

# JOEL LAZARUS MINISTRIES

# NEWSLETTER



Issue 4

July 2025

## "Oh, the Depth!"

**"Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of GOD! How unsearchable are HIS judgments and how inscrutable HIS ways! For who has known the mind of the LORD, or who has been HIS counselor? Or who has given a gift to HIM that he might be repaid? For from HIM and through HIM and to HIM are all things. To HIM be glory forever. Amen." — Romans 11:33–36**

Dear Friends,

As you read this month's newsletter, I am ministering in Sri Lanka—preaching the Gospel across cities and villages, traveling by train and road, and watching the Holy Spirit stir hearts with hunger for JESUS. Being here reminds me daily how limited our understanding is and how vast GOD's purposes are. Sometimes I stand in places I've never been, speaking to faces I've never met, and yet I sense HIS sovereign orchestration down to every detail.

In moments like these, the words of Paul in Romans 11:33–36 come alive in my spirit:

**"Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of GOD! How unsearchable are HIS judgments and how inscrutable HIS ways!"**

This short doxology is more than a declaration—it's a holy pause. A moment of awe. Paul has just finished explaining GOD's magnificent plan of salvation for both Jews and Gentiles, and rather than trying to reason it out completely, he bursts into worship. It's as if he's saying: "We may not understand it all—but we know WHO does. And HE is worthy of all glory."

Let's take a few moments prayerfully to walk through this passage together—and allow the depth of GOD's riches, wisdom, and knowledge to realign our hearts with worship, security, and trust.

## 1. The Depth of HIS RICHES

**"Oh, the depth of the riches..." (v. 33a)**

**"Or who has given a gift to HIM that he might be repaid?" (v. 35)**

Have you ever met someone who used money or influence to get ahead—to skip a line, win a favor, or buy someone's silence? In this world, it's often those with riches who control access and opportunity. People with less feel insecure—wondering if someone richer, louder, or more powerful will steal what was meant for them.

But with GOD, there is no need for insecurity. HE cannot be bribed, manipulated, or impressed with what we have. HE has infinite riches—not just material wealth, but mercy, grace, patience, and power. We cannot earn HIS favor, and no one can take our place in HIS heart.



***A child once came to a bakery window, peeking in with hungry eyes. The owner, seeing the boy, brought out a warm loaf of bread and gave it to him freely. The boy stammered, "I... I'll pay you back someday!" The baker smiled: "Son, this gift is from someone who doesn't need to be paid back. Just enjoy it."***

That's GOD. HE gives out of HIS own abundance—not because HE lacks anything, but because HIS storehouse never runs dry.

## 2. The Unsearchable WISDOM of GOD

**"...both of the wisdom..." (v. 33a)**

**"How unsearchable are HIS judgments and how inscrutable HIS ways!" (v. 33b)**

There is a difference between knowledge and wisdom. Knowledge is knowing a fact; wisdom is knowing what to do with that fact.

A funny example I once heard from my youngest brother goes like this:

***"Knowing that a tomato is a fruit is knowledge. But not putting it in a fruit salad? That's wisdom."***

GOD's wisdom is not just vast—it's flawless. HE never makes a mistake. HIS decisions are always right, even when we don't understand them. HIS judgments are "unsearchable," and HIS ways are "inscrutable"—which means you and I couldn't trace or unravel HIS thinking even if we tried.

When we look at the world—wars, disease, confusion, injustice—it can feel like things are spinning out of control. But GOD's Word reminds us: HE is not confused. HE is not overwhelmed. What seems twisted and tangled to us is part of a perfect plan in the hands of a WISE and HOLY GOD.

## 3. The Perfect KNOWLEDGE of GOD

**"...and knowledge of GOD!" (v. 33a)**

**"For who has known the mind of the LORD, or who has been HIS counselor?" (v. 34)**

GOD doesn't need our suggestions. HE doesn't call strategy meetings with angels. HE doesn't make a single decision by committee.

**HE knows it all—past, present, and future—perfectly.**

Imagine a master weaver working on a tapestry. From the top, it's stunning—threads of gold, blue, and crimson forming a beautiful image. But if you look at the bottom, it's just knots and tangles. That's how life often looks to us—messy, confusing. But from above, GOD sees the design. HE's not guessing. HE's weaving.



**Corrie ten Boom, a woman who survived a Nazi concentration camp, used to hold up a tangled piece of embroidery and say, "This is how we see life." Then she would flip it over to reveal the beautiful crown stitched in gold, saying, "This is how GOD sees it."**

Let us take comfort in this: GOD knows your end from the beginning. You are never forgotten. HE knows what HE's doing, and you can trust HIM even in the unknown.

## So What Do We Do?

Paul ends this majestic passage in verse 36 with a doxology—"For from HIM and through HIM and to HIM are all things. To HIM be glory forever."

If everything comes from HIM...  
If everything happens through HIM...  
If everything ends in HIM...

Then what's left for us to do?

**WORSHIP. TRUST. REST.**

Let's stop trying to take control. Let's stop handing GOD our suggestions like HE needs a second opinion. Instead, let's give HIM all the applause, all the attention, all the glory—because HE alone is worthy.

## A Final Word

Dear friend, whether you're facing uncertainty, feeling overlooked, or simply wondering why—remember this: You serve a GOD who owns everything, knows everything, and wisely weaves every thread of your life into HIS perfect plan.

**You don't need to have all the answers.  
You don't need to secure your place in HIS Kingdom.  
You are already held, seen, and fully known.**

### Let's Trust HIM More This Month:

- When you feel overlooked, remember: No one can steal what GOD has for you.
- When you feel confused, say: "GOD, Your ways are higher than mine."
- When you feel small, whisper: "To YOU be the glory forever. Amen."



