

King James Bible Study Correspondence Course
An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries
5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

THE PRESENCE AND KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

Lesson 8

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In this lesson, we are going to take up the subject of the presence and knowledge of God. The Holy Bible teaches that God is omnipresent. That is just a fancy way of saying that God is everywhere.

This fact is too wonderful for us to understand, but it is easy to believe and to prove. God is a person, and in His personal presence God the Father is in heaven. In the same sense, Jesus, God the Son, was on earth and is now in heaven, yet He lives in every believer and has promised that where two or three gather together in His name He will be in the midst of them.

While such things are too wonderful for the natural mind to comprehend, the believer finds them set forth in the pages of the Holy Bible. Let me show you this truth from the word of God.

I realize these statements sound incredible. If Jesus Christ were just a man we could not possibly believe such things. But Jesus Christ is indeed the God-man. He is the Creator. In Colossians 1:27 concerning Jesus Christ, the Bible says, *To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.*

When a person is born again, by trusting the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Saviour, the Bible says that at that moment the Son of God actually comes to live within the believer. One need not understand this. God asks you to believe it. In Matthew 18:20, Jesus gives this promise to His own: *For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.* Oh, blessed be the unseen guest. What a thrill to think of the unseen person of the Lord Jesus Christ meeting together with us!

The Holy Spirit came to earth for a special purpose on the day of Pentecost recorded in Acts 2. Jesus Himself comes to live within the believer in the person of the Holy Spirit.

God and the things that He has made are not part of each other. This applies to man as well as to all other created things. God is not the trees, the grass, the air, the sky, the birds, or the animals. These things are not God. These are things that God has made and they are distinct from God. A painting is not the artist. a book is not the author.

God is present in His universe in the sense that He sees all, knows all, upholds all, and as far as there is submission to His will, directs all.

He does not in any sense dwell in the hearts of the unsaved. If you have never received the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour, God does not dwell in you.

Man does not have the life of God unless he is born again; neither does any other created thing have the life of God.

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Let us look at three truths concerning the presence and the knowledge of God.

1. The personal presence of God is in heaven. The Bible says, *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven* (Matthew 5:16). *Jesus saith unto her. Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God* (John 20:17).

In Acts 7 Stephen has just finished preaching his great sermon to the religious leaders of the nation of Israel. He has told them clearly and plainly that the Lord Jesus Christ was indeed the promised Messiah. He proclaimed that the Saviour of the world that should come had come. He charged them with the Lord's death before announcing He was risen again. Stephen says in Acts 7:55-56, *But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, And said. Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God. So, number one, the personal presence of God is in heaven.*

2. God is everywhere through His own presence and through that of His agencies. Let us allow the Bible to explain this statement. Jeremiah 23:23-24 says. *Am I a God at hand, saith the LORD, and not a God afar off? Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD.* God asks a question and then He answers it. That question is valid today. Am I God at hand or am I a God afar off? The answer is that there is no secret place where you can hide where God won't see you.

There is no place in heaven or in earth that you can go where God cannot behold you.

In Proverbs 15:3 the scripture reads, *The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.* All those times you thought nobody saw you, Someone did. All those sins you thought you got away with, someone observed them all. All those deeds you committed in some secret spot were in plain view of your Maker.

My friend, you have been in no place in this entire universe where the eye of God could not rest upon you. God could see every deed, know every thought, and hear every word.

In Psalms we have this truth detailed in beautiful language: *Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me* (Psalms 139:7-10).

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There is no sense in trying to run from God. You cannot escape. There is no sense in trying to hide yourself, your thoughts, or your deeds from God. It cannot be done. If you only knew how much He loves and cares for you, you would cease running. If I could make you know how wonderful a life of fellowship with God can be, you would repent of your sin and come to Him at once. All the joy begins when you fall at His feet and allow Him to be your personal Saviour.

In Psalms 34:7, we find: *The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, and delivereth them.* It may be through God's Holy Spirit, simply through the eye of God, or through the angels of God, but wherever you are in this universe God is present. He sees and knows.

3. The knowledge of God is infinite; it knows no bounds. It has only those limits placed upon it by God Himself. The Bible says in Job 37:16, *Dost thou know the balancings of the clouds, the wondrous works of him which is perfect in knowledge?* Is your knowledge perfect? It is not. Is my knowledge perfect? It is not. If all the men who had ever lived combined their knowledge, it would not be perfect knowledge. But God has perfect knowledge.

Let us consider three particulars regarding the knowledge of God.

First: His knowledge extends to the ends of the universe and to the minutest details. We quote again from the book of Psalms, this time Psalms 147:4: *He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names.*

. Not only does God know how many stars there are, but He also has a name for each and every one of them. Now that is fantastic.

Surely God's knowledge not only extends to the ends of the universe, but also to the minutest details. He goes on to say in verse 5, *Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.*

In Matthew 10:29 we find a marvelous statement: *Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father.* Out in a forest, or in a gigantic city, in any corner of this world, there is not one sparrow that falls to the ground without God knowing.

He goes on to say in Matthew 10:30, *But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.* God not only knows how many people there are in the world, He not only knows where they are, He not only knows what they are doing, thinking, and saying, He not only knows the motive behind their actions, but He has a count of the hairs on every head. I say to you, truly our God is infinite in His knowledge.

