

Imagine trying to do that! We can do that **with snow**, right, but try “stacking” water on top of water!

Impossible for us—but not for God! (Would be fun to be able to “stack water” while fishing 😊!)

--We also see in this Psalm that God is referred to as the LORD—Yahweh—13 times!

We can't cover **all the attributes** of God given here in Psalm 33, but I do want to point out 2 more.

C. The Observer of men. Vs 13 “The LORD looketh from heaven; He beholdeth all the sons of men.”

And as if to make sure we don't miss it, God says it again in vs 14.

--vs 14 “From the place of His habitation He looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth.”

--Now the end of vs 15 “...He considereth all their works.”

--Mark it down; God sees all—and knows all! His eye is ever upon us—**all of us!**

--**How can** He do that? Because He is God!

--**Why does** He do that? Because He is ... D. The Holy Judge of men

God doesn't look down from heaven and watch men because He is nosey—He watches them because He is their judge!

--Notice vs 5: “He loveth righteousness and judgment...”

--God loves that which is good and pure and right and true. He doesn't **just love** those things—He Himself **does those** things! Look at the end of vs 4: “all His works are done in truth.” That means **everything** God does is according to the truth of His Word and the perfection of His nature.

--But we also see in vs 5 that God loves something **besides** righteousness. What is that? **Judgment!** Why does God **love judgment?** Is it because He is evil and hateful and delights in torment?

--No! Because He loves righteousness; He loves that which is good and pure and right and true!

And if you truly love what is right, you will **want wrong** punished. Even imperfect man in our warped sense of what is right and wrong doesn't think it's okay for murderers to go unpunished!

--If **we, then**, as fellow sinners want them to be punished, it shouldn't surprise us that **God does, too!**

Thankfully, this is not the **final word on judgment** in this chapter. We also see that God **delights** in mercy.

Notice vs 18: “Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that **fear Him**, upon them that **hope in His mercy.**”

God wants people to fear Him—and to hope in His mercy. What is mercy? **Mercy** is God's withholding of punishment that we deserve. So how can **God love judgment**—and withholding judgment at the same time?

--Because God's mercy **is not based on** His willingness to **ignore** sin. God doesn't “sweep it under the rug;” He doesn't pretend that it is not there and doesn't exist.

--God's mercy is **based on Someone else being punished** for our sin! And that Someone else, of course, **is Jesus!** God came to earth—in the form of Jesus—to live a perfect life so He could die as **our** substitute. Much more could be said, but for now I will just say this: **God extends mercy to you** by offering you Jesus as the payment for **your sins**.

--You can say “Yes”—and be forgiven; or you can say “No”—and remain unforgiven. It is really that simple.

Who is the Declarer? The Creator, the Sovereign Ruler over everything and everybody, the One who watches us...and will judge us, but also the One who delights in mercy.

Next, let's consider... **2. The Declaration made by God**

What does God declare? Amos 4:13 “...declareth unto man what is His thought...”

Ps 33:11 “...the thoughts of His heart to all generations.”

Oh, how we need to let this sink in—God has **revealed His heart and mind in this Book!** But has God revealed **everything** there is to know about Him? Obviously not!

How do we know? Because we don't even have a record of **everything Jesus** did! **John 21:25** “And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.”

Let's consider first... A. The boundaries of God's revelation

What are the boundaries—the limits—of God’s revelation? Notice on your outline **Deuteronomy 29:29** **Deuteronomy 29:29** “The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.”

Pretty straightforward, isn’t it? There are **secret things** that belong only to God and for reasons known only to Him, He has chosen **not to reveal them** to us. **But...** there are things that He **has revealed**—and those things belong “unto us and to our children.” Who is Moses referring to? The **nation of Israel**, right?

Does that mean what God has revealed is **only for Israel** and not for us? Nope; it doesn’t mean that at all! Here’s why. II Tim 3:16-17 “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: ¹⁷ That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”

Since all Scripture is God-breathed, it is all profitable for **doctrine**—meaning what it is that we believe. The timeless truth in Deut 29:29 is that God **hasn’t revealed everything** there is to know about Him, but we are **responsible to know and do** what He has revealed!

One more thought before we move on. Notice on your outline **II Peter 1:4** “Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises...” Where do we find God’s promises? In this Book—and **only in this Book!** We have **no promises from God** other than what He has told us in His Word!

Next let’s consider... B. The blessing of God’s revelation

Are you thankful for the Word of God? Is your heart blessed—is your heart grateful—that God has given us this Book? The desire of my heart this morning is this—to convey to you the **absolute amazement** we should have over the fact that God has revealed Himself—to us—in words that we can read and understand!

Blessing #1: God wants to be known and understood.

Jeremiah 9:23-24 “Thus saith the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: ²⁴ But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord.”

Let’s not hurry past this. God says it is **not okay** for a wise man to glory in—meaning boast about—his wisdom. And it is not okay for a mighty man to boast about his might—or a rich man to boast in his riches.

God doesn’t end it there, though; He then tells us what **we can boast about**. What is that? “Understanding and knowing Him!” God **wants to be understood**; God **wants to be known**—so God obviously wants us to pursue understanding and knowing Him!

