be Worshipped.
 - b. Both Passages shows that it is a bad thing to worship creatures and creation.
 - ii. He is different than His creature Man
 1. *“God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?” (Numbers 23:19)*
 - a. Distinctions between God and men being made.
 - b. **Discussion Question: How is God different?**
 2. *“Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. (1 Corinthians 1:25)*
 - a. Distinctions between God and men being made.
 - b. **Discussion Question: How is God different?**
- g. Theological Implications
 - i. We should not be surprised that some of God’s attributes are not like us and His creation (incommunicable attributes).

- ii. We should not be surprised that even some of God's attributes that we have (communicable attributes) is different from us not in terms of degrees but kind as well.
 - 1. His knowledge is not like our knowledge of something.
 - 2. His love is not like our love.
 - 3. With importance for the Trinity: His personhood and Being is different than our personhood.
- h. What does this mean for our lives?
 - i. Knowing He's different than us as our Creator and we are His creatures means we should worship Him with awe and praise!
 - ii. Have humility when we study God: We don't know about Him unless He reveals Himself to us and its not because of our wisdom!
 - iii. We should expect to learn about things about God that shows how He is different than us—and that includes the possibility that He is Triune.
 - iv. Meditate on how is He different than us has implication for our lives:
 - 1. He does not lie; **we can trust in Him!**
 - 2. His ways of things are different but also better than our plans and ways: **we need to trust in Him.**
 - 3. He does not lie so His words are promises: **we must love to trust in Him!**
 - v. Yet at the same time though He is different He is also the original archetype and we are to "mirror" Him in a creaturely humble way as His image; **How have your life mirror God in terms of love, holiness and patience?**
 - vi. **What other implications can you think of?**