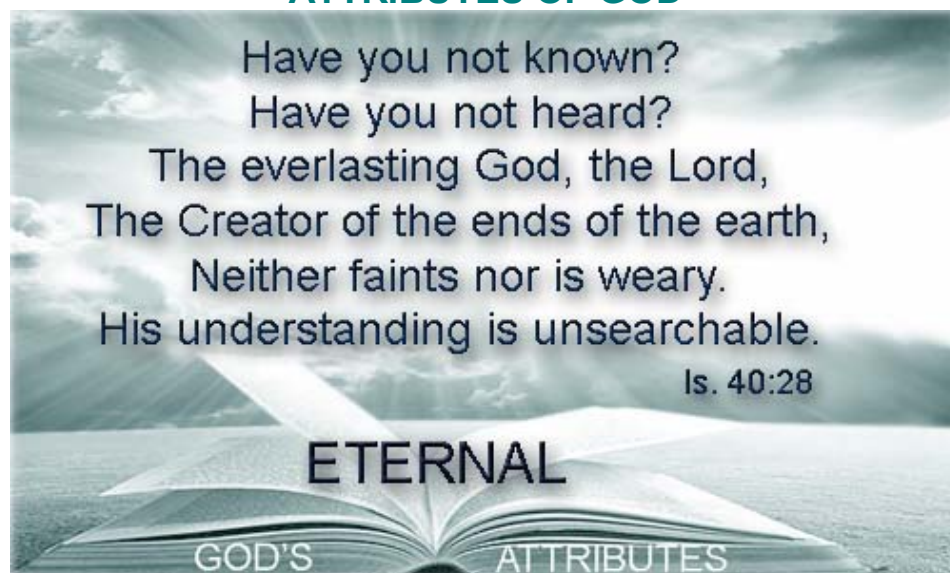


ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

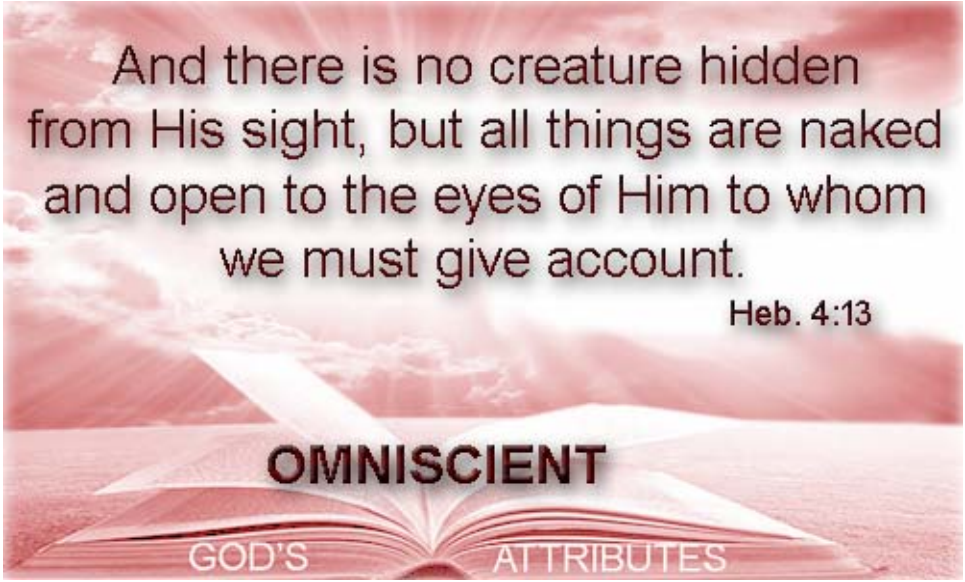


Can we understand the concept of eternity? Our human nature deals with time consistently. We deal with deadlines, due dates, we calculate time for work, projects, we're constantly warned to be on time, and the list could go on. Why? Simply because on this earth, our lifetime is limited, even our day is limited to 24 hours, of which part is needed to rest and recuperate. What are the elements that condition us to time? Light and darkness, seasons, our aging and dying bodies, all are conditions we live under that compel us to its limitations.

