

The Sovereignty of God

God's Nature

God's Sovereignty Defined

God is Sovereign. But what does this mean? The word “*sovereignty*” means “*SUPREME AUTHORITY*” and in earthly realms speaks of one who holds the *highest* place of authority such as a Monarch, or President or Ruler of a province or territory. But consider that when this term is applied to God, the Creator of the heavens and the earth, that the meaning takes on a much fuller sense. God is in heaven and having made the world by His own power out of nothing, and is even now sustaining everything by His powerful Word, God is **THE SOVEREIGN KING** above all earthly and heavenly powers and authorities. As the Scripture says.....

Psalm 103:19 - 19 The LORD has established His throne in the heavens; And **His sovereignty rules over all.** NASB

God possesses **absolute dominion** and authority over all things. So He is said to sit on a “throne” in heaven! Just think how ridiculous it would be to say that God created the universe, but He is not in control of what takes place in it. *Well the truth is God not only controls nature and history, but He literally sustains the entire universe by his power, and orders the events of his entire creation to accomplish His own purposes and plans.* Friends, we must understand that what is happening in the world is happening at the express purpose and will of God, who rules the world and all who are in it. *He is "the Lord of Heaven and Earth"*(Acts 17:24) and whatsoever happens in the world, happens because God has permitted, indeed He has decreed it to happen (**THE DECREES OF GOD**). Although there is much evil in the world, which God hates, He is allowing these things to achieve His eternal purposes which will, without a doubt, come to pass. God not only permits the events of human history, but has ordained them from eternity past (**FOREORDINATION**), and is furthermore *actively involved* in seeing that they all come to pass (**PROVIDENCE**), fulfilling all of His plans and purposes.

Proverbs 16:4 - 4 **The LORD has made everything for its own purpose,** Even the wicked for the day of evil. NASB

That the divine purpose could meet with frustration is *unthinkable*, for then it could not be the divine purpose! Failure of God's purpose is failure of His sovereignty. God cannot be God and NOT be Sovereign, for then He would NOT be God. Scripture is very clear about this!

Ephesians 1:11 - 11 also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined **according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will.** NASB

Even Satan was created by God to achieve the very purpose for which God made him.

Isaiah 10:15 - 15 **Is the axe to boast itself over the one who chops with it? Is the saw to exalt itself over the one who wields it?** That would be like a club wielding those who lift it, Or like a rod lifting him who is not wood. NASB

Isaiah 54:16 - 16 "Behold, I Myself have created the smith who blows the fire of coals, And brings out a weapon for its work; **And I have created the destroyer to ruin.** NASB

Exposition of 1 Chronicles 29:11-13

Let us closely examine how the Scripture describes this Sovereignty of God.

1 Chronicles 29:11-13 - 11 **Thine, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, indeed everything that is in the heavens and the earth; Thine is the dominion, O LORD, and Thou dost exalt Thyself as head over all.** 12 Both riches and honor come from Thee, and Thou dost rule over all, and in Thy hand is power and might; and it lies in Thy hand to make great, and to strengthen everyone. 13 Now therefore, our God, we thank Thee, and praise Thy glorious name. NASB

A. Thine, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty – What words can describe the greatness of God and His power? Surely we cannot describe the greatness of God because He is infinite and we are finite. Listen to the verse as it speaks of His greatness.....His IS the **POWER and GLORY and VICTORY and MAJESTY**.....

God is the source of all **POWER** –

Jeremiah 32:17- 17 Ah Lord GOD! Behold, **Thou hast made the heavens and the earth by Thy great power and by Thine outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for Thee**, NASB

God's is the **GLORY** –

Revelation 15:3-4 - Great and marvelous are Thy works, O Lord God, the Almighty; Righteous and true are Thy ways, Thou King of the nations. 4 "**Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify Thy name?** For Thou alone art holy; For all the nations will come and worship before Thee, For Thy righteous acts have been revealed." NASB

He will always prevail with **VICTORY** against His enemies –

Isaiah 42:13 - 13 The LORD will go forth like a warrior, He will arouse His zeal like a man of war. He will utter a shout, yes, He will raise a war cry. **He will prevail against His enemies** . NASB

The authority of His **MAJESTY** is the most regal and beautiful, stately and splendid, magnificent grandeur of all.

