THINGS TO

"There are three things which are too wonderful for me,
Four which I do not understand:
The way of an eagle in the sky,
The way of a serpent on a rock,
The way of a ship in the middle of the sea,
And the way of a man with a maid."

PROVERBS 30:18-19

THINGS TOO WONDERFUL FOR ME

- Some things can be analyzed but never truly understood.
 This mystery vexes us because we have an insatiable need to catalogue and categorize everything. We love reconciliation and order in short, we need answers!
- Just as there are natural events and phenomena that defy our best explanations, there are many aspects of God that do not come with easy answers (Ecclesiastes 11:5, Romans 11:33-34) – His judgment, His nature, the spiritual realm, supposed "God dilemmas", explanations about various actions in the Bible. So what do we do when faced with unanswerable questions about God?

INQUIRY IS GOOD, BUT BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE DEUTERONOMY 29:29

UNSEARCHABLE WAYS

- We can only know as much about a person as he/she will share, and we are generally okay with that. I do not need to know personal details about doctors, police officers, or plumbers to trust them. I CAN know what they are willing to reveal, and that is acceptable.
- 1 Corinthians 2:11
- So why do we not apply this same standard to God, who freely admits that He is unsearchable and sometimes inscrutable (Is. 40:28, Ps. 145:3)? Why do we not accept that God retains the right of privacy in some matters?

"Such knowledge is too wonderful for me" PSALM 139:1-6

FILLING IN THE BLANKS

- When answers do not come easy, we sometimes make the terrible mistake of "filling in the blanks." This usually leads to mischaracterizations about the nature of God.
- Take Job's three friends, for example. In trying to explain the work of God apart from explicit revelation, they essentially came to the conclusion that man is inherently sinful and cannot stand before God (Job 15:14-16, 35:6-8, 25:1-6). They spoke in God's place and assumed something that was untrue, namely that physical conditions are directly linked to spiritual well-being. They were chided for this offense (Job 42:1-9).

SO, WILL MY QUESTIONS EVER GET ANSWERED?

JESUS AND QUESTIONS

- When the question stems from a desire to confirm what you think, Jesus says, "Have you not read?" (Matt. 19:1-4).
- When the question is absurd, Jesus says, "You are mistaken" and does not take the bait (Matt. 22:23ff).
- When the questioner is unwilling to endure scrutiny, Jesus says, "Neither will I tell you" (Matthew 21:23ff).
- When the question comes from an ulterior motive, Jesus says, "Why are you testing Me?" (Matt. 22:15ff).

FOR HONEST HEARTS, THE REALLY ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS HAVE ALREADY BEEN

ANSMERIE

ISAIAH 55:6-9 & EPHESIANS 3:1-10