

**Beginnings – ORIGIN** *(Where did we come from?)*

- **Only Two Choices**
- **Realize the Significance**
- **Is it Faith or Science?**
  - LAB - Lookable, Accessible, Breakable
- **Guess at the Evidence**
- **Inspect the Evidence**
  - Universe = "Decay"
  - Age of the Earth = "Can't Say"
  - Origin of Life by Chance = "No Way"
  - Evolution of Species and Man = "Lacks Genes and Tweens"
- **No Compromise**

DON'T - Death, Orders of Creation, Names in genealogies, Ten Commandments refer to seven-day week

**Intent of Life – LIFE** *(Why are we here?)*

- **Love - GOD and MAN**
- **Increase - GROW**
- **Faithfulness - Time, Talent, Treasure**
- **Eternity – Past, Present, Future**

**Authority – POWER** *(Who's in charge?)* A God Who is:

- **Personal and Loving**
- **Omnipotent**
- **Wise and All-Knowing**
- **Everywhere and Eternal**
- **Righteous and Reliable**

**Standards – RULES** *(What are the rules?)* God's rules are:

- **Revealed supernaturally, not derived by reason**
- **Universal and apply to everyone, everywhere, all the time**
- **Loving**
- **Enforced**
- **Steadfast**

# W - Wise and All-Knowing

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*Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! Romans 11:33*

## Knowledge

We started this book with the thought that God has all knowledge for all time (and even before time). There is nothing that God does not know. But that still understates His perfect knowledge (omniscience). Not only does God know everything, but He has never needed to learn, has never been surprised, and has never needed additional input. His knowledge has always been complete. **There is nothing God does not know, and He has always known it.**

God's knowledge is perfect. Only an infinite Being could possess infinite knowledge, and as creatures we can only marvel at it. But God's omniscience has a very different consequence for believers than for unbelievers:

- **For believers** this means that God knows everything about us (our thoughts, our sins, our grief, our joy, our desires, our temptations), *yet He loves us anyway*. We don't have to worry about Him finding out something about us that He didn't know – He knows it all and still chose us as His children.
- **For unbelievers** this means there is no place to hide (Psalm 139:7,11-12) and no escaping the consequences for sin. What a terrible situation – a holy and righteous God knows the very motives of your heart as well as your actions. There will be no excuses that will avail and all who fall under God's wrath will know that it is just. This is probably one of the main reasons people want to reject the idea of God – an all-knowing God is frightening to His enemies. If this causes you to want to flee to God, praise God because only He can give you that desire. Throw yourself on His mercy and He will grant it to you.

## Wisdom

God's wisdom is the perfect utilization of His knowledge. Our pastor recently defined God's wisdom as:

***God always does the right thing, in the right way, for the right reasons, at precisely the right time.***

When we think of wisdom we usually think of a person who makes good decisions and who gives useful advice. But God's wisdom is not just a larger version of man's wisdom. God is the standard for wisdom – something is wise because it is a reflection of God's counsel. We can't evaluate God's wisdom because there is no other standard to use for wisdom.

I believe we often don't recognize that God's Wisdom is just as amazing as His Knowledge. Because we recognize that God knows everything, it just seems natural that He would be wise. But if we think about it, we know that wisdom is something totally different. If we could build an infinite computer and input all possible data into it, would it be wise? Of course not. It would have access to information, but it would have no ability to use that information "wisely".

What a comfort it is (to those who are reconciled to Him) to know that the Power in charge of the world knows everything and is perfectly able to use that knowledge to accomplish His purposes.

## Receiving God's Wisdom

All wisdom is found in God, but He offers to share it with us.

*"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and knowledge of the Holy One is understanding."* (Proverbs 9:10).

*If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him.* James 1:5

To obtain wisdom ourselves we need to:

- Recognize that God is the ultimate Source for it
- Ask Him for wisdom
- Read His Word to learn what it means to be wise

## E – Everywhere and Eternal

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### Omnipresent

*Can anyone hide in secret places so that I cannot see him?" declares the LORD. "Do not I fill heaven and earth?" declares the LORD.* Jeremiah 23:24

When we consider that God is Omnipotent (all power) and Omniscient (all knowledge), it is inescapable that He is also Omnipresent (all places at the same time). He could not possess all power or all knowledge if He had to move Himself and His attention from place to place. **God is completely everywhere at the same time.**

Let's consider how the fact that we are always in God's presence should impact us:

- **For believers**, when we are desperate for God's comfort we should recognize that He is there even if we don't "feel" Him. And when we are tempted to sin we should remember that He is right there as an ever-present eyewitness.
- **For unbelievers** this has the same terrible consequence as God's omniscience. God is right there witnessing every sin you've committed. He has seen all, and when you stand before His throne to be judged He Himself will be the eyewitness who testifies against you.

Remembering that God is omnipresent can be a great help in keeping us accountable for living our lives wisely.

***Wherever we are and whatever we're doing, God is always there.***

# Eternal

*"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."*

Revelation 1:8

We think of eternal as being a function of time – infinite past and infinite future. When we think of our destiny that makes sense.

But when we refer to God as being Eternal we mean even more. We previously noted that God is outside of time. So when the Bible calls him Eternal (such as Romans 16:26) I believe it is not defining him in terms of time, but in terms of His nature. To think rightly about God we have to recognize that when we think about God having an eternal past we tend to view it as an infinite past along a timeline. But God is not constrained by a timeline.

## **God described Himself to Moses as “I AM”. God always has been and always will be.**

Sometimes from our perspective it is useful to use terms such as “God was” or “God will be”. But in God’s Eternal Nature the truth is always “God Is”.

Once again let’s consider how this attribute of God affects us:

- **For believers**, we can rest in the confidence that God always will be. The promises He has made to His Church will be fulfilled because He will always be there to fulfill them. There will never be a “time” when God is not there. And in heaven we will enjoy His presence forever.
- **For unbelievers** it is terrible to know that the promised curses for the wicked will undoubtedly occur. God will not disappear from the scene. And even worse, He will pour out His wrath on sinners in Hell *without ceasing, forever*.

We are constrained by time in this life, and for our benefit God gives us a past, present, and future perspective. But when we consider the nature of God, the true perspective is..... **He Is**.