In contrast, GOD is ETERNAL; He always existed and forever will. 2 Peter 3:8 says, "But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day *is* as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." Obviously, God isn't under any time limitations. Additionally, John added, "This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all." (1Johnh 1:5) This clearly tells us that God doesn't need the sun, as He is the Light, and we who belong to Christ will one day live under God's eternal light.

Is it therefore worth gambling eternity in God's presence to enjoy the pleasures of darkness in this short life on earth?

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And there is no creature hidden
from His sight, but all things are naked
and open to the eyes of Him to whom
we must give account.

Heb. 4:13

OMNISCIENT

GOD'S

ATTRIBUTES

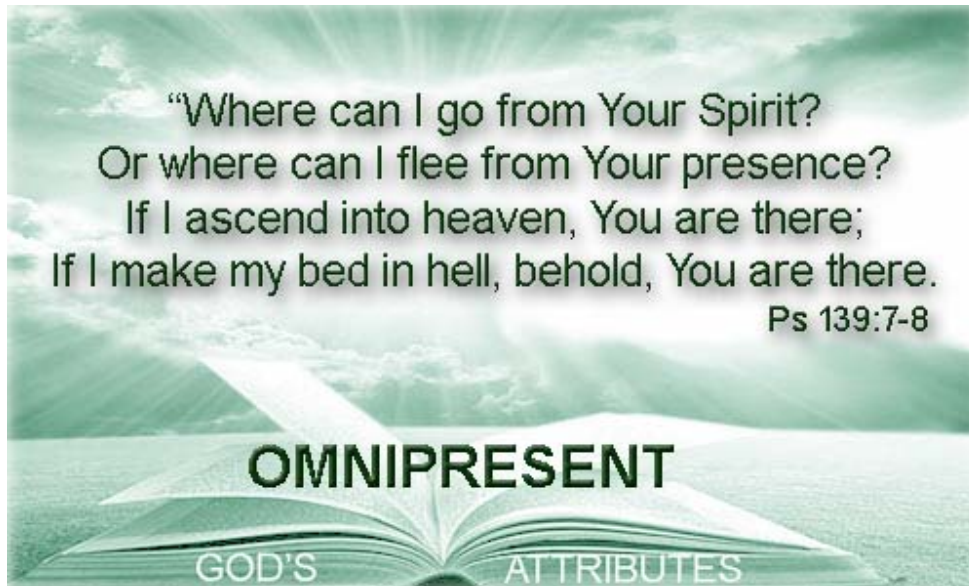
The dictionary defines omniscience as the state of knowing everything. This definition however comes short of this unique attribute of God. While it is true that God knows everything, it not only includes the present, but as well the past and the future. Additionally, God doesn't only know what the eye can see, but as well every single thought we all entertain.

Conversely, our knowledge is limited to our environment, and to the efforts we deploy in seeking it. It is also dependent on the sources we use to ensure they are trustworthy and true. Our knowledge is also further affected as we age by our mortal bodies and minds.

The reality is that to God, everything is in the open, past, present and future. That's why God through the prophet Jeremiah said, "Can anyone hide himself in secret places, so I shall not see him?" says the LORD; "Do I not fill heaven and earth?" says the LORD." (Jer. 23:24)

Do we realize that God's Omniscience goes a long way to not only know everything about us, but that He is the One who created the universe with the foreknowledge of all its elements, of all its events? Shouldn't the pursuit of our lives be the desire to know God, and the depth of who He is through His Word?

