

Chapter 10: The Knowability of God

Can we really know God? How much of God can we know?

- A. The Necessity for God to Reveal Himself to Us (149)
 - 1. Even general revelation depends on God's choice to reveal himself through the created order. (Rom. 1:19)
 - 2. If we are to know God personally in salvation, it is clearly necessary for God to reveal himself to us. (Matt. 11:27; 1 Cor. 1:21; John 1:18)
 - a) All human beings have a tendency to misinterpret the revelation about God found in nature. (Rom. 1:18, 21, 25)
 - 3. We need the Bible to properly understand any revelation from God or about him (in nature, history, our consciences).
- B. We can never fully understand God. (149-151)
 - 1. Because God is infinite and we are finite, we must affirm the incomprehensibility of God or that God can never be fully understood. (Ps 145:3, 147:5; 1 Cor. 2:10-12; Rom. 11:33; Isa. 55:9; Job 26:14)
 - 2. God's incomprehensibility means that we can never, in this life or the next, have an exhaustive knowledge of God. This is good! We should continue to learn more about God and enjoy doing this – forever! (Col. 1:10)
- C. Yet we can know God truly. (151-152)
 - 1. Although we cannot know God exhaustively, we can know God truly because all that Scripture tells us about God is true. (1 John 1:5, 4:8; John 4:24; Rom. 3:26)
 - 2. Moreover, we know God himself, not just facts about him. (Jer. 9:23-24; John 17:3; Heb. 8:11; 1 John 2:13, 5:20)