**OMNISCIENT GOD**

Sunday School Lesson 7

*The Attributes of God*

John 16:30

7/11/2021

**Introduction:** As we move into our seventh lesson of this series, we are going to consider the omniscience of the Lord. We have already looked at His self-existence, immutability, omnipresence, omnipotence, self-sufficiency, and His jealousy. Let’s quickly review the main observation of last week’s lesson on His jealousy before we move on to considering His omniscience. We recognized that the Lord’s jealousy is because of His love and faithfulness, and it’s also a result of His righteousness and Holy name. We also recognized that His jealousy causes great fury that He must act upon. Lastly, we saw that the Lord will use jealousy on His children as a means to draw them back to Him. Ultimately, our conclusion on the Lord’s jealousy is that it is just and unlike the jealousies of this world. Regarding the omniscience of God, we must first define this word before we can study it. Omniscience is simply the state of knowing everything. Of course, while there may be some in this world who would project to have this attribute, we know that it cannot belong to anyone other than the Lord Himself. The knowledge of the Lord is infinite in its capacity just as many other of His attributes are. You can search throughout all of the far reaches of both space and time, and you will never find anything that the Lord is unaware of. Let’s further consider some thoughts about His omniscience.

1. **THE OMNISCIENCE OF THE LORD REVEALS TO US THAT HE IS THE TEACHER.**
2. **Notice that there is no knowledge that anyone can teach the Lord (Job 21:22; Isaiah 40:13-14; Luke 2:41-52).** The question is asked in the book of Job. Shall any teach God knowledge? This is obviously a rhetorical question, as there is no knowledge that anyone can teach the all-knowing God. The New Testament shows this out during the earthly ministry of Jesus Christ. His parents found Him as a child teaching learned and aged religious men. These men were astounded at His knowledge. How could a child know so much about the Word of God? The Lord never needed any person to teach Him anything during His earthly ministry. As people, we are always learning and growing in knowledge. Time and experience are necessary for this to take place for us. There’s only so much that we can learn in any given day. The Lord is eternal. He does not have to gain knowledge over time, but if He did, then we know that He’s had all of eternity to garner any and all knowledge! We also know that God is self-sufficient. He is not reliant upon anyone for anything. This applies to knowledge as much as it applies to anything else. There is no one that could ever be qualified to teach God anything!
3. **Notice that God is the teacher of knowledge to man (Job 36:22: Psalm 25:4-5, 25:8-9, 27:11, 86:11, 94:10; Prov. 2:6; Isaiah 2:3, 28:9-26; Matt. 22:16, 26:55; Jn. 16:30).** What knowledge would man have without it coming from the Lord? Who taught Adam all that He needed to know about how to live in this world? Surely, Adam did not garner all of the needed knowledge through experience, for nothing had ever been done before by any other man. It was the Lord. The knowledge of good and evil came from the tree that the Lord planted. He did not desire for Adam and Eve to have that knowledge, but it was ultimately His knowledge nonetheless. Thus, God is the ultimate source of knowledge. As believers, I wonder why we do not more frequently go to the One who knows all things? When it comes to getting instruction from teachers on this earth, we try to seek out those who have information. I’m not going to ask someone a question about my car who has no knowledge whatsoever about that vehicle. The Lord has given knowledge to man from the beginning of time, and He still desires to give us His knowledge today. That’s why He left us with His Word. Further, He’ll give us wisdom for that knowledge if we ask.
4. **THE OMNISCIENCE OF THE LORD REGARDS KNOWLEDGE OF EVERY INDIVIDUAL.**
5. **Notice that the Lord has knowledge of the actions and even the thoughts of every person (Psalm 33:13-15, 94:11; Isaiah 66:18; Matthew 9:4; Romans 11:33; Hebrews 4:13).** The Lord’s knowledge stretches to every individual to ever live on this earth. None of our actions are hidden from the Lord. He sees everything. He knows everything. The Bible tells us that He even knows the thoughts that we have. We do not have to even voice those thoughts for Him to know them. I believe the Lord even knows our feelings. Things from our heart that maybe our minds have not even processed yet as thoughts. There is nothing truly hidden from Him who reigns above. While this truth is obvious to us when we consider that He is an all-knowing God, the most amazing part about God’s knowledge is that He actually regards the information that He has. There are many things that we gain knowledge of that we have little regard for. We forget many things that our mind considers to be of little importance. Yet, the richness of the Lord’s knowledge is great. He regards all of the information that He has on mankind.
