

"TO HIM BE GLORY FOREVER"

Romans 11:33-36

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Paul has written and emphasized many truths
 - 1) He has summarized the principle truths of God concerning His relationship to them.
 - 2) Some of them were "mysteries"

- B. As Paul concludes this part of his letter he is caught up in the greatness of God.
 - 1) His plan to prepare Israel for salvation
 - 2) The power of faith to please God
 - 3) The claiming of the Gentiles
 - 4) The ultimate salvation of Israel
 - 5) In these verses he exults in God's glory

I. The Glory of God's Planning verse 33

- A. *"O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!"*
 - 1) *"depth"* = βάθος = "the depth of the ocean as opposed to the shallows near the shore". Metaph., "the secret unrevealed purposes of God"
 - 2) *"wisdom"* = σοφία = "cleverness", "skill", "plans"
 - 3) *"knowledge"* = γνῶσις = "the understanding of a thing", "the insight which manifests itself in the thorough understanding of the subjects with which it meets and in the conduct determined thereby"
 - 4) "How inexhaustible God's resources, wisdom and knowledge are!" Gspd.

- B. *"...how unsearchable are his judgments"*
 - 1) *"unsearchable"* = ἀνεξερευνήτος = "which cannot be traced or searched out" Man could never discover the truth by "tracing"

- 2) "*judgments*" = κριμα = "the result or issue of the verb κρινω;", "the decision arrived at"
Solomon's solution to the problem of an infant's Mother is a good example.

C. "...and his ways past finding out"

- 1) "*ways*" = οδος = "method of proceeding", "manner of action"
- 2) "How untraceable his paths" Mon

II. The Glory of God's Thinking *verse 34*

A. "*For who hath known the mind of the Lord?*"

- 1) "*mind*" = νους = "the organ of thinking and knowledge"
"the understanding"
- 2) "Who has ever known the Lord's thoughts"

B. "...or who hath been his counsellor?"

- 1) "*counsellor*" = συμβουλος = "one joined in counsel,
an advisor"
- 2) "Who has been the Lord's advisor?"

III. The Glory of God's Integrity *verse 35*

A. "*Or who hath first given to him,*"

- 1) "*first*" = προδιδωμι = "pay in advance"
- 2) "Or who has advanced anything to him"

B. "*and it shall be recompensed unto him against?*"

- 1) "*recompensed*" = ανταποδιδωμι = "to give back instead
of something received, repay"
- 2) "So that he may reclaim a payment."

IV. The Glory of God's Being *verse 36*

A. "*For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things:*"

- 1) "For from him everything comes; through him everything exists; and him everything ends" Gspd.
 - 2) Source, Guide, and Goal of all that is. Neb.
- B. *"to whom be glory forever. Amen"*
- 1) *"glory" = δόξα = "the unfolded fullness of the devine powers of God, renown, splendour, brilliance"*
 - 2) *"Unto the ages"*

V. We Should Give Glory To God

A. We glorify God by doing good

- 1) *Matthew 5:13-16*
- 2) *"...and glorify your father which is in heaven"*

B. We glorify God by suffering

- 1) *II Peter 4:14*
- 2) *"On your part he is glorified"*

C. We should glorify Him in the church

- 1) *Ephesians 3:21 - "Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages world without end. Amen."*
- 2) This is God's choice and we should honor it