

SHEPHERD'S COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday ABF – March 16

“The Knowledge of the Holy”

by A.W. Tozer

CHAPTERS

The Divine Omniscience/The Wisdom of God

*If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me,"
even the darkness will not be dark to You; the night will shine like the day,
for darkness is as light to You. (Psalm 139:11-12).*

Great is our Lord and abundant in strength; His understanding is infinite (Psalm 147:5 NASB).

*Whom did the LORD consult to enlighten Him, and who taught Him the right way?
Who was it that taught Him knowledge or showed Him the path of understanding (Isaiah 40:14)?*

*Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
How unsearchable His judgments, and His paths beyond tracing out!
"Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been His counselor?"
"Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?"
For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.
To Him be the glory forever! Amen (Romans 11:33-36).*

1) What is the difference between knowledge and wisdom?

2) In Pastor Tozer's opening prayer, he exclaims to God, "I can inform Thee of nothing and it is vain to try to hide anything from Thee." He is absolutely right! **Yet, as God's children, shouldn't we be able to run up to our Heavenly Father and say, "Look, Daddy—look what I've discovered about You today!"?**

3) All wisdom is a reflection of God's wisdom. **Who then should get credit for the invention of the computer, the discovery of Relativity, the building of the space shuttle?**

4a) **What biblical support is there that God knows all that is knowable—with great detail and precision—past, present, and future?**

4b) **What is “middle knowledge?”** (Middle knowledge is not mentioned in Tozer’s book.)

5a) **Could God’s Truth be true if He wasn’t infinitely wise?**

5b) **If God could learn something new, what kind of God would He be?**

“Could God at any time or in any manner receive into His mind knowledge that He did not possess and had not possessed from eternity, He would be imperfect and less than himself.” A.W. Tozer

6) **Please read the following quote from *The Knowledge of the Holy*:**

“God knows instantly and effortlessly all matter and all matters, all mind and every mind, all spirit and all spirits, all being and every being, all creaturehood and all creatures, every plurality and all pluralities, all law and every law, all relations, all causes, all thoughts, all mysteries, all enigmas, all feeling, all desires, every unuttered secret, all thrones and dominions, all personalities, all things visible and invisible in heaven and in earth, motion, space, time, life, death, good, evil, heaven, and hell.”

After I read this statement, I sat dumbfounded and simply said in my heart, “Wow, God is so great!” **What is your response?**

7) As humans, we usually laugh when we’re surprised by something, like the punch line of a joke or some unexpected humorous event. **The Scripture indicates that God sometimes “laughs,” but since God cannot be surprised, what exactly is it that makes Him “laugh?”** Please read Psalm 2:4; 37:13; and 59:8

8) In mulling over some of the truths about God that Tozer presents in Chapter 10, I came to the conclusion that to truly know anything (anything of importance) is to know something about God. Since God knows everything about Himself, He know all things. **Would you agree?** Please read Romans 1:18-25.

9) Tozer states that “these two kinds of wisdom are in perpetual conflict. Indeed, when seen from the lofty peak of Sinai or Calvary, the whole history of the world is discovered to be but a contest between the wisdom of God and the cunning of Satan and fallen men.” **Can you think of instances in your life when the wisdom of Christ defeated the cunning of Satan?**

10a) **Why does Tozer refer to our Heavenly Father’s perfect knowledge of us as “unutterably sweet?”**
Please read Psalm 139:1-6.

10b) My definition of “sweetness” is this: Sweetness is seen when God’s infinite power and wisdom come in contact with that which is truly humble, thus magnifying the beauty of His meekness and kindness. **Can you give an example of this kind of “sweetness” revealed in nature?**

10c) **Can you think of anyone or anything sweeter than Jesus?!**

11a) **What does Tozer mean when he says, “hence, we shall not seek for proof that God is wise. The unbelieving mind would not be convinced by any proof and the worshipping heart needs none”?**

*"Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are His.
He changes times and seasons; He sets up kings and deposes them.
He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning.
He reveals deep and hidden things; He knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with Him (Daniel 2:20-22).*

11b) He goes on to proclaim: “Any faith that must be supported by the evidence of the senses is not real faith.” **Do you agree? If Tozer is correct, then what value, if any, is Creation Science?**

11c) On the other hand, Tozer rightly states that “without the creation, the wisdom of God would have remained forever locked in the boundless abyss of the divine nature.” **Do you understand what Pastor Tozer means here?**

*How many are your works, O LORD!
In wisdom you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures (Psalm 104:24).*

12) “Many through the centuries have declared themselves unable to believe in the basic wisdom of a world wherein so much appears to be so wrong” writes Pastor Tozer. The Fall, instead of calling God’s wisdom into question, does just the opposite. **How so?**

13) Tozer writes: “The testimony of faith is that, no matter how things look in this fallen world, all God’s acts are wrought in perfect wisdom. The incarnation of the Eternal Son in human flesh was one of God’s mighty deeds, and we may be sure that this awesome deed was done with a perfection possible only to the Infinite.” **Please read with your mind and ponder in your heart 1 Corinthians 1:18-31.**

Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God (1 Corinthians 1:24).

14) Tozer remarks that “it is heartening to learn how many of God’s mighty deeds were done in secret, away from the prying eyes of men or angels.” **Please read Psalm 139:14-16.** Two weeks from now (March 30) we will be taking a peak at how Jesus—in His infinite wisdom—forms a little baby in a mother’s womb. (We’ll be showing *The Biology of Prenatal Development* during the ABF time. It is a really amazing video—don’t miss it!)