Too many people are content with thinking of God as **being unknowable**. You don’t need to turn there, but in Acts 17 we read of the account of Paul going to Mars Hill in the city of Athens. One of their many altars had this inscription on it: “To the Unknown God.” Paul then said, “Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, Him declare I unto you.” In other words, ‘I’m going to help you **know and understand** the God who you think is **unknowable**.’ And he did that very thing by teaching and preaching the Word of God!

Blessing #2: God has given us His written Word to know and understand Him.

Take your Bibles and turn to Psalm 19. Not going to spend a lot of time on this, but the first 6 verses teach what is called **general** revelation, that which can be learned about God from observing creation.

--Look at vs 1 (read). Here we see that the heavens point to God as the Creator.

--In verse 2, we see that the consistency of day after day—and night after night—and the movement of the sun and stars all point to a majestic, orderly, wise God.

--In vs 3, we see that all this is done **without words**. There is no speech nor language. The “where” in the second half of the verse **is in italics** meaning it was added by the translators to help clarify things. In this case, it actually made it **more confusing!** The heavens don’t communicate with words; neither does the day or night! They declare a message, though—without words—that “There is a God.”

Romans 1:20 makes a similar statement “For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, **being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead**; so that they are without excuse:”

Simply put, we can know of God and His eternal power from looking at His creation!

Now vs 7 “The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul...” Verses 7-11 refer to God’s *special* revelation. God wants to be understood—He wants to be known—so He gave us His Word in *written form*.

Karen was sharing with some of us an experience that she and Ron had while attending a funeral recently. The priest who did the funeral spoke *in Polish* the entire service and no one had *any idea what* he was saying! The question we all asked was “Why wouldn’t he want people to understand what he was saying?” Aren’t you glad **God didn’t do that** and gave us His Word in a language that can be understood?

God *created languages*—and gave man the ability to learn and write languages. He confounded the languages at the tower of Babel so the people would scatter but chose a nation for Himself to be His people.

He spoke to them in their language and over the course of 1500 years, revealing what He wanted them to write down. They did that—in their language—which was primarily Hebrew for the OT and Greek in the NT.

But both languages could be studied and understood and translated into other languages so that we—right now—have what God wants us to know!

Blessing #3: God has given us what we need to know for eternal life and godliness.

Think with me for a moment about all the things we *wouldn’t know* if we didn’t have the Bible.

--We wouldn’t know about heaven—or hell.

--We wouldn’t know about Jesus—or judgment.

--We wouldn’t know about the love of God—or about God’s hatred for sin.

--We wouldn’t know what is going to happen in the future—and how it all “shakes out” in the end!

But **we do know the truth** about all these things—and much more—because God has revealed them to us!

II Peter 1:3 “According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto **life and godliness**, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue:”

--God has given us what we need in regard to life—meaning *eternal life*—and godliness; how we are to live once we are a child of God. We find both those things in His Word.

--Look at vs 7 here in Psalm 19: “The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul:” The Word of God is what gives us instruction on **how to be forgiven by God** and become His child.

John 14:6 “Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.” **John 20:31** “But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name.”

--And in Ps 19:11, we see a reference to **godly living**. God’s Word warns us **what to stay away from**—and reminds us that we **will be rewarded** for doing what He commands.

We’ve seen that the declarer is God—and that He has declared unto us His thought. Lastly, we need to consider... **3. The decision made by us**

Each of us has a decision to make regarding **how we view** what God has said. God gives each of us the evidence of Himself in creation—and has put within us a conscience that is pricked when we do wrong.

We also know in our “heart of hearts”—in our inmost being—that there is an awareness of a Being far greater than ourselves. That awareness is called a “God consciousness.” What are **you going to do** with that knowledge of God **within you**? There are really only two choices.

The best choice; the wise choice is to.... A. Believe and receive what God has written

--God—because He loves us—want us to understand and know Him.

--And because He wants us to understand and know Him, He has revealed Himself to us through His Word.

--And in His Word, He has told us how we can be forgiven...and become His child...and spend eternity in Hvn.

--He has also told us how He wants us to live once we become His child.

Are you going to believe and receive what God has revealed about Himself?

There's a second choice—which is a poor one. It is not just poor—it is **foolish**. To be blunt, it is **damning** because it sends people to hell. There is really no other way to put it. What is that choice?

B. Disbelieve and reject what God has written

--You can ignore what you see in creation—and what you feel in your conscience

--You can deny that God wants to be known and understood

--You can reject the notion that God revealed Himself through His written Word

--And you can **lean on** your own wisdom and foolishly think you can tell God how you are going to get into His heaven!

--But in the end, **God's Word** will have the last say. If you reject God and His way to be forgiven, He will reject you! There will be no mercy for you. In **Jonah 2:8** we read this short but powerful statement: "They that observe lying vanities forsake their own mercy."

--In other words, they that follow that which is not true—their own wisdom instead of God's—will not have mercy.

What is your choice going to be?

So what does God want you to do with what you heard this morning?

1. First, do you know you are forgiven and on your way to heaven? You can know—and God wants you to know. If you have questions about that and want to see for yourself in the Bible what God says about that, come talk to me.

2. Second, for those of us who are believers and are heaven-bound, are you thankful for the Word of God?

Do you thank God for the blessing of His Word?

Are you reading it and striving to do what it says?

We should be, right?