

God Is...Sovereign

Andrew Menkis: “The pursuit of knowing God should be the first priority in the life of a Christian.”

Philippians 3:8 I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ.

John 17:3 This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

Luke 1:26-38 Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, 27 to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary. 28 And coming in, he said to her, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord *is* with you.” 29 But she was very perplexed at *this* statement, and kept pondering what kind of salutation this was. 30 The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary; for you have found favor with God. 31 “And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name Him Jesus. 32 “He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; 33 and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.” 34 Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” 35 The angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason the holy Child shall be called the Son of God. 36 “And behold, even your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age; and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month. 37 “For nothing will be impossible with God.” 38 And Mary said, “Behold, the bondservant of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

1. God is _____.

Luke 1:32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; 33 and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.”

• God is _____.

- “He will be great...”
- Luke 1:37 “...nothing will be impossible with God.”
- Think about the words related to God’s greatness:
 - Vast
 - Incomprehensible
 - Romans 11:33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!
 - Unlimited – Another name for God in the Scripture is “God Almighty.”
 - Extreme – Every aspect of His character is extreme.

• God is _____.

Luke 1:32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High...

Psalm 57:2 I will cry to God Most High, to God who accomplishes *all things* for me.

- **God will _____ forever.**

Luke 1:32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; 33 and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.”

2. **We are God’s _____.**

- One of the great lessons we can learn from the Gabriel’s visit to Mary is God is sovereign, and we’re not.
- Luke 1:26-28 Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city in Galilee called Nazareth, 27 to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the descendants of David; and the virgin’s name was Mary. 28 And coming in, he said to her, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord *is* with you.”
- **We are recipients of _____.**
Luke 1:28 “Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.”
 - The word “favored” comes from the same Greek word meaning grace.
- **We are desperate for God’s _____.**
Luke 1:28 And coming in, he said to her, “Greetings, favored one! The Lord *is* with you.”

3. **How do we come to know God as sovereign?**

- When truth intersects experience, our capacity to go to new places in our understanding grows.
- What activity will help us to grow in our understanding of God as sovereign?
- Luke 1:38 And Mary said, “Behold, the bondservant of the Lord; may it be done to me according to your word.”
- The activity that will help us grow in our understanding of God as sovereign is surrender.

Further Thought:

- Do you recognize God as Sovereign over the world and over your life? What’s something that happened this past week that made you reflect upon God’s sovereignty?
- Since God is Sovereign, you and I are servants. Servants of God and servants of others. What will you do this week to express your servanthood?
- How would your life have looked differently this past week if you demonstrated radical obedience and surrender to God as the Sovereign (ruler) over your life? How will it look different this coming week?