

# How Firm is Your Foundation?



**September 13, 2022**

## **Lesson Two**

The greatest question of the universe is “What is God like?” To whom can we compare God? God is so unlike anything or anyone, so beyond our knowing, that we are at a loss to answer that question.

**1 Timothy 6:15b-16** (ESV): He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

**1 Corinthians 2:11** (NKJV): For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

We can only know as much of God as he has chosen to reveal to us. Until a person is born again and receives the Spirit of Christ, that person cannot even see the things of God.

**John 3:3** (ESV): Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

**1 Corinthians 2:14** (ESV): The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

God has revealed himself to us through his creation, through the Bible, through the Holy Spirit, and most importantly and completely, through Jesus Christ.

**John 10:30** (ESV): “I and the Father are one.”

**John 8:19**: Then they asked him, “Where is your father?” “You do not know me or my Father,” Jesus replied. “If you knew me, you would know my Father also.”

**John 14:7**: “If you really know me, you will know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”

Getting to know God means getting to know the Triune God, for they are one: Father, Son and Spirit. Jesus told us:

**John 15:26**: “When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me.”

Knowing God is more important for now and eternity than anything else we can do.

“It (salvation) is, however, not an end but an inception, for now begins the glorious pursuit, the heart’s happy exploration of the infinite riches of the Godhead. . . . To have found God and still to pursue Him is the soul’s paradox of love. . . .” (*The Pursuit of God*, A. W. Tozer, p. 14)



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David prayed:

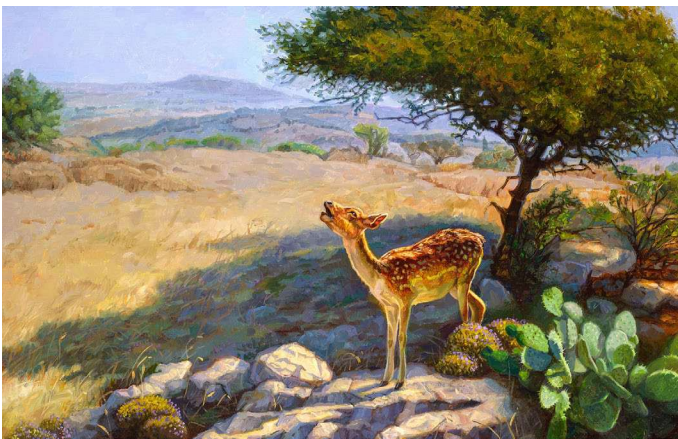
**Psalms 63:1:** You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.

Jesus taught:

**Matthew 5:6:** Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

The Apostle Paul wrote:

**Philippians 3:8 – 10:** What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death...



This is our prayer for this series:

**As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God.  
Psalm 42:1**

Our Theme Verse:

**Jeremiah 9:23-24:** “Let not the wise boast of their wisdom or the strong boast of their strength or the rich boast of their riches, but let the one who boasts boast about this: that they have the understanding to know me, that I am the Lord, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, *for in these I delight*,” declares the Lord.

### Review

What is theology? What does it mean to be a theologian? Why is it important to be a theologian—a person who pursues a knowledge of God?

Our greatest need is to know God. It is greater than:

- Our need for good health
- Our need for financial blessing
- Our need for healing of relationships
- Our need for success in our careers
- Our need to feel good about ourselves
- Our need for—anything you can name!

“An unknown God can neither be trusted, served, nor worshipped” (*The Attributes of God*, A.W. Pink, p 7).

**Hosea 6:3a (ESV):** Let us know; let us press on to know the Lord.

Knowing God is more than head knowledge; it must lead us to obedience and submission to his authority in our lives.

**Daniel 11:32b** (ESV): The people who know their God shall stand firm and take action.

Since God's "essential nature is incomprehensible, He in condescending love has by revelation declared certain things to be true of Himself. These we call His attributes" (Tozer, p. 21).

What are results we can expect when we pursue knowing God better?