## Ministry Update: Sri Lanka Mission 2025

As you read this newsletter, I am currently on mission in Sri Lanka, ministering across several cities and regions that hold both personal and spiritual significance. Over the next few weeks, I will be preaching the Gospel in churches in Kandy, Kundasala, Jaffna, and possibly Galle or Batticaloa, engaging with pastors and believers who are faithfully laboring under difficult conditions. This journey is more than a return to my roots—it is a divine assignment to rekindle hope, strengthen the church, and declare that Jesus is Lord over every heart and home. I am believing God for a fresh outpouring of His Spirit, for divine appointments, and for many to encounter the living Christ.

Your prayers are essential as I travel with my family, visit remote areas, and speak into communities burdened by spiritual and economic challenges. Pray that every meeting would be filled with God's presence, that His Word would come alive with power, and that our team would be covered with divine protection and strength. We are praying for salvation, healing, deliverance, and lasting revival that touches generations.

### Pray With Us

- 🙏 For souls to be saved and hearts to be softened to the Gospel
- 🔥 For Holy Spirit revival in churches and communities visited
- 🛡️ For protection, strength, and health over Joel and his family
- 😊 For young people and children to have life-changing encounters with Jesus
- 🤝 For unity and refreshing among local pastors and leaders
- 📖 For open doors to sow God's Word into Lives



## Kids Corner

### Hello Dear Little Friend,

As you read this story, I'm far away in a place called Sri Lanka—a beautiful island with green mountains, warm smiles, and people who love to hear about Jesus. Even though I'm across the ocean, I wanted to send this special story just for you.

Did you know the Bible tells us that God knows everything, that **He sees what we cannot see**, and that everything in the world belongs to Him? Let's hear a story about a little girl named Leah who learned that truth in a surprising way.

### Leah and the Puzzle With No Picture

Leah loved puzzles. She had a shelf full of them—dinosaurs, castles, and even space rockets! One rainy afternoon, her grandma gave her a box wrapped in brown paper.

Inside was a puzzle with a thousand tiny pieces—but no picture on the box.

"Grandma," Leah said, tilting her head, "how can I put this together if I don't know what it's supposed to be?"

Her grandma smiled. "Just start with the corners and trust the One who sees the whole picture."

Leah giggled. "You mean you?"

Grandma laughed. "No, sweetheart—I mean God. He sees what we can't. He knows what the picture is. When we trust Him, even when we don't understand, everything will fit together one day."

So Leah began. Some pieces were bright and easy to place. Others were dark, odd, or didn't seem to fit anywhere. She wanted to quit. But she remembered what Grandma said: "Trust the One who sees the whole picture."

A week later, the puzzle was finished. It showed a giant mountain with golden light pouring over it. It was more beautiful than anything Leah had imagined. She sat quietly and whispered, "Wow. God really does know what He's doing."

### Let's Talk About It!

Leah didn't have the full picture, but she trusted anyway. That's how it is with God's plan for your life. You might not always understand why something happens, but Romans 11:33 says that God's wisdom and knowledge are too deep for us to figure out. And verse 36 says:

"Everything comes from Him, happens through Him, and ends up with Him. To Him be the glory!"

### Your Challenge This Month:

- **When something doesn't make sense, stop and say: "God, I trust You. You know the whole picture."**
- **Draw a small puzzle piece on paper. Write something you're confused about or praying for on it. Then say, "This is part of God's plan. I'll trust Him."**
- **And remember: your life is a piece in God's beautiful puzzle—and it matters!**



## Send your Prayer Requests

Prayer is more than a spiritual habit—it is our direct connection to the heart of God. It's in prayer that we pour out our hearts, receive divine wisdom, and align our lives with God's perfect will. Throughout His time on earth, Jesus lived a life anchored in prayer, constantly withdrawing to commune with the Father and teaching His disciples to do the same.

Prayer brings peace when life feels chaotic, strength when we feel weak, and assurance that we are never walking alone. It is in these moments of communion with God that we are reminded of His love, His power, and His promises.

But prayer isn't just powerful personally—it's also transformational when we come together as a community of faith. There is divine power in agreement. Jesus Himself said in

Matthew 18:19–20 (NIV):

"Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."



This is why we value united prayer at Joel Lazarus Ministries. We believe that when we lift each other up before the Lord, He hears us—and He responds.

If you're facing a need, burdened by a situation, or simply desire someone to stand in faith with you—we invite you to reach out. Our dedicated prayer team is ready to intercede on your behalf, trusting God with you for healing, breakthrough, provision, and restored hope.

You can share your prayer request by emailing us at [joellazarusministries@gmail.com](mailto:joellazarusministries@gmail.com)  
Or visit us online at [www.joellazarusministries.org](http://www.joellazarusministries.org)

Whatever you're walking through, know this: you're not walking alone. We are here, standing with you—and more importantly, God is with you.

## Partner With Us: Every Gift Tells a Story

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You can share your prayer request by emailing us at [joellazarusministries@gmail.com](mailto:joellazarusministries@gmail.com)

Or visit us online at [www.joellazarusministries.org](http://www.joellazarusministries.org)

Whatever you're walking through, know this: you're not walking alone. We are here, standing with you—and more importantly, God is with you.

## Give Today & Be Part of HIS Story

Scan the QR code

or

visit: <https://joellazarusministries.org/give>

Thank you for being part of what God is doing. Together, we are preaching the Gospel, raising the next generation, and flooding the world with His Word.

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Call us @ (416)890-1307

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[joellazarusministries@gmail.com](mailto:joellazarusministries@gmail.com)

(this is for Canadians Only)



From Him. Through Him. To Him. Forever

Be Blessed