6. **Notice that the Lord takes special interest in the wellbeing of mankind (Psalm 44:21, 139:1-3, 147:4-5; 1 Chronicles 28:9; Matthew 10:29-39; Luke 12:1-7; 1 John 3:20).** The Bible speaks of the Lord searching our hearts. This doesn’t mean that He is looking for something that He did not previously know. It is emphasizing the regard that the Lord has for mankind. He has the knowledge of man, but He intentionally looks at that knowledge and acts upon it. He takes a special interest in mankind. He regards us more than the animals that He created in this world. That was the Lord Jesus Christ’s message for His disciples. The Lord knows every hair on each person’s head. He sees when the sparrow falls, but He regards what He sees with man more than what He sees and knows of the sparrow. We should be grateful daily when we consider that an all-knowing God has chosen to give any of His attention to the knowledge that He has of mankind. Of course, the wicked man should also be frightened at the thought of the Lord’s special interest in His knowledge of mankind. Additionally, every believer should somberly remember each day that the Lord is seeking out our actions. His eyes are ever watching.
7. **THE OMNISCIENCE OF THE LORD REACHES EVEN TO EVENTS YET TO COME.**
8. **Notice that the Lord has known the end from the beginning (Deuteronomy 18:20-22; Psalm 139:4-16; Isaiah 46:9-10).** It is a marvelous and wonderful thing to know all that which is already in existence, but it is even more amazing to know even that which is yet to exist. Yet, that is the knowledge of the Lord God. He knows what was, what is, and what is yet to be. He does not have to process information as He receives it. He has had all of this information for all of eternity. Just think, you have existed in the mind of God forever! That is just an amazing and unfathomable thing for us to consider. Men marvel when someone is able to correctly predict some aspect of the future. These predictions are based on educated guesses, unless it is a prophetic revelation given from above. All of these predictions are short-term, though, compared to what the Lord could predict. God could have predicted perfectly what would happen today a billion years ago! It is not a prediction for God. It is simply fact. It is knowledge. It is HIS knowledge. No matter what happens this week, there is absolutely nothing that will happen that hasn’t already happened in the mind of God.
9. **Notice that the knowledge of the Lord makes His purposes and plans for the future certain (Jeremiah 29:11; Proverbs 19:21; Isaiah 46:10, 55:8; Psalm 33:11; Ephesians 1:11; Romans 8:28).** The omniscience of God combined with His omnipotence make all of the Lord’s purposes and plans sure. The Lord has never doubted whether His will would be accomplished. He knows His plans that He has for His people. He knows that His thoughts and ways are so far above anyone or anything else. Even for man in our weak condition compared to God, knowledge of all future events would help us tremendously in accomplishing all that we set out to do. Of course, as believers, the Lord has given us some of the knowledge of the future. We know the end before it actually happens. That information should be helpful to us as we serve the Lord. Take confidence, fellow believer. God’s purpose is sure and steadfast. We know that He will do all that He has said. His knowledge guarantees it.
10. **THE OMNISCIENCE OF THE LORD RELINQUISHES SOME KNOWLEDGE PURPOSEFULLY.**
11. **Notice that the Lord chooses not to regard the knowledge of the redeemed sinner (Isaiah 43:25; Psalm 25:7, 103:12; Hebrews 8:12, 10:14-17).** We cannot study the omniscience of God without pointing out this exciting truth. Despite the Lord’s all-knowing nature, there are some things that He has intentionally chosen to separate from His awareness. Primarily, those things are the forgiven sins of all of His children. I’m glad that when we get to Heaven, we do not have to look forward to the Lord reminding us of our sins. He has separated those sins from us. Additionally, He has separated those sins from Himself. He will remember them no more. The knowledge is there, but He has chosen to move it far from Him! He disregards it. Truly, who is man that God would remember him while also intentionally not remembering our sins? This is certainly an act that shows the grace and mercy of the Lord.
12. **Notice that the Son of God voluntarily limited His knowledge of His second coming (Matthew 24:36-44).** The Lord Jesus Christ is God. The Father and the Son are one. They have the same attributes. Yet, there is one area of information that the Lord Jesus Christ intentionally did not have during His earthly ministry. That was the knowledge of when He would return again. He told His disciples that the only one with that information was the Father. Why didn’t the Lord have that information if He and the Father are one? I believe that the answer is found in the text. If mankind knew when that hour was coming, then it would alter our behavior, and it would diminish our work and faith. We are to be working diligently expecting for that hour to come at any moment and looking for it in faith. Thus, the Lord withheld that information from Himself during His earthly ministry. Even the angels, who carry out the message of the Lord on the earth, were not given this information. It is sealed information which will be revealed at its proper time. Let us look with diligence for that hour that cometh.