Psalms 96:4-9 - For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods. 5 For all the gods of the peoples are idols, But the LORD made the heavens. 6 **Splendor and majesty are before Him, Strength and beauty are in His sanctuary**. 7 Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, Ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. 8 **Ascribe to the LORD the glory of His name**; Bring an offering, and come into His courts. 9 Worship the LORD in holy attire; Tremble before Him, all the earth. NASB

B. indeed everything that is in the heavens and the earth; Thine is the dominion, O LORD – The **Scripture plainly declares** that **GOD CREATED all things and is the Possessor of everything**. Since God is the creator of all things, He also is the rightful owner and proprietor of all things. He possesses everything and therefore has a Sovereign Right or prerogative to do as He pleases.

Exodus 9:29 - 29 And Moses said to him, "As soon as I go out of the city, I will spread out my hands to the LORD; the thunder will cease, and there will be hail no longer, **that you may know that the earth is the LORD'S**. NASB

Exodus 19:5 - 5 Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, **for all the earth is Mine**; NASB

Deut 10:14 - 14 "Behold, **to the LORD your God belong heaven and the highest heavens, the earth and all that is in it**. NASB

Job 41:11 - 11 "Who has given to Me that I should repay him? **Whatever is under the whole heaven is Mine**. NASB

Psalms 24:1 - **The earth is the LORD'S, and all it contains**, The world, and those who dwell in it. NASB

Psalms 89:11 - 11 The heavens are Thine, the earth also is Thine; **The world and all it contains**, Thou hast founded them. NASB

The **Scripture plainly declares** that **GOD RULES and does as He pleases** with anything and everything that He has made. God is **TOTALLY FREE** to do whatever He pleases.

Daniel 4:34-35 - For **His dominion is an everlasting dominion**, And His kingdom endures from generation to generation. 35 "And all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, But **He does according to His will in the host of heaven And among the inhabitants of earth; And no one can ward off His hand** Or say to Him, 'What hast Thou done?' NASB

Psalms 135:5-6 - 5 For I know that **the LORD is great, And that our Lord is above all gods. 6 Whatever the LORD pleases, He does**, In heaven and in earth, in the seas and in all deeps. NASB

C. and Thou dost exalt Thyself as head over all. – The **Scripture plainly declares** that **God is the highest authority** and that He is the One who **establishes all other authority** in heaven and earth.

Romans 13:1 - 1 Let every person be in subjection to the governing authorities. For **there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God**. NASB

God is highly exalted above everything that is. Therefore God exalts Himself above us and everything and commands that we worship Him, because it is right and proper to do so. Consider how appropriate this is? Would it be right for some other being to occupy God's great seat of

authority? Would it be proper for a creature to somehow be exalted above the One who created it? Indeed this cannot be, otherwise He would not be God. This is why idolatry is the great sin of mankind, as we seek to give improper place to some thing other than God who should properly be exalted in our view as King and Sovereign over us! This is high treason against the greatest majesty that exists! Who can speak of what a great sin that unbelief in God truly is? Who can describe the folly and shame that this represents? Shall we slap the hand that feeds us? Shall we rail with clinched fist against the One who holds our life's breathe in His hands? This is why God exalts Himself above us and commands that we worship Him, because it is right and proper, it is in reality the highest good of the creature to worship and praise the creator!

Psalm 97:9 - 9 For Thou art **the LORD Most High over all the earth; Thou art exalted far above all gods.** NASB

Exodus 20:2-3 - 2 "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. 3 "**You shall have no other gods before Me.** NASB

Isaiah 2:11-12 - 11 The proud look of man will be abased, And the loftiness of man will be humbled, And **the LORD alone will be exalted in that day.** 12 For the LORD of hosts will have a day of reckoning Against everyone who is proud and lofty, And against everyone who is lifted up, That he may be abased. NASB

D. 12 Both riches and honor come from Thee, and Thou dost rule over all, and in Thy hand is power and might; and it lies in Thy hand to make great, and to strengthen everyone. – God in His Sovereignty, dispenses as He pleases to all the peoples of the earth. Here the Scriptures says that God is the one who gives riches to the rich, honor to the honorable, and it is because He is the Ruler of all. Here the Scripture explicitly states that God has the power and the might to raise up or exalt someone, or give them strength. Obviously the inverse is true, if God decides to abase someone and make them weak, that is His prerogative. This is in fact resounded in the Scriptures in many places. God rules His creation, including the earth and men and angels by a mighty Providence. God is Sovereign over the prosperity and poverty of everyone!

