FOUNDATIONS OF OUR FAITH

04 - THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

Romans 11:33-36 "Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! 34 "Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?" 35 "Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them?" 36 For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen."

1.- Question: Can God be known?

Answer: Yes, however, it is impossible for us to know him or understand Him fully

Psalm 145:3 (ESV) "Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.

2.- Question: How Is God Made Known?

Answer: True knowledge of God is a sovereign gift of grace through Jesus Christ.

Matthew 11:27 (ESV) "All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him."

John 17:26 (ESV) "I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them."

3.- Question: What can human beings know about God?

Answer: We can only know him by what He has revealed of himself in the person of Jesus Christ and through scripture.

John 14:23 "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him."

A.- God wants us to truly know him

1 John 5:20 (NIV) "We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true by being in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life."

B.- God wants us to rejoice in knowing him

Jeremiah 9:24 (NKJV) "But let him who glories, glory in this, that he understands and knows Me; that I am the Lord, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the Lord."

GOD'S ATTRIBUTES

Meaning: Qualities or features regarded as a characteristic or inherent part of someone.

- 1.- Incommunicable
- 2.- Communicable

THE ATTRIBUTES (CHARACTERISTICS) OF GOD

• Omnipresent (present everywhere)

Jeremiah 23:23-24 (NIV) "Am I only a God nearby," declares the Lord, "and not a God far away? 24 Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them?" declares the Lord. "Do not I fill heaven and earth?" Declares the Lord."

• Omnipotent (all powerful)

Jeremiah 32:17 (NIV) "Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you.

• Omniscient (all knowing)

Job 34:21 "For His eyes are on the ways of man, and He sees all his steps."

• **Eternal** (everlasting)

Deuteronomy 33:27 "The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms; He will thrust out the enemy from before you."

• Holy (free from all sin, morally pure)

Isaiah 6:3 "And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!"

Righteous and Just (always does what is right)

Psalms 145:17 "The Lord is righteous in all His ways, gracious in all His works."

Merciful (doesn't give us what we deserve) –

Deuteronomy 4:31 (NASB) "For the Lord your God is a compassionate God; He will not abandon you nor destroy you, nor forget the covenant with your fathers which He swore to them."

• **Immutable** (He doesn't change)

Malachi 3:6 "For I am the Lord, I do not change; therefore, you are not consumed..."

• Truthful (cannot lie) -

Titus 1:1-2 (NIV) "In the hope of eternal life, which God, who does not lie, promised before the beginning of time..."

• Awesome (inspiring reverent awe with godly fear) –

Deuteronomy 7:21 (NIV) "Do not be terrified by them, for the Lord your God, who is among you, is a great and awesome God."

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS ARE ASCRIBED TO GOD:

Knowledge and Wisdom

Isaiah 55:8-9 ""For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says 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."

Will

1 Timothy 2:4 (NASB) "(God) wants all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

Emotions

Zephaniah 3:17 "The Lord your God in your midst, the Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing."

Micah 7:18 "Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights in mercy."

THE LOVE OF GOD

Lesson: Love is the essence of God's nature.

1 John 4:7-8 "Beloved, let's love one another; for love is from God, and everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 The one who does not love does not know God, because God is love."

Lessons About God's Love:

A.- God loves His Son

Matthew 3:17 "And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

B.- God loves the world

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

C.- Christ's Death on our behalf demonstrated God's love for us.

Romans 5:8 "But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

D.- God's love has been poured out the hearts of believers.

Romans 5:5 "Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us."