

God is the Only Wise God

Jeff Rogers / Lamplighter Bible Study

Selected Scripture

Omnipresent (All Present), omniscient (All Knowing), omnipotence (All Powerful). Today, we see the *omnisapientia* – “all wisdom” or “omniscient wisdom”

The difference between knowledge and wisdom and are not interchangeable terms.

Divine knowledge is God’s possession of all facts about everyone and everything and all times.

Divine wisdom involves the optimal application of knowledge for the highest goal. It is said that omniscience is cognitive. Divine wisdom is practical. Divine wisdom directs God to use His exhaustive knowledge and irresistible power to achieve the best outcome in every situation.

Divine wisdom always takes the best path in order to reach the best possible destination.

I. God is All-Wise

A. The Bible testifies to the divine wisdom of God.

1. **Job 9:4**, *He is wise in heart and mighty in strength*
2. **Job 12:13**, *“With God are wisdom and might; he has counsel and understanding.*
3. **Psalms 104:24**, *O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom have you made them all;*
4. **Proverbs 2:6**, *For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;*
5. **Proverbs 21:30**, *No wisdom, no understanding, no counsel can avail against the Lord.*

B. The Apostle Paul

1. **Romans 11:33**, *Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom...of God!*
2. **Romans 16:27**, *To the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.*
3. **Ephesians 3:10**, *“...the manifold wisdom of God”*
4. **Colossians 2:3**, *In whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.* (Christ)

II. The Aspects of His Wisdom

A. God is Discerning.

1. **Job 28:12**, *“But where shall wisdom be found? And where is the place of understanding? Again, in verse 20, Job 28:20, “From where, then, does wisdom come? And where is the place of understanding? Answer: Job 28:28, And he said to man, ‘Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom, and to turn away from evil is understanding.’”*
2. God discerns the heart of man with piercing and penetrating insight.
 - a) **Psalms 33:15**, *He who fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds.*
 - b) **Proverbs 1:2**, *To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight, [understand – sometimes rendered “discern” means “to perceive, understand, to have insight]*
 - c) **Proverbs 4:7**, *The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight. [wisdom and insight/understanding inseparably intertwined*
3. God is discerning in judgment
 - a) The declaration of wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge, fear (**Isaiah 11:2**, *And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.*)
 - b) How He judges (**Isaiah 11:3**, *He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear.* Instead, He will wisely render judgment based on penetrating insight.

B. God is Strategic

1. God’s wisdom chooses the best means to realize the highest end (His glory). His wisdom always deals with the means and the end.
2. Wisdom promotes the glory of God as the highest outcome (**1 Corinthians 10:31**, *So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.*)
3. Paul again points this end out (**Ephesians 1:3-6, esp. vs. 6**, *To the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.* Then notice **vss. 7-8, esp. vs. 8**, *Which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight*

C. God is Skillful

1. Wisdom in Hebrew is *hokmah*. It refers to the skill of a master craftsman or a gifted artist to make something beautiful with their hands.
 - a) Embroidery (**Ex 28:3**); Metal working (**Ex 31:3, 6**).
 - b) Military strategy (**Isa 10:13**) and expert diplomacy (**Deut 34:9, 2 Sam 14:20; Ezek 28:4-5**)
 - c) When applied to God, we see His unmatched skill in creation and administering the affairs of His providence.
2. We see this “wisdom” of a craftsman in the creation of the human body. (**Psalm 139:15**, *My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.*)

D. God is Astute

1. God never acts rashly, thoughtlessly, or in an ill-advised or regrettable manner. He never overreacts.
2. **Romans 8:28**, *And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.*
 - a) Nothing occurs haphazardly in our life.
 - b) Every trial, tragedy, and problem is for our good and His glory (purpose).
3. The Example of Job
 - a) Job confronted, **Job 38:4**, *“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.*
 - b) God asked Job **77** rhetorical questions, covering topics such as cosmology, oceanography, meteorology, and astronomy, designed to highlight God's wisdom and power compared to human limitations

E. God is Contrary

1. God delights in using what the world perceives to be foolish
 - a) The foolishness of the cross, **1 Corinthians 1:18–25** (**Turn to this passage**)
2. The other examples: Peter and John (**Acts 4:5-22; 5:17-42**). Stephen (**Acts 7:54-60**). Paul and Silas (**Acts 16:22-40**)

F. God is Mysterious

1. **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.*
2. God never revealed to Job the reasons and warfare behind his intense suffering.
3. God hides His wisdom from the wise and intelligent (**Matthew 11:25**, *At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children;*
4. **James 4:6**, *But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”*

G. God is Unfathomable

1. God and His wisdom are beyond our comprehension.
 - a) **Psalm 103:10-11**, *He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. 11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;*
 - b) **Isaiah 55:8-9**, *For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.*
 - c) **Romans 11:33**, *Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom...of God!*
2. The Wisdom of the Cross
 - a) **1 Corinthians 2:6-9**, Divine wisdom in the Gospel is inconceivable to the human mind.
 - b) **2 Corinthians 5:21**, By divine wisdom, Jesus Christ was sentenced to die upon the cross.
 - c) **Galatians 3:13**, Jesus, the Son of God, became a curse for us cursed under the law.
 - d) John 1:29, Jesus, the Son of God, became the Lamb of God who took away sin.
 - e) John 19:30, Jesus cried out, “It is finished!”
 - f) **1 Corinthians 1:23-24**, *But we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, 24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.*

III. Where is Wisdom (Job 28 & Proverbs 8:10-12, 22-31)