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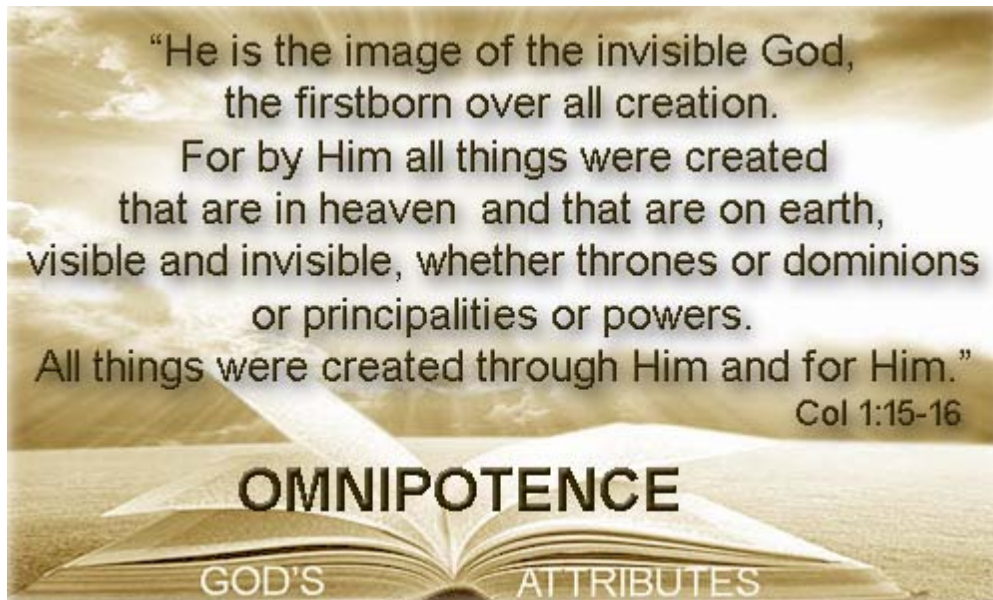


One expression we oftentimes use in exasperation when people ask too much of us is, "Give me a break! I can't be everywhere at the same time!" That's definitely a truth that we can't ever deny. But, to consider that God is everywhere, at anytime, so He can see, hear, and witness all that goes on throughout the heavens and the earth, sure can make us pause and realize that God's Omnipresence attribute is a concept we can't even understand.

Proverbs 15:3; "The eyes of the LORD *are* in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good." In essence, God is everywhere, at anytime, knows everything that goes on in our world, as well as throughout all His creation. God, through the prophet Isaiah said this: "Thus says the LORD: "Heaven *is* My throne, and earth *is* My footstool. Where *is* the house that you will build Me? And where *is* the place of My rest?" (Is. 66:3)

In the world, people use radar detectors and upon being made aware of police presence, sure check their speed and react accordingly? Then, if we confess Christ as Savior and Lord, shouldn't the very knowledge that God is present everywhere at anytime, awaken in us a desire to always acknowledge His presence and live to serve and honor Him?

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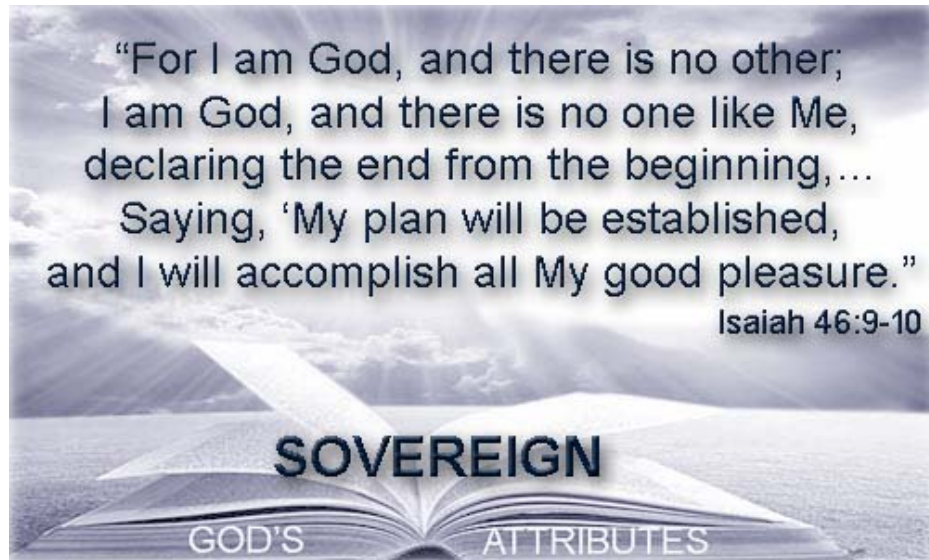


“POWER”... What a big word! From early on in life, we are introduced to a myriad of invented super humans to attract us to a dream world. However, while that dream world is a pure invention of the mind, God is real, has all powers, to create, and as well He governs over all His creation, as the Bible teaches us.