Exodus 4:11 - 11 And the LORD said to him, "**Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes him dumb or deaf, or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the LORD?**" NASB

Isaiah 45:7 - 7 The One forming light and creating darkness, **Causing well-being and creating calamity; I am the LORD who does all these.** NASB

1 Samuel 2:7-9 - 7 "**The LORD makes poor and rich; He brings low, He also exalts.** 8 "He raises the poor from the dust, He lifts the needy from the ash heap To make them sit with nobles, And inherit a seat of honor; For the pillars of the earth are the LORD'S, And He set the world on them. 9 "He keeps the feet of His godly ones, But the wicked ones are silenced in darkness; **For not by might shall a man prevail.** NASB

The **Scripture plainly declares** that *God is Sovereign over the LIFE AND DEATH of every creature.* Man's days are determined by God, He has set the limit and they cannot be exceeded. No one lives unless God decrees it and no one dies unless God decrees it. He is the Author, Giver, and the Sustainer of every living thing. He holds in His hand the lives of His beloved ones and that of His enemies also! Even Satan the father of lies, the destroyer, owes his next breathe to the Almighty!

Job 14:5 - 5 "Since **his days are determined, The number of his months is with Thee, And his limits Thou hast set so that he cannot pass.** NASB

Deuteronomy 32:39 - 39 "See now that I, I am He, And there is no god besides Me; **It is I who put to death and give life. I have wounded, and it is I who heal;** And there is no one who can deliver from My hand. NASB

1 Samuel 2:6 - 6 "**The LORD kills and makes alive;** He brings down to Sheol and raises up. NASB

Job 12:9-10 - 9 "Who among all these does not know That the hand of the LORD has done this, 10 **In whose hand is the life of every living thing, And the breath of all mankind?** NASB

Matthew 10:29-30 - 29 "Are not two sparrows sold for a cent? And **yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father.** 30 "But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. NASB

The **Scripture plainly declares** that *GOD SUSTAINS and MAINTAINS all things which He has created.*

Hebrews 1:3 - 3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and **upholds all things by the word of His power**. NASB

Job 34:14-15 - 14 "If He should determine to do so, **If He should gather to Himself His spirit and His breath, 15 All flesh would perish together, And man would return to dust**. NASB

E. 13 Now therefore, our God, we thank Thee, and praise Thy glorious name. – Now here is a proper response to the knowledge of God's Sovereignty. It is to acknowledge His greatness and power, and to humbly thank Him for WHO He is and whatever we have. More than this we are to praise His glorious name!

Psalm 106:1 - **Praise the LORD! Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good**; For His lovingkindness is everlasting. NASB

Psalm 33:1 - Sing for joy in the LORD, O you righteous ones; **Praise is becoming to the upright**. NASB

Summary

In summary we have seen that the Bible clearly teaches that God is Sovereign over His entire creation and that the *nature* of this Sovereignty is absolute and Supreme Authority, which is exercised over all things He has created. A good summary definition we could use then is given by our dear brother Charles Hodge in His work on Theology, page 440.....

"Sovereignty is not a property of the divine nature, but a prerogative arising out of the perfections of the Supreme Being. If God be a Spirit, and therefore a person, infinite, eternal, and immutable in His being and perfections, the Creator and Preserver of the Universe, He is of right its absolute sovereign. Infinite wisdom, goodness, and power, with the right of possession, which belongs to God in all His creatures, are the immutable foundation of His dominion."

Dear reader, here now the word of the Lord!

Deuteronomy 4:39 - 39 Know therefore today, and take it to your heart, **that the LORD, He is God in heaven above and on the earth below; there is no other**. NASB

Application

How do we apply this doctrine to our life and/or how does it affect us, our thinking and living?

- We must recognize Him as the Sovereign Authority in our lives by humbly submitting to His will. (**Deut 4:39-40, 27:10, Job 2:10, Lam 3:37-41, Jer 44:23, Eccl 12:13-14, Luke 11:28**)
- We must love God in His Sovereignty and find our joy in the fact the goodness of God rules over our lives, decisions, and everything that we have and are! (**Matt 22:37-39, Rom 12:12**)
- We must realize that trust in God's Sovereign and gracious hand is a truth of amazing security for us to rest in. (**Romans 8:28,8:31**)

Why is it important?

