



Skyline Family News

March 6th, 2023

Pastor David's Weekly Devotional

In the sermon he preached on January 7, 1855, Charles Spurgeon (at the age of 20) gave the following introduction:

It has been said by someone that “the proper study of mankind is man.” I will not oppose the idea, but I believe it is equally true that the proper study of God’s elect is God; the proper study of a Christian is the Godhead. The highest science, the loftiest speculation, the mightiest philosophy, which can ever engage the attention of a child of God, is the name, the nature, the person, the work, the doings, and the existence of the great God whom he calls his Father.

There is something exceedingly improving to the mind in a contemplation of the Divinity. It is a subject so vast, that all our thoughts are lost in its immensity; so deep, that our pride is drowned in its infinity. Other subjects we can compass and grapple with; in them we feel a kind of self-content, and go our way with the thought, “Behold I am wise.” But when we come to this master science, finding that our plumline cannot sound its depth, and that our eagle eye cannot see its height, we turn away with the thought that vain man would be wise, but he is like a wild ass’s colt; and with solemn exclamation, “I am but of yesterday, and know nothing.” No subject of contemplation will tend more to humble the mind, than thoughts of God. ...

But while the subject humbles the mind, it also expands it. He who often thinks of God, will have a larger mind than the man who simply plods around this narrow globe.... The most excellent study for expanding the soul, is the science of Christ, and Him crucified, and the knowledge of the Godhead in the glorious Trinity. Nothing will so enlarge the intellect, nothing so magnify the whole soul of man, as a devout, earnest, continued investigation of the great subject of the Deity.

And, whilst humbling and expanding, this subject is eminently consolatory. Oh, there is, in contemplating Christ, a balm for every wound; in musing on the Father, there is a quietus for every grief; and in the influence of the Holy Ghost, there is a balsam for every sore. Would you lose your sorrow? Would you drown your cares? Then go, plunge yourself in the Godhead’s deepest sea; be lost in his immensity; and you shall come forth as from a couch of rest, refreshed and invigorated. I know nothing which can so comfort the soul; so calm the swelling billows of sorrow and grief; so speak peace to the winds of trial, as a devout musing upon the subject of the Godhead. (quoted in *Knowing God*, by J.I. Packer, p.15-16)

Over the next few weeks, Lord willing, I plan on exploring the doctrine of God’s sovereignty by briefly plunging ourselves into what is known as the three “omni’s” of God’s sovereignty – His omniscience, omnipotence, and omnipresence. “Omni” is the Latin prefix meaning “all” or “every.” Therefore, God’s omniscience refers to Him knowing all things, His omnipotence to His being all powerful and His omnipresence to Him being always present everywhere.

Warning: these doctrines are ultimately incomprehensible to us, as our finite brains cannot fully comprehend the infinite God and humanity cannot fully grasp divinity. However, there is much to be gained in seeking to know God and grow in our understanding of Him as God. In the encouraging words of young Spurgeon, let us plunge ourselves into the study of knowing God so that we can emerge enlightened, uplifted and more apt to worship Him in spirit and in truth (Jn.4:23-24).

Together in and for Christ,
Pastor David

Scripture Readings for the Week (Monday – Sunday ~ Week #10):

Genesis 36-39; Ruth; Psalm 27-29; Job 19-20; Isaiah 51-55; Matthew 26-28; 1 Corinthians 3-4

Recommended Reading:

“Knowing God” by J.I. Packer