The prophet Jeremiah said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You.” (Jer 32:17) Do we notice the verse started with the word “Ah”? This word describes the emotion of “Wow!” Then Jeremiah adds, “Behold”, the expression of saying, “How Impressive!” To think for a minute that God created the heavens and earth by simply saying so, should awaken in us the realization that God also has the power to sustain us in this life and for eternity.

Psalms 147:5 says, “Great *is* our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding *is* infinite.” In essence, God has infinite power, and that He is the One who governs the heavens and the earth throughout eternity. The world’s powers may govern and impose their will on people for a time, but God’s Powers are infinite and eternal. Praise God!

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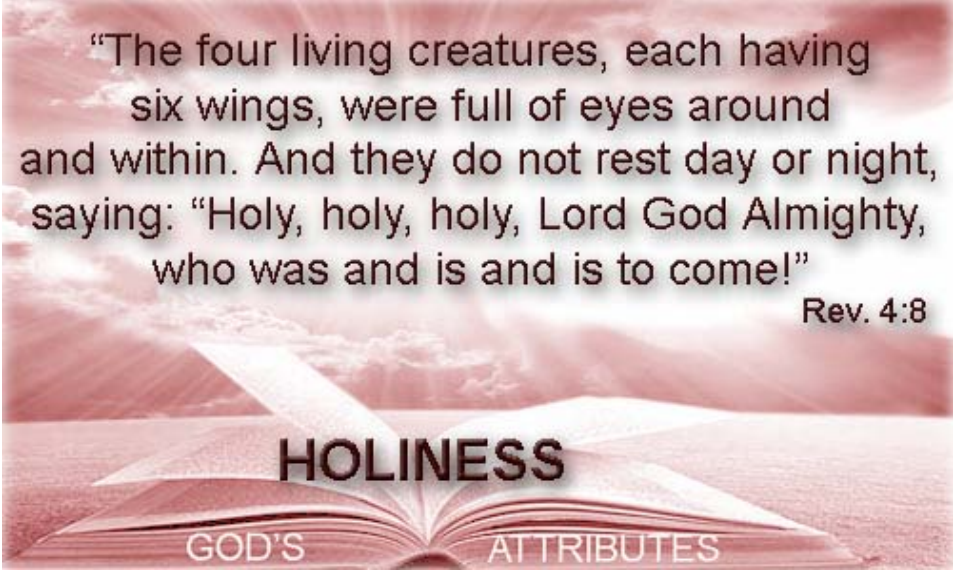
How Sovereign could we say God is? Is there anything that ever happened, happens now, or will ever happen without His permission? Can there be any power throughout eternity that can change what God has decreed?

Obviously, scripture tells us repeatedly that God is sovereign and rules over all His creation. Psalm 103:19 says, “The LORD has established His throne in heaven, and His kingdom rules over all.” Then further “But our God *is* in heaven; He does whatever He pleases.” (Psalm 115:3)

How can one then be reconciled and accepted by the Sovereign God, since we are all declared sinners from birth? Jesus said: “No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.” (John 6:44) In other words, God has decreed that salvation isn’t about adhering to a religion, nor through any works of our own. Rather, it is to submit to the Sovereign God through our Savior and Lord, Christ Jesus, the one and only way that God has decreed.

That’s why our submission should never be to men or religions, whose worship is comparable to the hypocrisy of the Pharisees in Jesus time. Will we accept God’s Sovereignty through Christ? Our eternal security depends on it!

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“The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: “Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”

