

Paul's Doxology of Praise

Rom. 11:33-36

Paul concludes his discussion about God's dealings with Israel and the Gentiles by stating it is all about **God's MERCY** (11:30-32— "*...that he might have MERCY UPON ALL.*").

This leads directly into a wonderful song of praise (vs. 33-36).

➡v. 33—"*O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!*"

Nobody knows what God is up to apart from revelation! Eccl. 3:11—"*... no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end.*" Isaiah 55:8-9— "*For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith 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.*" Job 11:7—"*Canst thou by searching find out God?*" **His knowledge is unfathomable—You can't explain God's ways.**

"*Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness is unsearchable*" (Ps. 145:3)

- His riches are "*unsearchable*" (Eph. 3:8).
- His gift is "*unspeakable*" (2 Cor. 9:15).
- His peace "*passeth all understanding*" (Phil. 4:7).
- His joy is "*unspeakable and full of glory*" (1 Pet. 1:8)

➡v. 34—"*For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counsellor?*" Who can give God counsel? Who is going to tell God what to do? Who can say to God, "Lord, let me tell you how to handle this situation!" God doesn't need anyone's advice or help! You better just leave it with the Lord and let Him handle it in His way and in His time!

➡v. 35—"*Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again?*" **God initiated giving.** Paul asked, "*What hast thou that thou didst not receive?*" (1 Cor. 4:7). God is not obligated to anyone! God asked Job, "*Who hath prevented me, that I should repay him? whatsoever*

is under the whole heaven is mine" (Job 41:11). **God will be no man's debtor!**

➡v. 36—*For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.*" The story begins with Him—is all about Him—and ends with Him. He is the first and the last; the Alpha and Omega; and everything in between!

These verses are basically saying, **"It's not about you; It's not about me—It's all about Him!"** It's not about ...

- your family (wife, husband, children),
- your friends,
- your enemies,
- your problems,
- your abilities,
- your career,
- your ministry,
- your happiness, or anything else.

"Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory..." (Ps 115:1).

God is the very reason for our existence. *"Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created"* (Rev. 4:11).

➡When you realize it is not about you, but all about Him, pride will be humbled... you will quit having pity parties... vengeance will be replaced by kindness. It is the cure for depression, doubts, and discouragement.

I. PAST: God is the CAUSE ("*...of him...*").

➡All good things come from God (James 1:17—*"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights..."*).

A. Creation (not evolution)

B. Authority / promotion (Ps. 75:6-7)

C. Wealth (Dt. 8:18)—He is the source of my supply

- D. Salvation (Ps. 106:8—*“Nevertheless he saved them for his name’s sake”*)
- E. The Church (Mt. 16:18)
- F. The Bible (2 Pet 1:21)
- G. Understanding (Job 38:36—*“Who hath put wisdom in the inward parts? or who hath given understanding to the heart?”*)

II. **PRESENT: God is the CHANNEL** (*“...through him...”*).

- A. *“He is before all things, and by Him all things consist”* (Col. 1:17).
“...upholding all things by the word of his power” (Heb. 1:3).
- B. I must rely entirely upon Him as the sufficiency of my life. Acts 17:28—*“In him we live, and move, and have our being...”*
 - 1. I love through Him.
 - 2. I serve through Him.
 - 3. I forgive through Him.
- C. Gal. 2:20—*“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”*

III. **FUTURE: God is the CONCLUSION** (*“...unto him...”* means God will call every person to give account to Him.)

- A. When a man is saved he is saved to REVERSE DIRECTIONS so he can move towards God—*“That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him”* (Eph. 1:10).
- B. We must **live with eternity in view!**
 - 1. Life came from Him and it’s going back to Him. Since everything is moving towards Him, I must live to please Him.
 - 2. He is my objective in living (*“For me to live is Christ”*).
 - 3. When a man makes something else the objective of his life, his life is meaningless! No purpose.

C. One day we will all stand before God to give account. He is the Judge.

SUMMATION: He is the **cause** — **channel** — and **conclusion** of all things.

- He is the **entrance** — **energy** — and **end** of living.
- He is the **source** — **supply** — and **solution** in life.
- He is the **spring** — **sufficiency** — and **summation** of life.

➔ The chart at the right gives a fairly good summation of who God is...

Romans 11:33-36 puts Romans 12:1 in context with the word "**THEREFORE...**" Since all I am and all I have I owe to God, my response should be the humble submission of my entire being to Him.

