

PRAYER MEETING
"THE GREATNESS OF GOD"

Introduction

1. The religious man's mind is lowly.
2. The irreligious are haughty
3. God reads men from afar
OBSERVE: Our attitude to God is crucial.

1. GOD IS GREAT IN HIS BEING

- 1) The irreligious mind does not see this:
 - (i) Deism: God not concerned with us. Cp. this Ps. 147:2-4, 6.
 - (ii) Enemies of the Gospel: exx Claverhouse: man in Ayr.
 - (iii) Scientists + Philosophers: "You must not mix Science + Religion" – "Our ideas of God do not correspond with reality", etc.
- 2) Why do they argue in this way? **ANSWER**: They do not like to think of God (B. Russell / one call > NYC).
- 3) But God is glorious in his greatness:
 - (i) the essence of God – the Persons of God
 - (ii) the works of God – v.8-9
APPLICATION: O how worthy is God of our love and praise!

2. GOD IS GREAT IN HIS POWER

- 1) The Bible opens with a marvelous display of God's power: from nothing to nature in six days! **Note**: something out of nothing – what we cannot begin to do (**Compare**: create / make).
 The First Law of Thermodynamics: "matter cannot be created or destroyed (i.e. by man)!!
OBSERVE: Laws bind us, but God is above all laws.

- 2) Miracles are wonderful displays of God's power – and they always have a Moral Purpose – never random or meaningless:
Cp. A fireworks display v. Exodus – Conquer of Canaan – Flood – Daniel's 3 Friends.
OBSERVE: Judgement + Mercy are exhibited – the true character of God.
- 3) The Final Display – the "regeneration", or renewal of the universe:
 - (i) new heavens and earth
 - (ii) all enemies subdued forever
 - (iii) all acts of love to God rewarded
APPLICATION: What power! So sudden + spectacular!
 So just and right! Every conscience agreed.

3. GOD IS GREAT IN HIS UNDERSTANDING

- 1) God understands himself perfectly
NOTE: we do not understand ourselves.
- 2) God understands every creature perfectly.
OBSERVE: You could not improve on any thing that God has made: fish / bird / etc.
- 3) Above all, God understands the heart and soul of all who love Him:
APPLICATION: This is why it is sweet to be His.
 See v. 3, 6, 11, 19-20 (the Church).
- 4) What is implied in this?
 - (i) God knows all our fears: "Fear not".
 - (ii) He understands what grieves us:
 The plight of the lost – the low state of Christ's cause – the fallen state of this world: **Illustration**: Ipswich
 - (iii) God can bind up our wounds (v.3) and He can lift up the meek (v.6)

CONCLUSION

O Great God – come and build up Thy cause again and give comfort to Thy people.

PSALM

101: 1 – 5

146: 5 – 9

147: 1 – 5