Rev. 4:8

HOLINESS

GOD'S

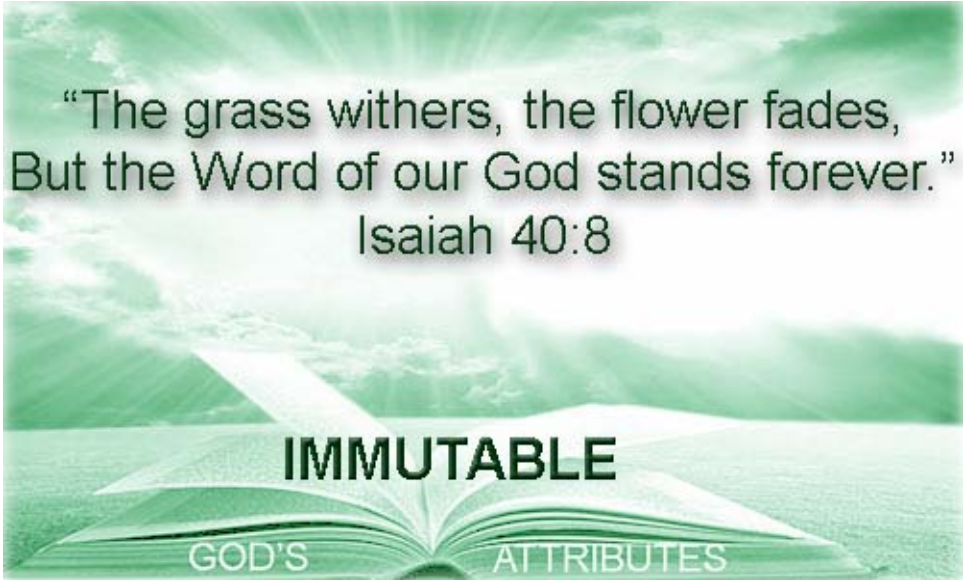
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God gave the prophet Isaiah a vision in which he saw an angel proclaim, “Holy, holy, holy *is* the LORD of hosts; the whole earth *is* full of His glory!” (Isaiah 6:1-3) Clearly, God’s Holiness sets Him apart from all His Creation that has been stained by sin, starting with Satan’s rebellion, and followed by mankind’s disobedience in the Garden of Eden.

Holiness is defined as purity, or integrity of moral character, and requires complete freedom from sin. Therefore, pure Holiness can only be applied to God, and denotes His Perfect Nature, as He cannot sin. Ex. 15:11 says: “Who is like You among the gods, LORD? Who is like You, majestic in holiness, Awesome in praises, working wonders?” In essence, all the little gods that mankind invented to support their twisted minds are evil and stained with sin, in complete contrast to God’s Holiness.

But, where does that put us if we believed in and committed to follow Christ? Jesus said in Mat. 5:48, “Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.” Peter wrote, “but as He who called you *is* holy, you also be holy in all *your* conduct, because it is written, “Be holy, for I am holy.” (1 Peter 1:15-16) In simple words, holiness requires we stay away from sin!

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“The grass withers, the flower fades,
But the Word of our God stands forever.”
Isaiah 40:8

IMMUTABLE

GOD'S

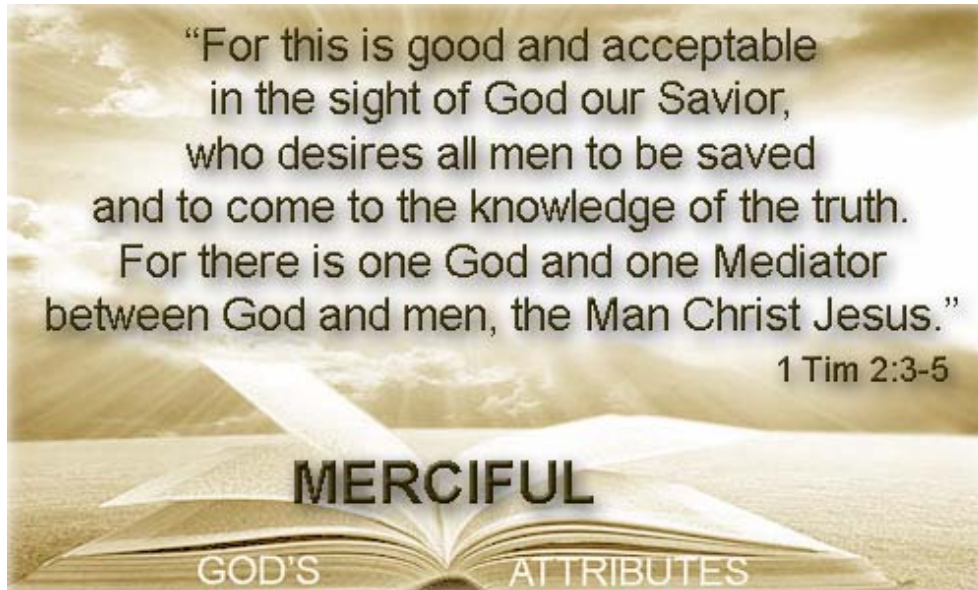
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The immutability of God refers to His attribute of being unchanging in His character, His will, and His promises. In essence, everything that God has ever said remains true eternally, and events He has ever decreed or promised either happened, or will happen without the shadow of a doubt. That's why we can trust God at His Word because all He says is true and never changes.

