

## Colossians 3:16

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,  
teaching and admonishing one another  
in all wisdom,  
singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,  
with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*



Who is God? What is He like? Can He be known? These are the most important questions in the universe. The good news is God has answered these questions by revealing Himself through His attributes. The most important thing we can do in the universe is grow in our knowledge of God. We have been created by God to know God. For the season of Lent our devotions will be on knowing God through His attributes.

### Greatness

God's incomparable greatness shines brightly in the Scripture. It can be compared to a star shining high in the heavens, which, on the one hand, we can certainly see and be in awe of, though, on the other hand, we cannot see exhaustively. This is because God's greatness includes the reality that He is without limit. In other words, He is infinite. In fact, God is the greatest conceivable being! Since God's being is infinite, all of attributes are infinite. After all, God is perfect in Himself and in all His ways. So, since God is infinite in power, He is omnipotent. Since He is infinite in His relation to time, He is eternal. When it comes to His relation to space, God's infinity means that He is omnipresent. What an amazing God we serve! How appropriate is it, then, when Jeremiah says, "There is none like you, O Lord; you are great, and your name is great in might" (Jer. 10:6).

God's greatness teaches us a few things. First, it teaches us humility. God's limitlessness highlights our limitedness, our smallness in comparison to Him. It's a helpful reminder to us that He is certainly worthy to be trusted in all that He tells us in His word and in all of the providences He sends our way. Why wouldn't we trust a God infinite in knowledge and wisdom? Secondly, God's infinity gives us reason to rejoice. Given the infinite qualitative distinction between us and God, how wonderful is it that He has graciously revealed Himself to us? How else could we know such a God unless He first moved to make Himself known? Not only that, but God has sent His only Son to us, His perfect image, that we might have salvation and that we might come to more fully know Him and His will for us. "No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known" (Jn. 1:18). Finally, His greatness reminds us that He is greatly to be praised. He alone is highly exalted above all earthly powers, indeed, over all the things of this world. His name alone is to be glorified, in our hearts, in our mouths, and in our lives.

### Scripture on God's Greatness

**Genesis 18:14** *Is anything too hard for the Lord?*

**Job 9:8-10** <sup>8</sup> *Who alone stretched out the heavens and trampled the waves of the sea;* <sup>9</sup> *who made the Bear and Orion, the Pleiades and the chambers of the south;* <sup>10</sup> *who does great things beyond searching out, and marvelous things beyond number.*

**Job 11:7-9** <sup>7</sup> *"Can you find out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limit of the Almighty?"* <sup>8</sup> *It is higher than heaven—what can you do? Deeper than Sheol—what can you know?"* <sup>9</sup> *Its measure is longer than the earth and broader than the sea.*

**Job 36:26** *Behold, God is great, and we know him not; the number of his years is unsearchable.*

**Psalms 135:5** *For I know that the Lord is great, and that our Lord is above all gods.*

**Psalm 145:3** *Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.*

**Psalm 147:5** *Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.*

**2 Chronicles 2:4-6** <sup>4</sup>*Behold, I am about to build a house for the name of the Lord my God and dedicate it to him for the burning of incense of sweet spices before him, and for the regular arrangement of the showbread, and for burnt offerings morning and evening, on the Sabbaths and the new moons and the appointed feasts of the Lord our God, as ordained forever for Israel.* <sup>5</sup>*The house that I am to build will be great, for our God is greater than all gods.* <sup>6</sup>*But who is able to build him a house, since heaven, even highest heaven, cannot contain him? Who am I to build a house for him, except as a place to make offerings before him?*

**Matthew 19:26** *But Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."*

**Romans 11:33-36** <sup>33</sup>*Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!* <sup>34</sup>*"For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?"*

<sup>35</sup>*"Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?"* <sup>36</sup>*For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.*

## **Song**

**Psalm 59:16** *But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress.*

**Great God! How Infinite Art Thou!** By Isaac Watts

Great God! how infinite art thou!  
What worthless worms are we!  
Let the whole race of creatures bow,  
And pay their praise to thee.

Thy throne eternal ages stood,  
Ere seas or stars were made;  
Thou art the ever-living God,  
Were all the nations dead.

Nature and time quite naked lie  
To thine immense survey,  
From the formation of the sky  
To the great burning day.

Eternity, with all its years,  
Stands present in thy view;  
To thee there's nothing old appears,  
Great God! there's nothing new.

Our lives through various scenes are drawn,  
And vexed with trifling cares,  
While thine eternal thought moves on  
Thine undisturbed affairs.

Great God! how infinite art thou!  
What worthless worms are we!  
Let the whole race of creatures bow,  
And pay their praise to thee.

## Prayer

*II Chronicles 7:14* If my people, who are called by my Name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

**“The Great God”** A prayer from The Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers.

O FOUNTAIN OF ALL GOOD,  
Destroy in me every lofty thought,  
Break pride to pieces and scatter it  
to the winds,  
Annihilate each clinging shred of  
self-righteousness,  
Implant in me true lowliness of spirit,  
Abase me to self-loathing and self-aborrence,  
Open in me a fount of penitential tears,  
Break me, then bind me up;  
Thus will my heart be a prepared dwelling  
for my God;  
Then can the Father take up his abode in me,  
Then can the blessed Jesus come with healing  
in his touch,  
Then can the Holy Spirit descend in  
sanctifying grace;  
O Holy Trinity, three Persons and one God,  
inhabit me, a temple consecrated to thy glory.  
When thou art present, evil cannot abide;  
In thy fellowship is fullness of joy,  
Beneath thy smile is peace of conscience,  
By thy side no fears disturb,  
no apprehensions banish rest of mind,  
With thee my heart shall bloom with fragrance;  
Make me meet, through repentance,  
for thine indwelling.  
Nothing exceeds thy power,  
Nothing is too great for thee to do,  
Nothing too good for thee to give.  
Infinite is thy might, boundless thy love,  
limitless thy grace, glorious thy saving name.  
Let angels sing for  
sinners repenting,  
prodigals restored,  
backsliders reclaimed,  
Satan’s captives released,  
blind eyes opened,  
broken hearts bound up,  
the despondent cheered,  
the self-righteous stripped,  
the formalist driven from a refuge of lies,  
the ignorant enlightened,  
and saints built up in their holy faith.  
I ask great things of a great God.