

Scripture Reference: Hebrews 4:13

Date: September 8, 2013

Title: "Almighty God"

Focus: Is God the all-powerful and all-knowing Creator of the universe, and does He still rule it today? (Biblical World View Series 7 of 10)

Intro:

1. The book of Hebrews was written to those of Israel who had come to faith in Jesus.
2. Through use of OT prophecy, **chapter one** speaks about Jesus being the means through which God is speaking to the world today.
3. In **chapter two** the author emphasizes the importance of listening to what God has to say "*so that we do not drift away from it.*" (2:1)
4. **Chapter three** examines Jesus as both the "*Apostle (one who is sent) and High Priest of our confession.*" (3:1)

The author does this by comparing Jesus to Moses and the Israelites wilderness wanderings.

5. This brings us to chapter four and the discussion of a "*rest*" that is found in following Jesus.

This rest is likened to the Promised Land and Jesus is the entrance.

6. By the time the reader gets to verses 12 and 13, he is given a reason for listening, God's words are discerning. They cut through all pretense and excuse, getting right to the heart of the matter (v. 12).

QUESTION: What Gives God the insight and hence the authority to speak?

This is the issue of v. 13. "*There is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.*"

Body:

"*No Creature is Hidden from [God's] Sight...*" - His Omniscience.

God is not simply mindful of *things*, the elements or processes of creation. He is not the manager of details.

He reveals Himself to be a personal God, aware of every man, woman, child, and animal in the world.

This extends to everyone who lives, has lived, or will live. - Exodus 3:6 / Jeremiah 1:5

Jesus reveals to mankind about God His intimate knowledge of his creation.

Nothing is hidden from His sight. - Luke 12:2-3; *“But there is nothing covered up that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known. Accordingly, whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in the light, and what you have whispered in the inner rooms will be proclaimed upon the housetops.”*

No single detail of life among people as well as creation goes unnoticed by Him. - Matt. 10:28-31; “Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a cent? And yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So do not fear; you are more valuable than many sparrows.”

This aspect of God's character offers stability to a chaotic situation and peace resulting from Man's sinfulness and unrestrained passions.

"...All Things are Open and Laid Bare to the Eyes of Him...." - His Intimacy

His knowledge of humanity is intimate knowledge.

He sees your actions, but also knows the "*thoughts and intents of your heart.*" - Hebrews 4:12

God understands you. This includes what you reveal to Him, but what you hide from him also. He is familiar with what you do not even know and understand about yourself.

Psalms 139:1-6; "O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You understand my thought from afar. You scrutinize my path and my lying down, And are intimately acquainted with all my ways. Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O LORD, You know it all. You have enclosed me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is too high, I cannot attain to it."

It is from the basis of intimate familiarity with who you are that God speaks, moves, and acts in your life.

This overwhelmed David, what's your response?

"...Whom we Have to Do."- Our Response

This is how God has revealed Himself to be.

Because we are finite, mankind cannot conceive of God in this manner.

However, because we lack this capability does not mean God isn't this way.

Why is this important?

Because in the manner we perceive God to be, if we think of Him to be at all, we will respond to Him.

If we misconceive Him, we will behave improperly in trying to relate to Him.

It is as God has revealed Himself all people will eventually deal.

Closing:

1. Relating to God as He is much better than trying to do so as you believe Him to be.
2. The first results in life, the second in heart ache and distress.