In Romans 11:29 Paul said, “For the gifts and the calling of God *are* irrevocable.” The word irrevocable is defined as something that is irreversible, and cannot change under any circumstance. James explained that God's gifts never changes like this: “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.”

In other words, every blessing that God bestows upon His children He does without fail, for God is not subject to moods and never changes His mind, as we human beings oftentimes do. That's why Paul warned the Hebrews this way, “Do not be carried about with various and strange doctrines.” And in the preceding verse said, “Jesus Christ *is* the same yesterday, today, and forever.” (Hebrews 13:8-9)

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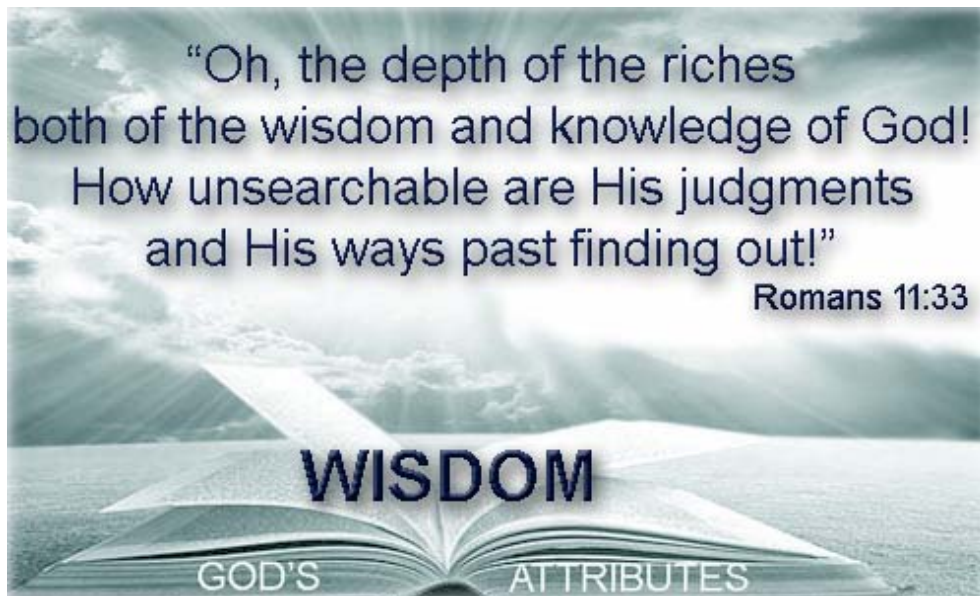


The most known bible verse throughout the world is perhaps: “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3:16) Then Jesus added, “For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.” (Verse17)

Can we even understand this kind of love to the point of suffering and dying for the sinful and rebellious people of this world? God’s mercy is limitless, in that He desires that all be saved. And because of our sinful condition, He gave us the option to surrender and commit to follow Christ, the welcoming door to eternal life for anyone making a true and heartfelt commitment.

Paul in Romans 5:8 said, “But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” In other words, Christ accepted to die for us in full surrender to God the Father, when we weren’t even worthy of Him. David, in Psalm 145:8 said, “The LORD *is* gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and great in mercy.” God’s mercy is so full of compassion and love, that He embraced the cross to open the door to being reconciled to Him. Have we entered?

