

**God is *and* He has Spoken**

**God Made Man in His Own Image  
Lesson 04**

**Trinity Bible Church Sunday School  
June 28, 2009**

# The existence of God

All men know His eternal power and Godhead  
Romans 1:20

- ▶ Invisible attributes understood by observing creation
- ▶ Clearly seen
- ▶ No excuse
- ▶ Wrath of God revealed from heaven against all men

# The incommunicable attributes of God

- ▶ The transcendent character of God
- ▶ God is Spirit
- ▶ God is One – the Triune God
- ▶ God is eternal – self existent, self sufficient, eternal, immutable
- ▶ God is infinite – presence, knowledge, power
- ▶ Job 13:11 “Will not His excellence make you afraid, and the dread of Him fall upon you?”

# The communicable attributes of God

- ▶ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1)
- ▶ Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness (Genesis 1:26)

# What is the image and likeness of God?

- ▶ Not the incommunicable attributes of God
- ▶ Not the physical attributes of man
- ▶ The image and likeness of God changed by the fall
- ▶ In Scripture we find revelation of God not seen in creation
- ▶ Attributes which have a likeness in us
- ▶ Scripture is the exclusive source for this truth
- ▶ This revelation has value beyond understanding ourselves

# Exodus 33:7-34:9

## The context

- ▶ The Promise
- ▶ The Exodus
- ▶ The formation of the nation at Mt. Sinai
- ▶ The Golden Calf
- ▶ The judgment: blessing without God's Presence
- ▶ Moses meets with God outside the camp

# Moses intercedes for the nation

Exodus 33:12-17

- ▶ An argument from the attributes and character of God
- ▶ An argument from the plan to take the nation into the Promised Land (6:2-8; 23:20-33)
- ▶ “You have not let me know whom you will send with me.”
- ▶ A true hope: the Presence of the LORD would go with them and give rest (33:14)

# The Grace of God

- ▶ Prior revelation of grace
  - Genesis 3 – the fall
  - Genesis 6 – Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD
- ▶ Current knowledge
  - The wrath of God
  - The Plan of God
  - The grace of God to Moses – “I know you by name.”
  - The grace of God to the nation
- ▶ God’s answer
  - “My Presence will go with you and I will give you rest.”



**Moses: “Show me Your Glory.”**

# What is the glory of God?

- ▶ The glory of the LORD is seen in a bright display
  - Exodus 24:17
  - Revelation 21:11, 23
- ▶ The glory of God is seen in His attributes
  - The LORD said He would reveal – His goodness
  - The LORD said He would proclaim His Name
- ▶ The glory of the LORD is seen in Jesus
  - John 1:14
  - Hebrews 1:3
- ▶ The glory of God is His unveiled Presence
  - 1 Corinthians 13:12 – we see “through a glass darkly”
  - Job 26:5-14 – the “mere edges of His ways”

# How did God reveal His glory?

- ▶ No “fireworks”
- ▶ The LORD proclaimed the name of the LORD (34:5)
- ▶ The LORD proclaimed his attributes (34:6-7)
- ▶ The power of God in the Word

# The Glory of God

- ▶ LORD, the LORD God
  - God interacting with His creation
    - Exodus 6:2-4 – Covenant Keeper
    - Zechariah 14:1-9 – Name of Christ
  - Eternal power and Godhead

# The Glory of God

- ▶ Mercy – compassion – pity
  - Psalm 103:11-14
  - Deuteronomy 4:30-31
  - Hosea 1:7
    - Child named, No-Mercy (Lo-Ruhamah)
    - Promise of mercy – deliverance from misery of sin
  - Romans 9:15-18
  - Jeremiah 3:12
  - Zechariah 1:12-16

# The Glory of God

## ▶ Gracious

- Divine favor sovereignly bestowed
- The ground of all Divine blessings

## ▶ Longsuffering

- Enduring dishonor or hostility when not required
- 1 Peter 3:20 – demonstrated in Noah's day

# The Glory of God

## ▶ Goodness

- Attribute of being good
  - Good is being beneficial toward another
  - Distinct from righteousness or perfection
- Psalm 34:8-14 – LORD is good – we are blessed
- Romans 2:4 – goodness brings repentance
- Gospel is good news
- Only God is good – Luke 18:19

# The Glory of God

- ▶ Truth
  - Absolutely reliable – no deception in word or deed
- ▶ Keeping mercy
  - Lovingkindness – Loyal love
- ▶ Forgiving iniquity, not clear the guilty . . .
  - Justice



# Communicable Attributes of God

- ▶ **Colossians 3:9-15**
  - Restored in salvation
  - Attributes of believer are attributes of God
- ▶ 2 Peter 1:3-4 – Partakers of the Divine nature
- ▶ Romans 8:29 – Conformed to His image
- ▶ 2 Corinthians 3:18 – Transformed
- ▶ 1 John 3:2-3 – we shall be like Him

# Communicable Attributes of God

- ▶ Incommunicable attributes show a God far from us
- ▶ Communicable attributes bring God to us for blessing
- ▶ Ecclesiastes 7:12 “For wisdom is a defense as money is a defense, but the excellence of knowledge is that wisdom gives life to those who have it.”

# Communicable Attributes of God

“Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for you loved Me before the foundation of the world.” John 17:24