

Systematic Theology session 15
The Doctrine of God, "I Am Who I Am," Part 9

- The definition of divine wisdom:
 - From the theologian Louis Berkhof: "That perfection of God whereby He applies His knowledge to the attainment of His ends in a way which glorifies Him most."
 - From the minister and author Terry Johnson: "Because His knowledge is infinite and His character is perfect, God always chooses the best means for the highest ends. That is, He is infinite in wisdom."
 - Divine wisdom is a perfection of God, and is God's ability to choose the best means to the highest goal.
 - The highest goal, the goal that encompasses and includes every other divine goal, is God's display of His own glory.
- God's wisdom is eternal.
- God's wisdom is unchangeable.
- God's wisdom is infinite.
 - The infinity of God's wisdom is part of the Creator-creature distinction. There are two classes of beings in this distinction: God, and everything else. God is exalted above His creation, and He is in a class by Himself.
- God's wisdom brings comfort to believers.
 - Nations may be led by foolish leaders, but the infinitely wise God rules over both the nations and the church.
- The wisdom of God is displayed in creation, in providence, and in redemption.
 - Redemption is the greatest display of God's manifold (many-sided) wisdom. In redemption, God, in His wisdom, has brought together His attributes of justice and mercy.
- Wisdom is a communicable attribute of God.
 - Because God is infinite and we are not, we can never match God's wisdom.
 - But still, we are given the imperative in Scripture to gain wisdom.
 - True wisdom, as we imitate God's wisdom, is "the application of God's will, revealed in His word, to the matters of living in God's world."
 - There is more material on living in wisdom in session 5 of the Hermeneutics series, dated March 14, 2019.