

## The Incomprehensibility of God

**First thing about the *Doctrine of God* is that God is incomprehensible.**

He is beyond our ability to see him as he truly is.  
He will always be a mystery to us.  
This doesn't mean we can't know him at all.  
But we must always remember that he is infinite  
and we are finite.

### Psalm 147:5

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;  
**his understanding is beyond measure.**

### Isaiah 40:25-28

<sup>25</sup> To whom then will you compare me,  
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.

<sup>26</sup> Lift up your eyes on high and see:  
who created these?

**He who brings out their host by number,  
calling them all by name,**

by the greatness of his might,  
and because he is strong in power  
not one is missing.

<sup>27</sup> Why do you say, O Jacob,  
and speak, O Israel,

“My way is hidden from the LORD,  
and my right is disregarded by my God?”

<sup>28</sup> Have you not known? Have you not heard?

The LORD is the everlasting God,  
the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary;  
**his understanding is unsearchable.**

### Psalm 145:1-3

<sup>1</sup> I will extol you, my God and King,  
and bless your name forever and ever.

<sup>2</sup> Every day I will bless you  
and **praise your name forever and ever.**

<sup>3</sup> Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,  
**and his greatness is unsearchable.**

### Isaiah 55:6-9

<sup>6</sup> Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near;

<sup>7</sup> let the wicked forsake his way,  
and the unrighteous man his thoughts;

let him return to the LORD, that he may have  
compassion on him,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

<sup>8</sup> **For my thoughts are not your thoughts,**  
neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD.

<sup>9</sup> For as the heavens are higher than the earth,  
**so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.**

### Job 11:7-9

<sup>7</sup> Can you find out **the deep things of God?**

Can you find out **the limit of the Almighty?**

<sup>8</sup> It is higher than heaven – what can you do?

Deeper than Sheol – what can you know?

<sup>9</sup> Its measure is longer than the earth  
and broader than the sea.

**Yet God knows us exhaustively. He knows us  
better than we know ourselves!**

### Psalm 139:1-6

<sup>1</sup> O LORD, **you have searched me and known me!**

<sup>2</sup> You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from afar.

<sup>3</sup> You search out my path and my lying down  
and are acquainted with all my ways.

<sup>4</sup> **Even before a word is on my tongue,  
behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.**

<sup>5</sup> You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.

<sup>6</sup> Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is high; **I cannot attain it.**

**Our response is worship**

### Romans 11:33

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge  
of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how  
inscrutable his ways!

**Therefore, we cannot know God unless reveals himself**

**1 Corinthians 2:9-12**

<sup>9</sup> But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the heart of man imagined,  
what God has prepared for those who love him”

<sup>10</sup> these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup> For who knows a person’s thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him?

So also **no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.** <sup>12</sup> Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God.

**Therefore, we must not imagine God in our own way**

**Exodus 20:4-6**

<sup>4</sup> **You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness** of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup> You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, <sup>6</sup> but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

**Therefore, we can only know God by grace**

**Galatians 4:8-9**

<sup>8</sup> Formerly, when you did not know God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods. <sup>9</sup> But now that you have come to know God, **or rather to be known by God**, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more?

**And we can only know God through Christ**

**John 14:8-10**

<sup>8</sup> Philip said to Jesus, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” <sup>9</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? **Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.** How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? <sup>10</sup> Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?”

**Colossians 1:15**

He is the image of the invisible God.

**John 17:3**

And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

**Notice that knowing God is not merely intellectual  
It is personal knowledge**

**Psalm 34:8**

Oh, **taste and see that the LORD is good!**

Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!

**John 14:23**

Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and **we will come to him and make our home with him.**”

**Notice that knowing God is not a vague notion,  
but it is specific and content-rich.**

**Jeremiah 9:23-24**

<sup>23</sup> Thus says the LORD: “Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, <sup>24</sup> but let him who boasts boast in this, that **he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth.** For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.”

**The Christian life is increasing in knowledge of God**

**Colossians 1:10**

So as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and **increasing in the knowledge of God.**

**Hosea 6:3**

Let us know; **let us press on to know the LORD;**

his going out is sure as the dawn;  
he will come to us as the showers,  
as the spring rains that water the earth.

**It is a precious thing to know God**

**Psalm 139:17-18**

<sup>17</sup> How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!

How vast is the sum of them!

<sup>18</sup> If I would count them, they are more than the sand.

I awake, and I am still with you.

