

God's Omniscience and You

1. Carefully read these passages and note your observations about God's omniscience about human beings.

Would not God find this out?
For He knows the secrets of the heart. (Ps 44:21, NASB)

The Lord knows the thoughts of man,
That they are a mere breath. (Ps 94:11, NASB)

The heart is more deceitful than all else
And is desperately sick;
Who can understand it?
I, the Lord, search the heart,
I test the mind,
To give to each person according to his ways,
According to the results of his deeds. (Jer 17:9-10, NASB)

2. Carefully read these passages and note your observations about God's omniscience about Believers.

O Lord, You have searched me and known me.
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
You understand my thought from afar.
You scrutinize my path and my lying down,
And are intimately acquainted with all my ways.
Even before there is a word on my tongue,
Behold, O Lord, You know it all.
You have enclosed me behind and before,
And laid Your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
It is too high, I cannot attain to it. (Ps 139:1-6, NASB)

And when you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they will be seen by people. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. But as for you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door, and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you. And when you are praying, do not use thoughtless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. (Matt 6:5-8, NASB)

3. Carefully read these passages and note your observations about God's omniscience about Believers and their sins. How does the all knowing God forget the sins of a human being?

He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
Nor rewarded us according to our guilty deeds.
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
So great is His mercy toward those who fear Him.
As far as the east is from the west,
So far has He removed our wrongdoings from us. (Ps 103:10-12, NASB)

For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us; for after saying,

“This is the covenant which I will make with them
After those days, declares the Lord:
I will put My laws upon their hearts,
And write them on their mind,”

He then says,

“And their sins and their lawless deeds
I will no longer remember.” (Heb 10:14-17, NASB)

God's Omniscience and You Teacher Notes

1. Carefully read these passages and note your observations about God's omniscience about human beings.

Would not God find this out?

For He knows the secrets of the heart. (Ps 44:21, NASB)

Ask the question: what is the difference between secret behaviors that we hide from others and secret thoughts we keep private? Raise the student's awareness of the depth of God's omniscience regardless of what we try to keep secret.

The Lord knows the thoughts of man,

That they are a mere breath. (Ps 94:11, NASB)

Help the student understand that God's omniscience is effortless for Him. To know every thought of a person is as easy as a single breath.

The heart is more deceitful than all else

And is desperately sick;

Who can understand it?

I, the Lord, search the heart,

I test the mind,

To give to each person according to his ways,

According to the results of his deeds. (Jer 17:9-10, NASB)

Inform the student that the Hebrew word for "heart" includes a person's mind and refers to a person's thoughts, motives, and emotions.

Ask the question: who is the "heart" deceiving? Raise the awareness that we can deceive ourselves; but, nothing deceives God.

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Help the student understand the depth of this passage. Ask the student to think about how well their parent knows them.

God knows all of His people intimately. He knows all of our thoughts, how we will make decisions and live our lives, and share His knowledge so that we may live rightly.

And when you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that they will be seen by people. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full. But as for you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door, and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees what is done in secret will reward you. And when you are praying, do not use thoughtless repetition as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. So do not be like them; for your Father knows what you need before you ask Him. (Matt 6:5-8, NASB)

God knows of our desires and needs before we even think of asking Him.

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Ask the student: do you know what covenant Hebrews 10 is referring to?

Hebrews 10 is recounting Jeremiah 31:31-34 where God is announcing the New Covenant.

Encourage discussion of what God meant when He states, "and their sins and their lawless deeds I will no longer remember."

God does not seem to forget in human sense. Atonement, payment of sin (OT: Mosaic Law sacrifices, NT: Jesus Christ) removes sin so that it is no longer on our record and available for evaluation. While the sin was committed and well known by God, its removal from His view is, in essence, no longer remembered.

Omniscience places an emphasis on the grace of God's loving forgiveness. It is with awe and wonder that the all knowing God no longer remembers the sins of a Believer.