

# Pastor's Pen

None Like God!

***Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!***

**Romans 11:33**

Have you ever been overcome with just a sudden awareness of who God really is? Paul felt that way immediately after writing to the Romans about the mercy of God. Just like Paul it is hard for me to comprehend how the God who was before anything was created would love me enough to send His Son to die for me. In Romans 11:33-36 we see this beautiful doxology, this praise of God reminds us that, "For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen." John MacArthur comments on this passage:

"The full wonder of God's gracious omnipotence is wholly beyond human understanding. It staggers even the most mature Christian mind, including the mind of the apostle himself. Having completed his argument and affirmed God's sovereignty, integrity, and generosity, Paul has nothing more to add but a paean of praise for the depth of the riches of God's wisdom and knowledge. Further description and explanation are completely beyond the realm of human expression and comprehension. Like a mountain climber who has reached the summit of Mt. Everest, the apostle can only stand awestruck at God's beauty and majesty. Unable to further explain an infinite and holy God to finite and sinful men, he can only acknowledge that God's judgments are unsearchable and His ways are unfathomable!

Unfathomable translates *anexichniastos*, which literally refers to footprints that are untrackable, such as those of an animal that a hunter is unable to follow. It is the exact idea expressed by the psalmist in declaring of God: "Thy way was in the sea, and Thy paths in the mighty waters, and Thy footprints may not be known" (Ps. 77:19).

Only God's own "Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God" (1 Cor. 2:10). Scripture is God's divine revelation of Himself and of His will, and He has not given it to mock and confuse men but to enlighten them and bring them to Himself. The Lord has made certain that any person who genuinely seeks Him can know enough of His truth to be saved. Although "a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spirit usually appraised" (1 Cor. 2:14), God nevertheless gives the gracious assurance that "you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart" (Jer. 29:13). Believers who faithfully study God's Word can learn and have a certain understanding of His truth—all that is necessary "for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness," in order for us to "be adequate, equipped for every good work" (2 Tim. 3:16-17). Our gracious God gives us more than all the truth we need to know Him, trust Him, and serve Him. But no matter how diligently we may have studied His Word, we must confess with David that "such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is too high, I cannot attain to it" (Ps. 139:6)."

Your shepherd,  
Pastor Mark

## Quote of the Week

"The goal of the Christian life is not external conformity or mindless action, but a passionate love for God informed by the mind and embraced by the will."

— John Owen

# Grace Gems

**The Lord bestows favor and honor.  
Psalm 84:11**

God is wonderfully generous by nature; to give is His delight. His gifts are immeasurably precious and are given as freely as the light of the sun. He gives grace to His own because He wills it, to His redeemed because of His covenant, to the called because of His promise, to believers because they seek it, to sinners because they need it. He gives grace abundantly, seasonably, constantly, readily, sovereignly; the value of the blessings is doubled by the manner in which it is given. Grace in all its forms He freely supplies to His people: Comforting, preserving, sanctifying, directing, instructing, assisting grace He generously and constantly pours into their souls, and He will always do so, whatever may happen. Sickness may come, but the Lord will give grace; poverty may descend on us, but grace will definitely be supplied; death must come, but grace will light a candle in the darkest hour. Reader, how blessed it is as years roll on, and the leaves again begin to fall, to enjoy this unfading promise, "The LORD bestows favor and honor." The little conjunction "and" in this verse is a diamond rivet binding the present with the future: Favor and honor always go together. God has married them, and no one can separate them. The Lord will never deny a soul honor to whom He has freely granted favor; indeed, honor is nothing more than favor in its Sunday best, favor in full bloom, favor like autumn fruit, mellow and perfected. How soon we may have honor none can tell! It may be that before this month of October has run out we will see the Holy City; but if the interval is longer or shorter, we shall be honored before long. The honor of heaven, the honor of eternity, the honor of Jesus, the honor of the Father—the Lord will certainly give all this to His chosen. What a wonderful promise from a faithful God!

- Alistair Begg



# Weekly Gatherings



## Bible Classes

New Testament  
Sunday School  
Sunday Morning @ 9-9:45 & 10-10:45



## Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM  
Men's Zoom Bible Study



## Job Study

Wednesdays @ 7PM  
Teaching Series (Online Only)



## Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and forgot to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address.



## Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM  
Youth Study  
AWANA @6:30PM-8PM



## Service Times

Sunday Service 8:30AM & 10:30AM  
Children's Church @10:30AM

### Giving from service on 09/27/2020

General Offering .....	6,040.94
Building Fund .....	.848.35
Uganda .....	140.00
AWANA .....	.80.00
Total .....	7,109.29

Attendance ...145 present

### Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org  
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org  
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org  
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org  
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org  
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org  
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org  
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org  
Maintenance-maintenance @ghbcva.org  
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org  
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org  
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org  
Security-security@ghbcva.org



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# Grace Harvest Baptist Church

Oct 4, 2020

