

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.

Incomprehensible

God is not like man. God is God, like no other, He is in a class all by Himself. God is infinite, limitless and therefore incomprehensible, meaning unfathomable. This doesn't mean that we cannot know God, it means we cannot know Him fully or exhaustively. The finite can never fully know what is infinite. As Job 26:14 says we can only know the outskirts of God. And this isn't like the outskirts of Lynden, more like the outskirts of Tokyo.

We can only know the incomprehensible God to the degree He chooses to disclose Himself. Everything God wants us to know about Him is in Scripture, which is why we have included so many Scriptures for each of God's attributes.

If you've ever wondered if living in the unending paradise of heaven will get boring, this doctrine will rid you of that fear forever. Throughout eternity, there will always be more of God to marvel at, more of His immeasurable grace to see, and more cause to worship Him. This doctrine can't leave you yawning—it should give you goosebumps.

Scripture on God's Incomprehensibility

Deuteronomy 4:11-12 You came near and stood at the foot of the mountain, while the mountain burned with fire to the heart of heaven, wrapped in darkness, cloud, and gloom. Then the Lord spoke to you out of the midst of the fire. You heard the sound of words, but saw no form; there was only a voice.

Deuteronomy 29:29 The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law.

I Kings 8:12 Then Solomon said, "The Lord has said that he would dwell in thick darkness.

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

Job 26:14 Behold, these are but the outskirts of his ways, and how small a whisper do we hear of him! But the thunder of his power who can understand?

Psalms 18:11 He made darkness his covering, his canopy around him, thick clouds dark with water.

Psalm 113:4-6 *The Lord is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens!*

*Who is like the Lord our God, who is seated on high,
who looks far down on the heavens and the earth?*

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

Ecclesiastes 3:11 *He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.*

Isaiah 40:12-14 *Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand
and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure
and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance?*

Who has measured the Spirit of the Lord, or what man shows him his counsel?

Whom did he consult, and who made him understand?

*Who taught him the path of justice, and taught him knowledge,
and showed him the way of understanding?*

Isaiah 40:28 *Have you not known? Have you not heard?*

The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.

He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

Isaiah 55:8-9 *For my thoughts are not your thoughts,*

neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth,

so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Romans 11:33-35 *Oh, the depth of the riches and 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?”

I Corinthians 2:16 *For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?*

I Timothy 6:16 *The King of kings and Lord of lords, 16 who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. 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.

Thy Names, How Infinite They Be! (tune of *O God Our Help in Ages Past*)

Thy names, how infinite they be! Great Everlasting one!

Boundless thy might and majesty, and unconfined thy throne.

Thy glories shine of wondrous size, and wondrous large thy grace:

Immortal day breaks from thine eyes, and Gabriel veils his face.

Thine essence is a vast abyss, which angels cannot sound,

An ocean of infinities, where all our thoughts are drowned.

Reason may grasp the massy hills, and stretch from pole to pole,

But half thy name our spirit fills, and overloads our soul.

In vain our haughty reason swells, for nothing's found in thee

But boundless inconceivables, and vast eternity.

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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.

Holy God, the incomprehensible mystery, the one known as the one who cannot be known, the one whose thoughts and ways are far above ours. You alone dwell in unapproachable light. We bow before you in awe and in our darkness. Yet in the darkness of our finite understanding we affirm our faith in you and that while you are incomprehensible you have also made yourself knowable to us and made us able to know you. Help us to believe without seeing and to know without understanding. Teach us to know that we cannot know. Let faith support us where reason fails, and help us think because we believe, not in order that we may believe.

Thank you that you condescend to stoop to our level. As we contemplate just how great you are, how infinite, how uncontainable, we are profoundly aware because of your glory and power you have an absolute claim on every aspect of our being and our lives. We must worship you and give you all honor and reverence. We must trust you absolutely and put our faith in you and render to you total obedience.

Finally, we can pray and seek you and wait on you in the utter confidence that you know all things perfectly and order all things wisely and well for your glory and our greatest benefit. Thank you that you are the incomprehensible God, if you were anything less you would not be able to help us and secure our eternal salvation. In the name of Jesus, Amen.