

THE SECRET THINGS

Introduction

- 1) **Deuteronomy 29:29** – “The secret things belong to the Lord our God...”
- 2) Things that are “secret” are things unknown to those not privy to certain information
- 3) The desire to explore the unknown and learn the “secrets” of the universe has always gripped the mind and imagination of mankind, as do conspiracy theories and future speculations
- 4) What can we learn about the “secret things”? What should be our attitude toward them?

I) **There is Nothing Secret to God**

- A) Secret things “belong” to God (Deut. 29:29)
- B) God knows “every secret thing” (Eccl. 12:14; Prov. 15:3)
- C) God’s understanding and knowledge is infinite (Psa. 147:5)
 - 1) This is often referred to as the *omniscience* of God (“all-knowing” past, present, future)

II) **Secret Things = Unrevealed Things**

- A) Note the contrast of “secret” and “revealed” (Deut. 29:29)
 - 1) What man *cannot* know as opposed to what he *can* know
- B) Not things simply unexplored or misunderstood, but unknowable because they are unrevealed, and man is incapable of discovering or learning them on his own
 - 1) **1 Corinthians 2:9** – gospel message was a divine “mystery” – information hidden that could not be discovered by human means alone
 - 2) Unsearchable depths (Rom. 11:33); known *only by* revelation (Eph. 3:3-8; 1 Cor. 2:10)
- C) There may be questions that men ponder that cannot be answered with full certainty
 - 1) Man allows his curiosity of the unknown to blind him to the riches of what is revealed
 - 2) Do not let what you cannot know distract you from learning *what you can know*

III) **Secret, Unrevealed Things = Future Things**

- A) The “secret” things of God mainly concern those things future and unseen
 - 1) **Daniel 2** – dream was kept secret by king Nebuchadnezzar, but the true “secret” was the interpretation about future kingdoms and events (vv. 18-22, 27-28, 47)
- B) The Day of Judgment is a secret unknown to man (Matt. 24:36)
 - 1) Many have tried to “set the date” (William Miller, Jehovah’s Witnesses, etc.)
 - 2) Why do men want to know the secret time of the Judgment Day?
 - a) Intellectual curiosity?
 - b) Fear of the unknown?
 - c) Fame and prestige it would bring to know the “secret”?
 - d) Want an explanation for the troubling events of the day?
 - e) Presently unprepared and want a “heads up” on when to “get right”?
 - 3) God’s answer – be ready, for you *do not know* when that day is coming (vv. 37-44)
- C) Context of **Deuteronomy 29** – covenant renewed in Moab (vv. 9-13); their future was a “secret thing,” but all would be well if they remained faithful to God’s will (30:19-20)

Conclusion

From **Deuteronomy 29:29** let us remember:

Humility – our knowledge is limited; there are things man cannot know

Reassurance – secret, unknowable things belong to God, not blind fate or chance; tomorrow and eternity is in the hands of a loving Father

God’s will for us is no secret – do not worry about tomorrow but take care of your responsibilities today; our destiny will be molded by our obedience (or lack of obedience) to Christ and His will (New Testament) today!