

Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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God's Wisdom and Power

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Having one good outstanding trait is satisfying to most of us. If one noble characteristic stands out in our life, we feel good about ourselves. When a boxer possesses both a powerful jab and a devastating hook, he is a formidable opponent. When a quarterback possesses blinding speed and an accurate arm, he is doubly difficult to defend. When a boy or a girl possesses both good looks and prudent intelligence, he or she is probably a good catch for future marital bliss. Our great God possesses many outstanding characteristics. But His one-two-combination of wisdom and power is worthy of thought and meditation.

God's wisdom and power paint a great picture of God creating an inhabitable earth. What power to rebuke the waters covering the face of the earth and set the bounds from which they cannot pass. “*At thy rebuke they fled; at the voice of thy thunder they hasted away (the mountains rose, the valleys sank down) unto the place which Thou has set a bound that they may not pass over; that they turn not again to cover the earth (Psalm 104:7-9).*” What wisdom to allow gravity to pull the high mountain streams into the low-lying valleys, to make the grass grow for the cattle to eat. “*He sendeth forth springs into the valleys; they run among the mountains; they give drink to every beast*

of the field; the wild asses quench their thirst...” God “*watereth the mountains from His chambers: the earth is filled with the fruit of thy works. He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man; that he may bring forth food out of the earth (Psalm 104: 10-11; 13-14).*” God's power and wisdom work together for life to exist and flourish on God's green earth (*Proverbs 8:30-31, Romans 1:20*).

God's power is further heightened when compared to man's wisdom. Would you use sand on the beach as a barrier to keep the roaring waves in check. Jeremiah writes, “*Fear ye not me? saith Jehovah: will ye not tremble at my presence, who have placed the sand for the bound of the sea, by a perpetual decree, that it cannot pass it? And though the waves thereof toss themselves, yet can they not prevail; though they roar, yet can they not pass over it” (Jeremiah 5:22).*” What power behind using unsettling sand as the barrier for the roaring and relentless waves of the sea. Such power distinguishes God from the powerless idols of man's creation and should move us to answer Jeremiah with a reverent “Yes!”

When suffering, we can have a defeatist attitude when thinking of God's wisdom and power. Job did!

Job referenced God as “*wise in heart, and mighty in strength” (Job 9:4).* Believing he was righteous, Job was humbled by God's power which was “*breaking him as a tempest”* and “*multiplying”* his “*wounds without cause” (Job 9:17).* God's wisdom was so far above Job that he felt helpless. “*If he pleased to contend with Him, he cannot answer Him one of a thousand” (Job 9:3).* Job was going dark, considering his difficult circumstances in light of God's wisdom and power. Sadly, Job foolishly said, “*It is all one... He destroyeth the perfect and the wicked. (Job 9:22).*”

God challenges Job with the question, “*...who shut up the sea with doors when it brake forth, as if it had issued of the womb... and marked out for it my bound and set bars and doors, and said, ‘Hitherto shalt thou come but no further; and here shall thy proud waves be stayed’ (Job 38:8, 10-11)?*” It is as if God is saying, “*In your human wisdom and by your own strength, could you accomplish this fact of nature?*”

God's wisdom and power is in His Son, Jesus Christ. “*...but unto them that are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God” (I Corinthians 1:24).* The death and resurrection of Christ highlights God's wisdom and power to save man!