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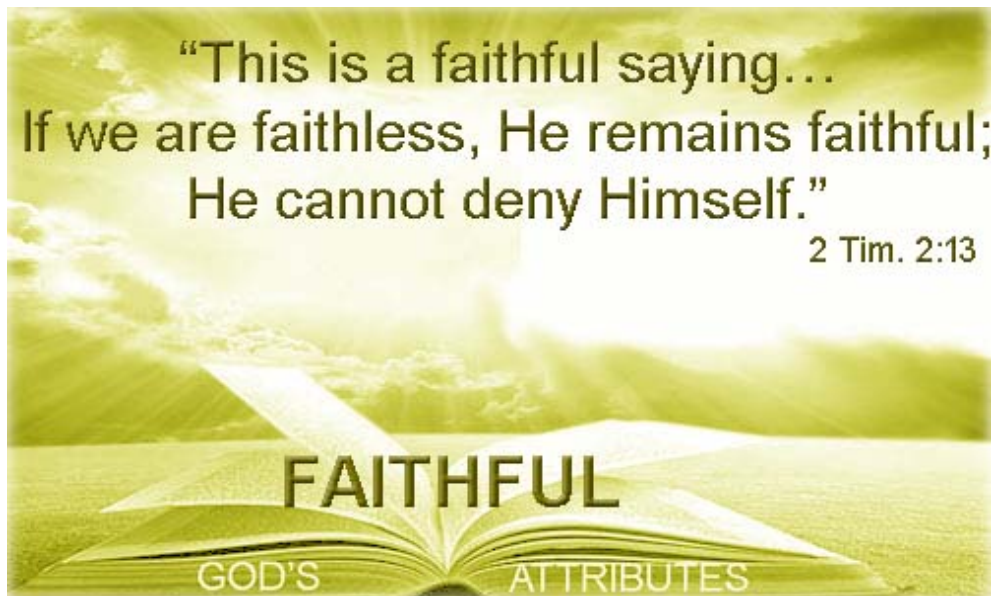
Wisdom can be defined as using insight and good judgment to make sound decisions. Well, we know that God has not only taught us to be wise, but most importantly He has demonstrated wisdom beyond our very ability to understand its entire scope.

Paul in Col.2:2-3 tells us that "both of the Father and of Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." In other words, God is the very source of wisdom, and He further demonstrated it to us through Christ. In 1 Cor. 1:30 he added, "But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God and righteousness and sanctification and redemption."

So, if we are in Christ following our repentance and surrender, we do receive God's wisdom, a priceless blessing that can give us the ability to choose right from wrong, and make decisions that will contribute to give glory to God. As well, our guide to God's wisdom is easily found in God's Word, the Bible. "For the LORD gives wisdom; from His mouth *come* knowledge and understanding." (Prov. 2:6)

Jesus highlighted this principle when He said, "Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock." Mat. 7:24

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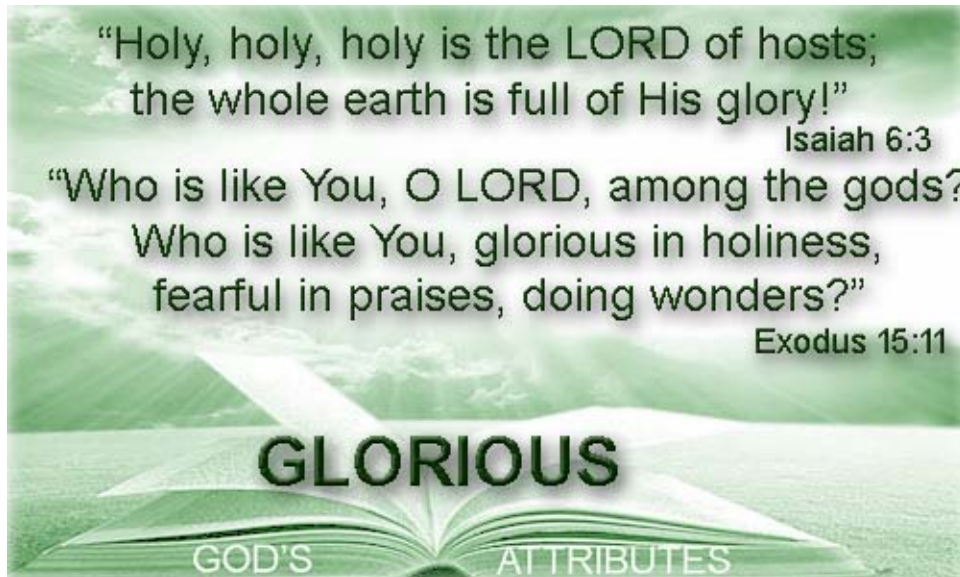


