

God is Knowable

Read Romans 1:18-23 ...

We often speak of the unknowableness of God. Job wonders (rhetorically) if one can find out God by searching (Job 11:7). David, in Psalm 145:3, reminds us that the greatness of God is unsearchable. Isaiah the prophet, to encourage the people, reminds them of the greatness of God to strengthen His people; but, also reminds them that there is no searching out His understanding (Isa. 40:28). It is also from Isaiah that God expresses the truth that His ways are not our ways and His thoughts are not our thoughts, there is a depth to the relationship that God has with humanity that one is simply unable to comprehend (Isa. 55:8, 9).

Yet, even though the secret things belong to the Lord (Deut. 29:29), the Lord has still seen fit to reveal Himself to us so that we might find Him, so that we would not be groping in the dark (Acts 17:27).

God has seen fit to reveal Himself in the natural world. One sees in Psalm 19 that David begins with a beautiful strophe, telling humanity that the very heavens above declare the glory of God and the skies are evidence of the work of His hands. Every person of every language hears the “voice” that is expressed by the wonderful creation that covers us in both the daylight and the night sky. Paul takes up the same refrain in his letter to the Romans (see the reading noted at the beginning). It is made very clear by Paul that the sum of humanity is without excuse for their sin because the invisible God is clearly made known in those things that are created. And the worse part, that mankind would worship the image of those things which have been created instead of the One that created all things.

But there’s more! God not only gave us what might be termed a natural revelation of Himself, but he also took the time to reveal

Himself for us in a special way – look again to Psalm 19. After David tells us that God has revealed Himself in creation, the Word of God is also praised (v.7-11). Consider the adjectives that are used to describe God’s word: perfect, sure, right, pure, clean, and desirable. Paul again follows the same thought, reminding us that every word that has been revealed to us from the Scriptures is from God, and therefore is useful in the areas of doctrine, correction, and righteousness. Why? Because the Word of God contains all that is necessary for humanity to be complete, ready and able to do every good work (2 Tim. 3:16, 17).

But there’s more! There is in academia a word which describes a physical appearance of God – theophany. When God appeared to Moses in a burning bush, that was a theophany. When the top of Mt. Saini was covered in thick cloud, or the smoke came and settled over the Tabernacle when God was there, or the great whirlwind that God spoke to Job from – all are visible representations of God to someone. Yet, there is a greater and more lasting theophany that has been given. John records that the Word became flesh and dwelt among us (1:14). Paul reminds us that Jesus is “the image of the invisible God” (Col. 1:15). The writer of Hebrews tells us that the Son reflects the glory of God and is the exact representation of God (1:2, 3).

When the end was near, and the apostles were grasping for understanding and comfort, Jesus says that anyone who has seen Him has seen the Father (John 14:9). God may be so far above us that understanding Him is beyond our grasp, but praise be to Him that He has seen fit to reveal Himself to all mankind by what has been created, by His wonderful Word, and by Jesus Christ.

What to Do?

How will we be found when the _____ occurs?

**** Some will be found _____.**

2 Peter 3:3 – "... knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the _____ days, walking according to their own _____ ..."

Why are there scoffers? Ecclesiastes 8:11 – "Because the sentence against an _____ work is not executed _____, ..."

**** Some will be found _____.**

Luke 21:45 – "But take heed to yourselves, ... and that _____ come upon you _____."

Too many today view Christianity as a _____ and not a _____.

**** Some will be found _____.**

1 Thessalonians 5:6 – "Therefore let us not _____, as other do, but let us watch and be _____."

The Devil is content to have _____ and _____ alike pass thru this life in a _____.

**** When the end come – we need to be found _____.**

In the Parable of the Wise and the Foolish Virgins – Matthew 25:1-13
– the Wise were: _____, _____, and _____.