- We'll know and understand better how God will act and react in our own lives.
- We will pray more effectively.
- We will know better what to pray for and how to pray.
- We will be able to discern his will better.
- We will be inclined to let the Holy Spirit control our thoughts, decisions, attitudes and motives.
- *What else?*

"The study of the attributes of God, far from being dull and heavy, may for the enlightened Christian be a sweet and absorbing spiritual exercise. To the soul that has a thirst for God, nothing could be more delightful" (Tozer, p. 22). God's attributes are not like ours. Not one attribute, not one characteristic, not one truth about God ever changes.

**Isaiah 40:28**: Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.

#### God's Attributes

Last week the first attribute of God that we looked at was: He is solitary. What does that mean to you?

#### God Is Infinite

*Infinite*: immeasurably, indefinitely, exceedingly great. Unbounded or unlimited; perfect. Endless or innumerable, inexhaustible.

**Psalms 145:3**: Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.

**Psalms 90:2**: Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

**Psalms 147:5**: Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.

"It would be strange if an infinite God was not strange to us."

Infinity cannot be measured. *Infinite, unending, unbounded, unlimited*; these words describe God alone.

"There is nothing boundless but God and nothing infinite but God. God is self-existent and absolute; everything else is contingent and relative." (Tozer, p. 5)

God doesn't occupy space; God contains space. There is no point where God stops.

**Psalms 139:7-10**: Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

God is infinite in all that he is. Whatever attribute of God you can name, it is limitless.

**John 1:16** (ESV): For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.

What does God's infinity mean to you?

God Is Omniscient.

*Omnī* – all

*Scient or science* – knowing

Omniscient: Having complete or infinite knowledge, awareness, or understanding; perceiving all things.

For God, everything is eternally "present." He knows all things, every detail about everything, every person, every situation. He does not have "areas of expertise." He is totally knowledgeable in every area.

What would you consider your area of expertise—something you're really good at?

Whatever you can name, God knows everything about it and therefore he understands what you're doing, what obstacles you face, etc.

Furthermore, his knowledge is perfect; there is no error in his knowledge, not the slightest error.

**Hebrews 4:13** (ESV): And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

**Psalms 139:1-4** (ESV): O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold O Lord, you know it altogether.

Verse 6: Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.

God's knowledge is unlearned; he didn't have to learn it.

**Isaiah 40:13-14** (ESV): Who has measured the Spirit of the Lord, or what man shows him his counsel? Whom did he consult, and who made him understand? Who taught him the path of justice, and taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding?

God's knowledge never changes or grows.

God knows himself completely.

God knows every detail about everything.

**Matthew 10:29 – 30** (ESV): Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered.

Someone has said, "God is the only one who attends a sparrow's funeral."

**Psalms 50:11** (ESV): I know all the birds of the hills, and all that moves in the field is mine.

**Psalms 147:4** (ESV): He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

God not only knows what was and is and is to come, he knows what could have been.

**Matthew 11:21** (ESV): Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.

Does it make you uneasy to think that God knows everything and nothing about you is hidden from him?

Don't you think that most people would strip God of his ability to know everything about them, if they could?

**Romans 8:7** (ESV): For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot.

**Psalms 90:8** (ESV): You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

To the unbeliever this is fearful. To those of us who know God through Jesus Christ, it is great comfort. God knows everything.

**Job 23:10** (ESV): But he knows the way that I take; when he has tried me, I shall come out as gold.

**Psalms 103:14** (ESV): For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.

**Matthew 10:30**: And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered.

Because God's mind is infinite, he has infinite capacity to know each of us intimately.

**Psalms 147:5** (ESV): Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

That means that there is no possibility that you will be overlooked by God.

**Isaiah 65:24** (ESV): Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear.

**Psalms 139:4** (ESV): Even before a word is on my tongue, behold O Lord, you know it altogether.

The infinite knowledge of God should fill us with holy awe.

**Proverbs 15:3** (ESV): The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good.