God's faithfulness is the reason we trust Him, believe His Word and His promises, and also the reason we live with the hope of eternal life that will bring unheard of blessings in His presence forever. From the very beginning of mankind, God's faithfulness is demonstrated this way: "Therefore know that the LORD your God, He *is* God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments." (Deut. 7:9)

In essence, God is ever faithful because it is His very nature and character. David wrote, "The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold." (Ps 18:2) This powerful confession of David shows us how limitless God's love for us is, in addition to the peace and spiritual strength we receive from knowing God's faithfulness towards us.

In turn, we become faithful when we surrender to God, submit to His Word, and remain consistent and loyal to our commitment to follow Christ, just as He remains faithful to us. That's why David said, "The entirety of Your word *is* truth, and every one of Your righteous judgments *endures* forever. (Psalm 119:160)

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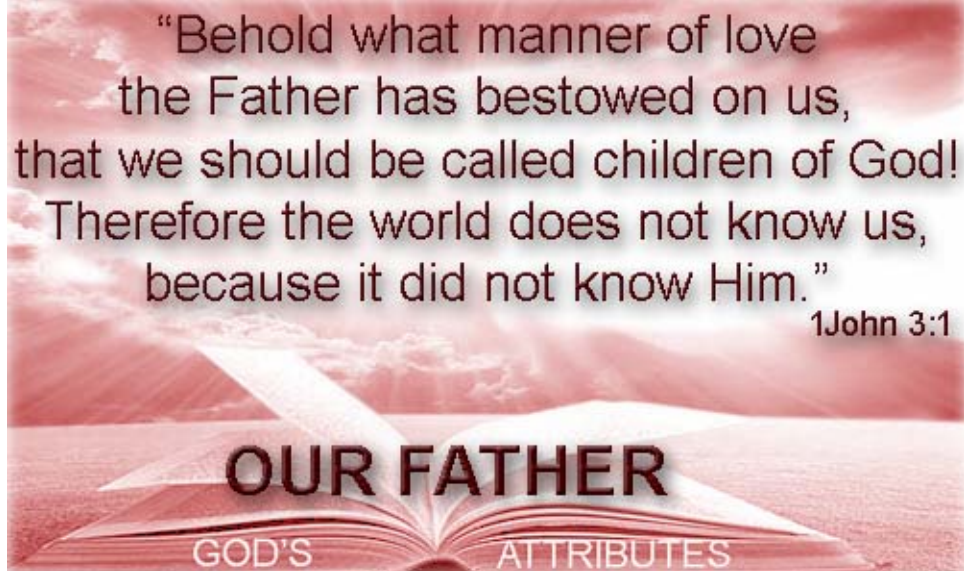


Our understanding of glory is somewhat limited to momentary events in our lives resulting from some accomplishment, which oftentimes translates into pride. And we also know that man's glory is always short lived, because death is always at the door. Additionally, this fallen world consistently seeks glory on account of vanity and pride, when in reality glory only belongs to God and Christ.

Do we realize that God's Glory is manifested in creation, in judging sin, as well as seeing Christ hanging on the cross? Jesus said, "I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was." (John 17:4-5) Paul described Christ's glory this way, "Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Philip. 2:9-11)

We must live to bow to God's will, and confess Christ through our lives to His glory, certainly not ours. Are we?

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God is Father to all who choose to submit to Him. How does God demonstrate to us what true fatherhood is? To start with, God has not only given us life, but has also proved the extent of His love to the point of giving His only Son to die on the cross, so that anyone who believes, repents and surrenders to Christ Jesus receives eternal life, the true proof of a limitless Father's love.

The prophet Isaiah said, “You, O LORD, *are* our Father; our Redeemer from Everlasting *is* Your name.” (Is. 63:16) In essence, God's true and limitless love for us has brought redemption from sin that has plagued mankind ever since the fall. That's why James 1:17 says, “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.”

God has also reserved a heavenly inheritance to all who become His children through Christ; “Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.” (1Peter 1:3)

Have we chosen to surrender, honor and serve our heavenly Father, or do we just take God for granted and deceive ourselves?

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