Second: We see that God knows not only the actions but also the thoughts of each individual. Looking to Proverbs 5:21 we find the Bible says. *For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and he pondereth all his goings.* God sees what you are doing, and He is paying attention to it. The Lord is pondering all your doings, Mr. Man.

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First Chronicles 28:9 declares: *And thou, Solomon my son, know thou the God of thy father, and serve him with a perfect heart and with a willing mind: for the LORD searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all the imaginations of the thoughts: if thou seek him, he will be found of thee; but if thou forsake him, he will cast thee off for ever.* You know, that is a mighty God! That is an incredible God! No man could do that. No religious leader or idol could make such a claim.

We are told in Psalm 139:2: *Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising.* I don't know if you are sitting down right now or standing up, but God does. I don't know if you are reclining, if you are working, if you are stooping over, but God does. Not only that, but He says, *Thou understandest my thought afar off.* God knows what you are thinking right now. He knows your very thoughts.

Do you really imagine you are going to get by a God like that in the day of judgment? Do you really think that a God who knows your every thought, a God who knows whether you are sitting down or standing up, has failed to notice your transgressions?

You had better fall at the feet of the Lord Jesus Christ and have your sins forgiven. That is the only chance you have. Let us look at one more verse under this heading: *And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear* (Isaiah 65:24)

It is wonderful to have such an awesome God. God can hear the prayers of the millions of people at the same moment and answer those prayers.

Our God can hear the prayers of every man and woman on the face of this earth. If all were praying at the same time, He could hear. He could understand, He could comprehend and He could rightly and justly answer every one of those prayers without straining Himself in the least. That is the God of the Bible. That is a powerful God.

In 1 John 5:14 He says, *And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us.* You can be confident, my friend, that if you pray to God, God will hear you. Verse 15 continues; *And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.* Not only can God hear the prayers of every man, but He can also answer the prayers of every man.

Third: God can effectually forget or remember, as He will. If God in His perfect knowledge chooses to erase from His perfect knowledge something that He wills to forget. He has the power to do that very thing.

You are a sinner. I am a sinner. All men have sinned and come short of the glory of God. God knows the sins that you have committed in your thinking, and in your acting. He knows the sins that you have committed every day of your life. He saw them all. Yet, listen to this glorious truth. The Bible

says in Hebrews 8:12, *For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.*

Again, in Isaiah 49:14-16 we read, *But Zion said, The LORD hath forsaken me, and my Lord hath forgotten me. Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me.* God can forget what He wills to forget and remember what He chooses to remember.

When will God forget your sins? When you have come to Him confessing that you are a sinner, in sincere sorrow and repentance, trusting the finished blood atonement of His Son the Lord Jesus Christ as the sacrificial payment for your sin. The Bible says. *That if thou shall confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shall believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation* (Romans 10:9-10).

If we call upon the name of the Lord He will save us and forgive our sins, and, having forgiven them. He will forget them. He will remember them no more.

He says that having made us His child. He will never forget us. Forget our sins? Yes, He will. Forget us? Oh, praise His name. He never, never shall.

The knowledge of God is infinite and it extends to the ends of the universe and to the minutest details.

Let us close the chapter with three points to ponder. We will state them and leave them for your meditation.

1. To pay any created thing or person, even an angel or a spirit, the homage which is due God alone is a dreadful sin. It strikes at the very being, as well as at the sufficiency of God. To worship an image, even though the image is a representation of God, is gross sin and immorality.
2. God is all-sufficient to the extent that He knows all our needs far in advance, and has the power to supply them fully.
3. That prayer which begins in adoration and ends in petition becomes at once reasonable and effective as we come to know God as He is. Formal praying, repeating words or memorized prayers is perfectly absurd. God is a person. He loves us. He cares for us. He wants to hear us speak to Him from our hearts. He wants to answer our prayers by supplying our needs and He wants to receive our worship.

Notes

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Name _____

1. Explain Proverbs 15:3.
2. Explain the personal presence of God is in heaven.
3. What is the purpose of this Lesson?
4. What is the key verse of this Lesson?
5. Explain how the knowledge of God is infinite.
6. Explain Jeremiah 23:23-24.
7. Explain God is everywhere through His own presence and through that of His agencies.
8. Explain 1 Chronicles 28:9.
9. Explain the knowledge of God is infinite.
10. What is the meaning of omnipresent?
11. Explain Isaiah 49:14-16.

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12. When will God forget your sins?
13. Will God ever forget us?
14. What is perfect knowledge? who has it?

True/False

- If a tree fall in the forest with no one around, God hears it.
- If I go into a dark night club, God cannot see me.
- God is in the trees, the grass, the air, the sky, the birds, or the animals.



Scripture memorization Hebrews 8:12; Psalms 139:7-10;
Matthew 18:20, (write out these verses on the back of this page) must be
in KJV

My friend, will you come to God just now and tell Him of your need to have your sins forgiven? Oh, if you will do that, God will hear and answer that prayer. He will wash your sins away in the blood of His Son the Lord Jesus Christ. He will give you everlasting life. Then you may begin to walk with Him, talk with Him, fellowship with Him, know Him, love Him and worship Him.