- If this teaching of Sovereignty is true, could anything be more important to the nature of all things than this? (**Rev 14:6-7**)
- If this teaching of Sovereignty is true, could anything be more important to the way we live our lives be than this? (**Eccl 12:13-14, Prov 1:7, Ps 147:11, Ps 112:1**)
- In having a proper biblical understanding, remember that every theological heresy flows from a misconception of the character and nature of God. Therefore since Sovereignty is a prerogative of the divine nature, it has serious implications in our understanding of God and His Kingdom. (**Prov 9:10**)

Why is it controversial?

The reason that this doctrine is so controversial is that the very nature of sin is a rebellion against God's Sovereignty. Man naturally resists God's Authority and has tried to exalt his own autonomy since he first decided to disobey the commandment of God in the garden. Therefore mankind is naturally repulsed by the idea of having someone of higher authority than himself and seeks to usurp that authority continually. This is the great crime of humanity and it is worthy of death. (**Prov 29:15, Isa 53:6, Rom 3:10-18, 8:7-8**)

Sovereignty and God's Attributes

Contemplate how God's Authority is related to all of His attributes. Indeed they work together in perfect harmony to manifest God's perfection in every way! Consider just a few!

Sovereignty and Wisdom – God uses His authority in accordance with perfect wisdom. God always makes decisions and executes His authority in such a way as to fulfill the eternal counsel of His will. Everything He does seeks to fulfill the purpose for which He planned it.

Jeremiah 10:12 - 12 It is He who made the earth by His power, **Who established the world by His wisdom; And by His understanding He has stretched out the heavens.** NASB

Sovereignty and Love – God's authority is always dispensed with concern for the objects of His love. God is motivated in the exercise of His authority for the benefit and blessing of those to whom He obligates Himself by covenant, indeed to all who fear Him and call upon Him.

Psalm 103:11-13 - 11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth, So **great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him.** 12 As far as the east is from the west, So far has He removed our transgressions from us. 13 Just as a father has compassion on his children, So **the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him.** NASB

Sovereignty and Power – God has an ability to bring to pass whatsoever He pleases so that the use of His authority cannot be resisted. God brings to pass whatever His wisdom and love decide. He who cannot do what He will and perform all His pleasure cannot be God!

Isaiah 46:9-11 - 9 "Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, 10 Declaring the end from the beginning And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, 'My purpose will be established, And **I will accomplish all My good pleasure**'; 11 Calling a bird of prey from the east, The man of My purpose from a far country. Truly I have spoken; truly I will bring it to pass. **I have planned it, surely I will do it.** NASB

Sovereignty and Knowledge – When God uses His authority it is always with a perfect knowledge, for He is the source of it. Nothing ever escapes the attention of God or is somehow undone or misguided. God's authority is always exercised with a complete knowledge of what has happened, what is happening, and what will happen as a result. He never errs, never changes and never overlooks anything!

Isaiah 40:14 - 14 With whom did He consult and who gave Him understanding? And **who taught Him in the path of justice and taught Him knowledge.** And informed Him of the way of understanding? NASB

Sovereignty and Holiness – When God uses His authority, it is always motivated by a hatred of sin, a spotless purity, and a zeal for His own honor. He expects His creatures to revere His holiness and gives serious warnings and threatenings toward those who fail to honor Him. God must be zealous for His own honor because He is what is truly honorable and MOST worthy of praise and glory. A failure to revere and honor God's holiness is the very definition of sin itself!

Revelation 14:6-7 - 6 And I saw another angel flying in midheaven, having **an eternal gospel to preach** to those who live on the earth, and to every nation and tribe and tongue and people; 7 and he said with a loud voice, **"Fear God, and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him** who made the heaven and the earth and sea and springs of waters." NASB

Sovereignty and Righteousness – The foundation of everything that God does is justice. All of His judgments are morally perfect and upright. In fact, God Himself is the very standard or what is just and righteous. God's authority is always executed in perfect righteousness. Whatever is right, is right because it is approved by God!

Deuteronomy 32:4 - 4 "The Rock! His work is perfect, For **all His ways are just**; A God of faithfulness and without injustice, **Righteous and upright is He.** NASB

Consider then because all of these things are true of God, and He is the highest authority, we have ground for tremendous security and exceeding joy! We can rest in the security of God's righteous judgment and find Him to be a refuge and strength from all the adversity we face.

