

**Saturday AM session – The Only Wise God**  
**Romans 16:27**

-In your group, spend some time introducing yourself, sharing a little about your background and interests.

-When you need advice about something, who do you usually go to? Why do you go to that person?

-What is wisdom? What does it mean to be wise?

- wisdom = the ability to choose or devise the best goals and the best means to achieve those goals
- for humans, gained from experience
- incorporates moral component – i.e. need good goals
- ability to apply knowledge practically

**Read Romans 16:27**

-What does it mean that God is wise? What does it mean that He is 'the only wise God'?

- God alone knows the best goals and the best means to achieve those goals
- He alone is all wise, and the source of wisdom; His wisdom is infinitely greater than that of Man or of other 'gods'

-What do the following Scriptures tell us about God's wisdom?

-Romans 11:33-36

- God is exalted in wisdom; His wisdom is unfathomably deep and rich
- His perfect wisdom is based on perfect knowledge (i.e. His wisdom and knowledge go hand-in-hand)
- no one can compare with His wisdom; no one can presume to instruct Him
- His wisdom stems in part from fact that He created & controls all things, thus knows purpose of all things

-Job 9:3-4; 12:13-14

- no one can oppose or answer His wisdom (9:3) (correctly, anyways)
- His profound wisdom is coupled with vast power to accomplish the perfect goals He's designed (9:4; 12:13-14)
- quite unlike Man's wisdom, which can easily be frustrated

-Psalm 147:5

- no limit to His understanding (i.e. it is infinite); again, coupled with power

-Isaiah 55:8-9

- His ways are immeasurably higher than our ways, and His thoughts than our thoughts

-What are some ways that God's wisdom is displayed?

-Psalm 104:24, with Proverbs 3:19-20 and Psalm 19:1

- through His handiwork in Creation

-Job 36:22-33

- in the daily workings of nature – show His wisdom in His sustenance and provision

-Job 12:13-25

- in the events of history – in the rise and fall of rulers and nations

-Ephesians 1:7-8

- in His plan of redemption through the blood of Jesus Christ

-Ephesians 3:6-11

-through the Church (v.10), which shows the mystery of unity between Jew and Gentile in Christ (v.6)

-1 Corinthians 1:18-25

-in the message of the Cross (i.e. the Gospel) (v.18) and in the person of Jesus Christ (v.24)

-in the fact that all the wisdom and power of the world could not lead to the knowledge of God (v.21)

-Colossians 2:2-3

-in the person of Jesus Christ, in whom are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge

-Christ embodies the wisdom and power of God (cf. 1 Cor. 1:24)

-How should we respond to the wisdom of God?

-Job 40:1-5; 42:1-6

-silent reverence (40:1-5) and wonder (42:3)

-repentance (42:1-6)

-Romans 11:33-36

-wonder, amazement, praise

-acknowledge and praise Him for His greatness, rather than trying to understand all His ways or to correct Him

-give Him the glory He deserves, since all things are from Him, through Him and to Him

-Proverbs 3:5-6

-trust not in your own understanding, but completely on God's, since He is all wise and all powerful → is therefore able to make our paths straight

## Reflection and Application

God alone is all wise, possessing all wisdom about all things. His wisdom is immeasurably higher than that of men or angels, His ways than our ways, His thoughts than our thoughts. He alone is the One who knows the best ends and the best means to achieve those ends; and He alone has the power to ensure that His purposes always come to fruition. Indeed, everything He does reflects His manifold wisdom, which is displayed in Creation, in His daily Providence, in the events and outworking of history, in His people, the Church, and most gloriously, in the Gospel and Person of the Lord Jesus Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of the wisdom and knowledge of God. As we consider the infinite wisdom of God, let us, like Job, put our hands to our mouths and stand in silent, reverent awe before the only wise God. Let us come before Him in repentance, pouring contempt on our pride and our folly; but let us come also in joyful wonder and amazement, giving Him all the praise and glory He deserves. And let us give up relying on our own understanding, but seek instead to trust with all our heart in the One whose power and understanding are without limit, in faith that He is the One who directs our paths and makes them straight as we trust in Him.