

Let's Make God's Ways & Thoughts Ours

by Bill Crews

David wrote: *"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth his handiwork"* (**Psalms 19:1**). Nothing compares to it! The universe – so vast, so complex, so magnificent, a thing of great beauty, design and order – shouts, "A being of infinite power and intelligence planned and executed me." As the apostle Paul words it, in showing that the Gentiles had no rational reason for making gods in their own likeness, *"For the invisible things of him since the creation of the world are clearly seen, being perceived through the things that are made, even his everlasting power and divinity; that they may be (or so that they are) without excuse"* (**Romans 1:20**). Man, then, the only creature made in the very image or likeness of God (**Genesis 1:26-27**), can look at the world that God created, the world that surrounds him, and at himself, and conclude: "There is a being of unlimited wisdom and power behind all that I see, and I am His, and He is my Sovereign." That being is God.

But what is God like? What is His nature and character? What is His will and His purpose for me? Why has He made me? And what will my end be? And nature, the earth, the moon, the sun, and the stars are silent. *Only by a communication, a revelation from that God can man know the answers to these questions.* But God has communicated to men; God has revealed Himself and His will to men. We call it, **"The Bible."** And the Bible declares these obvious truths. *"For seeing that in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom knew not God (it was God's plan to allow men more than sufficient time to learn that by their own wisdom and efforts they could never come to know God BC), it was God's good pleasure through the foolishness of the preaching (the preaching of the cross which men regarded as foolishness bc) to save them that believe"* (**1 Corinthians 1:21**). *"For who among men knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of the man which is in him? even so the things of God none knoweth save the Spirit of God"* (**1 Corinthians 2:11**). Paul is referring to the need for and existence of revelation from God by the Holy Spirit. He had received the Spirit of God and written the things of God in the very words chosen by the Spirit of God for the benefit of the Corinthian saints and all others (**1 Corinthians 2:12-13**).

We are fearfully and wonderfully made (**Psalms 139:14**); we have marvelous potentials in power, knowledge and wisdom; but we are not God! We are not equal to God! And we are not to think that God is a man (**Numbers 23:19; Malachi 3:6**) or that God is like man (**Psalms 50:21**). *"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith Jehovah. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts"* (**Isaiah 55:8-9**). Finite man and infinite God! Just as our thoughts and ways are not Jehovah's thoughts and ways, neither are our feelings, perceptions, views, assessments, experiences, aspirations, desires, and ambitions. **Let us strive, with the help of God's revelation, to make the thoughts and ways of God ours, and never try to make ours God's.** Let us not mistake ours for God's.

So many people are convinced that they are pleasing to God and have the hope of heaven because of their own thoughts and ways, their own experiences, their own feelings, their own perceptions. This is a subjective religion and not a religion of faith. Do not make this mistake. If you think that you are a Christian and that you are heaven bound, be sure that you have God's word for it. It is thus that the Spirit of God will bear witness with (not to) your spirit that you are indeed a child of God (**Romans 8:16**).

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