

The Unsearchable Depths of God

Romans 11: 33-36

Romans is a powerful book, filled with deep doctrinal truth for the believer. It is a book that must be studied and discerned carefully though. Much of the book of Romans was written to Israel. Many have gotten in trouble doctrinally by applying passages that were clearly intended for Israel to the church.

In the previous chapters (9-10), Paul has expressed his concern for Israel, his desire for their salvation, and his sorrow for their rejection of the gospel. This chapter is addressed to the Hebrew people as well. [Rom.11:1 – I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid. For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin.](#) Paul reveals that God has not forsaken His people, and many of them will turn to Christ as the Messiah and be saved, especially during the Great Tribulation. (That is an entirely different study.)

So, one might ask, if this passage was written to the Jews, what is the benefit of it for us? Well, we can't look at it from a personal perspective, but we can glean much beneficial truth from a practical perspective. Much of the Bible is overlooked, and even avoided, because some believe it has no benefit for the church. [2 Tim.3:16 – All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:](#)

Our text verses are dealing with the divine character of God and His character never changes, whether He is dealing with Jews or Gentiles. There is much in these verses that is beneficial to the church. I want to examine the [divine attributes](#) of God's character as we consider: [The Unsearchable Depths of God.](#)

I. God is Marvelous (33) – [O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!](#) Isn't that an amazing thought? What does that reveal about God? First we see that He is marvelous:

A. In His Wisdom (33a) – I have said many times that a lot of people are looking for direction in their lives, but sadly, few ever look to the source of real truth and wisdom. There are none who possess the wisdom or mind of God. Who better to seek than our Creator and Lord? His wisdom is beyond our ability to comprehend; it is unfathomable!

- [Ps.8:3-4 – When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained; \[4\] What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?](#)
- [Is.40:12 – Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?](#)
- [Ps.139:14 – I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.](#)

B. In His Ways (33b) – God’s judgments and ways are past finding out. His judgments reveal a “judicial term, referring to the sentence of a judge in a court of law.” His ways speak of “the journey traveled; course of conduct; manner of thinking, feeling, deciding.” These are unsearchable; that is they cannot be tracked. It has the idea of “one who leaves no footprints as he goes.” That is not to say that we cannot know God or fellowship with Him, but that we cannot comprehend all that He is! His holiness and very essence is beyond human ability to obtain or predict.

- Job 5:9 – Which doeth great things and unsearchable; marvellous things without number:
- Job 37:23 – Touching the Almighty, we cannot find him out: he is excellent in power, and in judgment, and in plenty of justice: he will not afflict.
- Ps.77:19 – Thy way is in the sea, and thy path in the great waters, and thy footsteps are not known.
- Ps.92:5 – O Lord, how great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very deep.
- Is.55:8-9 – For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. [9] For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

I. God is Marvelous (33)

II. God is Matchless (34-35) – There are none who compare to our God; there are none like Him. We discover that He is matchless:

A. In His Counsel (34) – For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor? Who has given the Lord advice? With whom did He consult prior to creation? Whom does He go to for counsel when we bring our troubles before Him?

- Clearly the answer is no one! He possesses all wisdom and knowledge. We will never face anything that He doesn’t understand. He will never have to seek the approval or counsel of others in regard to our needs! 1 Cor.2:16 – For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

B. In His Compensation (35) – Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? Isn’t that an amazing thought? God has borrowed from no one. He is indebted to no one. All that God performed and created, He did according to His own ability and power! In the beginning God...

- It is humbling to think that all that we have, and even those things that we offer back unto the Lord are from Him! We give Him nothing that He hasn’t provided for us initially.

- 1 Cor.8:6 – But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.
- Ephes.4:6 – One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.
- Col.1:17 – And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.

I. God is Marvelous (33)

II. God is Matchless (34-35)

III. God is Merciful (36) – For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen. This verse really puts things into perspective. It reveals that we are totally dependent upon the Lord. Without Him we would be able to do nothing and we would surely perish. I stand amazed at the mercy that God has for those who are undeserving! Notice:

A. He is Our Source – For of Him...are all things! That is difficult for us to accept at times. In our flesh we are prone to pride and self-reliance. In reality all that we have or ever hope to have is of the Lord. All that we possess and have the ability to perform comes from His divine source!

- Col.1:16 – For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

B. He is Our Strength – For...through Him...are all things. Take just a moment and let that sink in. That means exactly what it says. All things are through Him. We are nothing in and of ourselves. All that we possess, all that we accomplish, the souls that are saved, all the blessings that we enjoy; all of it comes from God and through God! (The health that we enjoy, the job that we have to provide for our families, the homes, food, and provision for our daily lives, the sun we see and the breath we breathe, all comes by and through the Lord.) Without His help each and every moment that we live, we would be able to do nothing.

- Acts 17:28 – For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.
- Jn.15:5 – I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.
- Philip.4:13 – I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

C. He is Our Substance – For...to Him are all things. This certainly reflects the idea that we spoke of earlier in regard to all that we have to offer the Lord comes from Him initially. Had He not blessed us in the first place, we would have nothing to offer Him in return. That is a profound truth, but that must not be all that we take from this passage.

- All things are to Him. That doesn't reflect some things, or even most things, but all things. That is a sobering thought. Every aspect of our lives are lived unto the Lord.
- Rom.14:7-8 – For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself. [8] For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's.
- Col.3:23 – And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

D. He is Our Sovereign (36b) – to whom be glory for ever. Amen. There are no gods beside our God. To Him is glory and honor that is reserved for no other.

- Ps.71:19 – Thy righteousness also, O God, is very high, who hast done great things: O God, who is like unto thee!
- 1 Tim.1:17 – Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.
- Rev.4:10-11 – The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, [11] Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.
- Rev.19:6 – And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

I trust these verses have been a comfort as well as a challenge to you. We serve the true and living God, One whose depth is unsearchable, His ways past finding out.

There is much about the Lord that I cannot comprehend, but I have decided to trust in Him and follow Him wherever He leads. He that has the power to save us has the power to keep and sustain us. What a mighty God we serve!

I would ask you to be honest with the Lord tonight. He knows your heart better than you do. He knows where you stand with Him. I hope you realize that God has been merciful and gracious in your life. Every blessing that you enjoy, He has given. Do you know Him as your personal Savior? If not, why not come and begin life anew in Him!