Psalm 5:11 - 11 But let **all who take refuge in Thee be glad, Let them ever sing for joy**; And mayest Thou shelter them, That those who love Thy name may exult in Thee. NASB

Romans 8:28 - 28 And we know that **God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God,** to those who are called according to His purpose. NASB

The Sovereignty of God

God's Nature

Omnipotence

Consider how God's power is related to His Sovereignty. If God be All-Powerful, than He has the ability to do as He pleases and is therefore by default the **SUPREME AUTHORITY**.

Job 23:13 - 13 "But He is unique and who can turn Him? And **what His soul desires, that He does.**

NASB

Isaiah 43:13 - 13 "Even from eternity I am He; And **there is none who can deliver out of My hand; I act and who can reverse it?"** NASB

Psalms 115:3 - 3 But our God is in the heavens; **He does whatever He pleases.** NASB

Let us see then how the Scripture speaks of God's mighty power, indeed it describes Him as Omnipotent or All-Powerful. The **Scripture plainly declares** that *God can do anything and nothing is too hard for Him.*

Jeremiah 32:17 - 17 "Ah Lord GOD! Behold, **Thou hast made the heavens and the earth by Thy great power and by Thine outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for Thee,** NASB

Matthew 19:26 - 26 And looking upon them Jesus said to them, "With men this is impossible, **but with God all things are possible."** NASB

Job 42:2 - 2 "I know that **Thou canst do all things,** And that no purpose of Thine can be thwarted. NASB

In fact, God had the creative power to make the universe from nothing, and He sustains the same universe by His power. He made the world for His own pleasure and by His own will.

Revelation 4:11 - 11 "Worthy art Thou, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for **Thou didst create all things,** and **because of Thy will they existed, and were created."** NAS

His creation is just a small example of his mighty power. In the creation of the universe, God's resources were not depleted in any way, they are infinitely vast! Since God therefore created all things, He also transcends them, and *His power and dominion are infinitely greater than everything He created!* God is actively sustaining everything in creation, He exercises His power in every moment of time, being sure to bring to pass "all His good pleasure." He made all things with a very purposeful will, and He possesses the **power to execute** His divine will and bring His intentions to an expected end. He began alone, and created all things out of nothing, and by this great truth is known as "The Almighty."

Isaiah 40:26 - 26 Lift up your eyes on high And see who has created these stars, The One who leads forth their host by number, He calls them all by name; **Because of the greatness of His might and the strength of His power Not one of them is missing.** 28 Do you not know? Have you not heard? **The Everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth** Does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable. NASB

John 1:1-3 - :1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 **All things came into being by Him,** and **apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being** NAS

Colossians 1:16-17 - 16 For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- **all things have been created by Him and for Him.** 17 And He is before all things, and **in Him all things hold together.** NAS

Because of this truth it also follows that any power that is in the creation is granted by God. If God made everything out of nothing, than nothing has power unless it has been delegated by God. In fact the **Scripture plainly declares** that God's power is far above all earthly powers.

Ephesians 1:19-21 - 19 and what is **the surpassing greatness of His power** toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might 20 which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 **far above all rule and authority and power and dominion,** and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one to come. NASB

Consider, if someone were more powerful than God, than they would have authority over Him, but this is in fact impossible. Therefore, because God is Omnipotent, He is also **SOVEREIGN**.

The Sovereignty of God

God's Nature

Omniscience

God knows everything. Because God is the source of all things, making everything from nothing, He is therefore the source of all knowledge and wisdom. Let us examine a definition of Omniscience to try and understand how complete God's Knowledge is...AW Tozer writes....

"God knows all that can be known. And this He knows instantly and with a fullness of perfection that includes every possible item of knowledge concerning everything that exists or could have existed anywhere in the universe at any time in the past or that may exist in the centuries or ages yet unborn."

We could add to this that God knows all of the data of every possible cause and effect, feeling and desire, creature, event, and every other thing that can be named. His knowledge is complete and eternal. The **Scripture plainly declares** that God knows everything....

1 John 3:20 - 20 in whatever our heart condemns us; for **God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.** NASB

Isaiah 40:28 - 28 Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth Does not become weary or tired. **His understanding is inscrutable.** NASB

Psalms 147:5 - 5 Great is our Lord, and abundant in strength; **His understanding is infinite.** NASB

Rarely would someone argue that God does not know the past, but what about the future. Does God know the future? The **Scripture plainly declares** that God knows the record of the future, in fact the future is the outworking of God's decrees made from before He created the world. ***He knew in eternity past the entire record of history for all eternity.*** Predictive prophecy proves this again and again. God speaks about future events before they come to pass. Consider how many prophecies in the Bible have already been fulfilled!

