

God Is Smarter Than You!

The omnipotence, intelligence, and understanding of God is far, far beyond our ability to even begin to comprehend! Regarding God's power, Job said that *"He stretches out the north over empty space, He hangs the earth on nothing."* *"By His Spirit He adorned the heavens,"* and he then concluded the chapter, saying, *"Indeed these are the mere edges of His ways, and how small a whisper we have of Him! But the thunder of His power who can understand?"* (Job 26:7,13-14). Regarding His intellect, God said, *"My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways, says the Lord, 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. Regarding God's understanding, the inspired Psalmist said, *"Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite,"* Psa. 147:5. And the apostle Paul affirmed, saying, *"the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men,"* I Cor. 1:25.

As we read and reflect upon the aforementioned Scriptures, and meditate upon the greatness, vastness, and orderliness of the vast universe which God both created and sustains, we must surely agree that God is smarter and infinitely more powerful than mere man! In fact, each one of us is periodically forced to face our own weakness, our own lack of understanding, our own insufficiency! Indeed, "the bottom line" is this: God is smarter than you are!

And Since God is Smarter than You Are:

1. You must Humble Yourself Before God! This is what Job did after God asked him a number of thought-provoking questions such as: (1) *"Can you bind the cluster of the Pleiades, Or loose the belt of Orion?"* (2) *"Can you bring out Mazzaroth in its season? Or can you guide the Great Bear with its cubs?"* (3) *"Do you know the time when the wild mountain goats bear young? Or can you mark when the deer gives birth?"* (4) *"Does the hawk fly by your wisdom, And spread its wings toward the south?"* (5) *"Does the eagle mount up at your command, And make its nest on high?"* (6) *"Can you draw out Leviathan with a hook, Or snare his tongue with a line which you lower?"* (7) And *"Who has preceded Me that I should pay him?"* (Job 38:31,32,; 39:1,26,27; 41:1,11). The preceding questions are but a few of many questions God asked Job. And how did Job respond to these questions? He *"answered the Lord and said I know that You can do everything. And that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from you."* He further said *"I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes,"* Job 42:1-2,6. Yes, Job, as he reflected upon himself alongside the power, wisdom, greatness, and goodness of God, was truly able to humble himself before God! And so must you and I!

2. You must diligently seek a greater knowledge of God and His word. This is what Josiah, the king of Judah, did. During his reign Josiah sought to *"repair the damages of the house"* of the Lord, at which time Hilkiah the High Priest *"found the book of"* God which had been lost (of all places!) *"in the house"* of the Lord. He brought it to Shaphan the scribe, who *"read it before the king."* And then Josiah gave further instructions saying, *"Go, inquire of the Lord for me, for the people and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that has been found: for great is the wrath of the Lord that is aroused against us, because our fathers have not obeyed the words of this book, to do according to all that is written concerning us,"* 2 Kings 22:5,8,10,13. Josiah was a great king and a godly man, and one principle reason for his good character and influence was his determination to obtain a greater knowledge of God and His word. Along this same line, we suggest that we should develop such a hunger for God and a knowledge of His word that we could, say, as did David: *"O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for you; My flesh longs for you In a dry and thirsty land Where there is*

no water,” Psalm 63:1. Then, too, we think of Peter who said to Jesus, “*Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life,*” John 6:68. Thanks to the goodness and providence of God, “*the words of eternal life*” are still available to us; they are contained in that great book we call “The Bible.” But it is not enough to merely possess the Bible; we must be serious and diligent **students** of the Bible!

3. You need to obey the scriptures even when you do not fully understand why a particular command is given. An example of this is recorded in Luke 5:4,5. Peter (also called Simon) and those with him had fished all night (which was generally the better time for catching fish), but they had caught nothing. Now it was day; the Lord addressed the people while sitting in one of the boats, after which He said to Simon, “*Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch.*” And Simon said, “*Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless **at your word** I will let down the net.*” Upon so doing, “*they caught a great number of fish,*” Luke 5:6. Simon, a professional fisherman, after a night of fruitless labor, apparently could not see the wisdom of their letting “*down the net*” at that time of day. But he did not argue the point. To the contrary, he said “*nevertheless at your word I will let down the net.*” He did not ask **why** the Lord gave this command; he took Jesus at His “*word,*” and “*let down the net.*” We need that kind of faith in God and His word! Habakkuk, a faithful prophet who labored during what has been called the “*death throes*” of the nation of Judah, had that kind of faith. Note these words: “*Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vine; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls — Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation,*” Hab. 3:17-18. Those were hard times, but he determined to follow the Lord regardless of outward circumstances, even though he earlier expressed amazement at God’s patience at a time when “*plundering and violence*” were so rampant in the land, Hab. 1:1-4.

Modern Day Applications of The Preceding Points:

1. **If** God is smarter than you, **then** you must never egotistically say, “I know the Bible says this (and then cite whatever the “this” is under consideration), but I believe that (and then cite whatever the “that” that has just been mentioned). We are frail creatures of dust, and death is facing each one of us (Eccl. 12:7; Heb. 9:27). After all, “*heaven*” is God’s “*throne*,” the “*earth*” is His “*footstool*,” hence, the one upon whom God looks with favor is the “*one who is poor and of a contrite spirit, and who trembles at*” His “*words*,” Isa. 66:1-2. Along this same line, Peter wrote, saying “*God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble,*” I Peter 5:5.

2. **If** God is smarter than you, **then** you must never replace His words with your words, or the words of any other human being. Sadly, in today’s religious world, this happens continually! Think, for example, of the countless creeds, catechisms, manuals, religious creed books, etc., which men follow instead of the Bible! On the one hand, such is strongly condemned in the Scriptures; on the other hand, such actions will cause a person to be lost eternally! (Gal. 1:8-9; 2 John 9-11; Rev. 22:18-19).

3. **If** God is smarter than you, **then** you must never question “**why**” God makes certain requirements of us in His word. Nevertheless, countless people are often heard saying, “I know baptism is a command, but I don’t see any connection between baptism and salvation,” or “I can’t see any harm in using instrumental music in worship,” or “I know the Bible says this, but I believe that.” Who is man to argue with **God**? Who is man to question **God**?

Conclusion:

More applications could well be made with regards to the fact that “God is smarter than

you,” but enough has been said for us to get the point. We must take God at His word, believe what He says, and do what he commands. Only by so doing can we have His approval in this life, and gain an entrance into heaven in the next life (Matt. 7:21; Rev. 22:14). —
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