**Bellevue Chapel- Morning Series 2021 *Knowing God***

What is God like? Many of us will have our own images, thoughts, and ideas about God. It would be hard to overestimate how important it is for an individual Christian and for God’s church to have a correct understanding of God. Our worship, our service and our practical day to day lives will be impacted by how we understand God.

*“So necessary to the Church is a lofty concept of God that when that concept in any way declines, the church with her worship and her moral standards declines along with it. The first step down for any church is taken when it surrenders its high opinion of God”.*

***A W Tozer***

We will of course never fully comprehend or understand all that God is. However, we must endeavour to understand what Scripture reveals to us of God. This series will explore some of those aspects of God’s nature that are His alone but in understanding them we will find our worship and service growing in the light of what they reveal to us.

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| 18/4  Alex Warren | **God is Infinite and Eternal**  God has no beginning or end. He is not a created being. He is beyond measure and is not subject to the limitations of space or time.  **Isaiah 40 v 12-28; Job 11 v 7-9; Psalm 147 v 5; Psalm 113; 2 Peter 3v 8** |
| 25/4  Christiaan Hofstra | **God is Incomprehensible**  God has revealed himself to us, most fully in his son the Lord Jesus. However, God cannot be fully comprehended or known because we are finite creatures. How often we would like to put God in a box made of our own understanding.  **Job 11 v 7-9; Psalm 145 v3; Matthew 11 v 27; 1 Cor 2 v 11; Romans 11 v 33-35;** |
| 2/5  CH | **God’s self existence and self sufficiency**  Being finite creatures, we have needs and dependencies that are essential to our lives. God is not constrained by any such needs. He is not dependent on anything else. We are sometimes guilty of having too small an idea of God, but our creator God exists in an eternal self sustaining way.  **Gen 1v1; Exodus 3v14; Psalm 50 v 7-12; John 1 v 1-4; Acts 17 v 22-27;** |
| 9/5  David Knowles | **God’s unchanging perfection**  Having made a decision, it is common for people to say – “I’ve changed my mind”. Sometimes this will be a good thing, especially if our first decision was the wrong one. Theologians describe “God’s immutability” by which they mean God does not change, his decisions and decrees are perfect and need not be changed. It is for that reason we can fully place our trust in God’s promises.  **Numbers 23 v 19; Psalm 33v 10,11; Malachi 3 v 6; James 1 v17.** |
| 16/5  CH | **God’s Omniscience**  Related to the fact of God’s unchanging perfection is the wonder of God’s omniscience. He knows all things. Things past, things present and things future. God is never going to be taken by surprise, his plan for this world and for His creatures is known to him, the beginning, and the end. This thought brings both comfort and challenge. We can’t hide from God who made us.  **Psalm 33 v 1-15; Isa 40 v 13-14, 27,28; Romans 11 v 33-36; Heb 4 v 13** |
| 23/5  Ian Naismith | **God’s Omnipresence**  “I can only be in one place at a time” is a phrase we perhaps utter in frustration at the demands of modern life. God has no such constraints. He is not constrained by space or time. He is always everywhere present. At its most basic, this truth ensures, when we come to him in prayer, he is there for us and knows our every need.  **Exodus 3 1-6; Josh 1 v5; Psalm 139 v 1-16; Dan 3 v 24,25; Hebrews 13 v5** |
| 30/5  CH | **God’s Omnipotence**  “I only have one pair of hands” we perhaps mutter under our breathe as the boss hands us yet another task for in tray. We feel the frustration of being powerless to deal with so much going on in our lives. Scripture attests however to the power of God that is unlimited and unending. God can do all things consistent with his holy nature and will. Nothing can stand against Him.  **Gen 1 v 1-9; Gen 18 v 9-14; Numbers 11 v 23; Job 42 v 2; Psalm 147 v 5; Eph 1 v 18-20** |
| 6/6  George Campbell | **God’s Sovereignty**  This is perhaps the truth that wraps up all the other wonders of who God is that we have been considering. God has the right and power to rule over all things with no obligation to anyone or anything. Such absolute sovereignty is a title that some on earth have claimed but never owned. We worship God who is the sovereign King of all. It is interesting therefore that so often in our hearts we still resist his sovereignty.  **1 Chronicles 29 v 10-14; Psalm 2 v 1-6; Psalm 24 v 7-10; Psalm 47 v 1-9; Isaiah 46 v 5-13** |

**Resources for further Study:**

**Knowing God: J I Packer**

**Knowledge of the Holy: A W Tozer**

**None Greater; The Undomesticated Attributes of God: Matthew Barret**

**Packer, J.I., Concise Theology** (<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Concise-Theology-J-I-Packer/dp/184474051X>)

**Milne, Bruce, Know The Truth** ( <https://www.10ofthose.com/uk/products/19288/know-the-truth>)

*For the website/notice sheet etc:*It would be hard to overestimate how important it is for an individual Christian, and for God’s church, to have a correct understanding of God. Our worship, our service and our practical day to day lives will be impacted by how we understand God. We must endeavour therefore to understand what Scripture reveals to us of God. This series will explore some of those aspects of God’s nature that are His alone, but in understanding them, we will find our worship and service growing in the light of what they reveal to us.