



What is God
really like?

The God of all Knowledge

Lord, thou knowest
all things

John 21.17

(No.3 in an an Ongoing Series)

Life is a continual learning process for us! We turn on the television and there is the News telling us about events of the day which we knew nothing about. We pick up a book and read about someone from the past we had never heard of. We go to the supermarket and there is a some new product we can take home and try for the first time. We develop an interest in something and, fascinated by it, we search to see what else we can discover about it. We are faced with a problem and we have to learn how to deal with it. So we could go on! We are always learning, and having to learn, yet the fact is we will never know everything no matter hard we try or how long we live.

God is not like us! He knows everything, for He is the God of all knowledge. Understanding this fact may well be part of our own personal learning process!

God never had to learn anything

‘With whom took he counsel, and who instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding? (Isaiah 40.14). The obvious answer we are meant to see from this rhetorical question is that no one did, for God has always known absolutely everything.

He knows all about the world of nature

‘He telleth the number of the stars; he calleth them all by their names’. (Psalm 147.4) There’s nothing more awe inspiring than to look up into the sky on a clear night and see countless stars in the heavens. We sometimes hear about a whole galaxy that has been discovered for the first time. How can we ever be sure that we really know all about the vast universe that is out there? But God knows each and every star, and He knows them all so perfectly and intimately that He has names for every one, rather like parents who name and know their children. In the same way, the Lord Jesus said that not one single sparrow falls to the ground without God the Father knowing (Matthew 10.29).

He knows all about human history

‘Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world’ (Acts 15.18). God knew the history of the world right from the beginning. The Bible has many examples where events were predicted with astonishing accuracy, well in advance of their happening.

God knows all about every one of us

Psalm 139 makes it clear that God knows everything about us. It says that God knows our ‘downsitting and our uprising’; in other words, He even knows about the routine, little things that we do without thinking, like sitting down and getting up. He even knows our ‘thought’; that includes everything that goes on in our minds, for example our attitudes to life, to people and to God Himself. He knows our hopes and our fears, our sorrows and our joys. He knows all our ‘ways’ - what we actually do, and what happens to us in life.

The Lord Jesus said that even the very hairs of your head are all numbered.(Matthew 10.30)

God knows about us - a cause for alarm or comfort?

God’s personal knowledge of us will alarm us greatly once we realise that every single sin is known to Him, no matter how serious or trivial we may think it is, and whether it is something we do, or say or even think. The God who knows us so thoroughly is the Judge we must all face one day, and He already knows everything about us! We cannot hide anything from Him, nor can we deceive Him.

On the other hand, His knowledge of us will be a great comfort if we have confessed our sins to Him and have received the forgiveness He promises through believing in Jesus Christ. We can say, He knows my sins, but He has already forgiven me! We will be able to remember that He knows all about the troubles and difficulties we face in the present and the things we fear in the future. He knows the answer to every problem, and He knows how to come to our aid. He knows how to restore joy to us in our sorrows, and hope in our fears. He knows how to encourage us when everything seems to be against us. He knows how to keep us safe in His love until He brings us to His heaven.