Isaiah 46:9-10 - 9 "Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, 10 **Declaring the end from the beginning And from ancient times things which have not been done,** Saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure'; NAS

Isaiah 44:7-8 - Who then is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and lay out before me what has happened since I established my ancient people, and what is yet to come-- yes, let him foretell what will come. 8 Do not tremble, do not be afraid. **Did I not proclaim this and foretell it long ago?** You are my witnesses. Is there any God besides me? No, there is no other Rock; I know not one." NASB

In Psalm 139 the Scripture speaks of God knowing our thoughts and words ***"before there is a word on our tongue."***

Psalms 139:2-4 - 2 Thou dost know when I sit down and when I rise up; **Thou dost understand my thought from afar.** 3 Thou dost scrutinize my path and my lying down, And art intimately acquainted with all my ways. 4 **Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O LORD, Thou dost know it all.** NAS

There is nothing that escapes His notice, and nothing can be hidden from Him. He is aware of the events of the past, present, and future as if they were all laid out before Him. As His being is perfect, so is His knowledge. Being perfect in knowledge, He is therefore all-knowing and never confused, misled or surprised.

Hebrews 4:13 - 13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but **all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him** with whom we have to do. NASB

Nothing escapes the attention of God. He see all things even the inner thoughts of man. Jesus said that "all of the hairs of our head were numbered," (Luke 12:7) and that not a sparrow falls to the ground apart from His attention (Matt 10:29). Our very thoughts and intentions of our hearts are ***"open and laid bare before the Lord."*** He knows our thoughts(Eze 11:5) before we even express them. Indeed there is no place where we can hide from God, He sees every hidden thing in full view, and ***He even understands the intentions of our hearts better than we do. He is God!***

1 Kings 8:39- 39 then hear Thou in heaven Thy dwelling place, and forgive and act and render to each according to all his ways, whose heart Thou knowest, **for Thou alone dost know the hearts of all the sons of men.** NASB

1 Chronicles 28:9 - 9 "As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a whole heart and a willing mind; **for the LORD searches all hearts, and understands every intent of the thoughts.** If you seek Him, He will let you find Him; but if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever. NA

Proverbs 5:21 - 21 For the **ways of a man are before the eyes of the LORD,** And He watches all his paths. NASB

AW Pink writes of God's knowledge of our sins;

"Neither the darkness of night, the closest curtains, nor the deepest dungeon can hide any sinner from the eyes of Omniscience. The trees of the garden were not able to conceal our first parents. No human eye beheld Cain murder his brother, but his maker witnessed his crime! Sarah might laugh derisively in the seclusion of her tent, yet was it heard by Jehovah. Achan stole a wedge of gold and carefully hid it in the earth, but God brought it to light. David was at much pains to cover up his wickedness, but ere long the all-seeing God sent one of His servants to say to him, "You are the man!" And to writer and reader is also said, "Be sure your sin will find you out." (Numbers 32:23)

Proverbs 15:3 - The **eyes of the LORD are in every place,** Watching the evil and the good. NAS

Job 34:21-22 - 21 "For His eyes are upon the ways of a man, And He sees all his steps. 22 "**There is no darkness or deep shadow Where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves.** NASB

Psalms 90:8 - 8 Thou hast placed our iniquities before Thee, **Our secret sins in the light of Thy presence.** NASB

S Lewis Johnson summarizes God's knowledge like this.....

- **Intuitive** - God knows everything by default, His knowledge exists within Himself
- **Simultaneous** – God knows everything in one simple act, instantaneously, not gradually
- **Independent** – God knows everything apart from any learning, He cannot learn, because He knows all things from eternity, His knowledge comes from Himself
- **Distinct** – God knows everything clearly, without ambiguity, specifically not generally, absolute
- **Infallible** – God's knowledge is unfailing, certain, accurate in every detail
- **Immutable** – God's knowledge never changes because He learned a new fact, it is not subject to anything outside of Himself
- **Complete** – God's knowledge is infinite, the scope or extent of it is exhaustive, He knows all things actual and possible, all events, all creatures of the past, present and future

Consider how God's knowledge is related to His Sovereignty. If God be All-Knowing, than nothing can escape His attention or somehow surprise Him. He is intimately aware of everything at all times, knowing it all from before He ever created the world. God knows everything FREELY because He has willed them to be and has providentially brought them about.

Ephesians 1:11 - 11 also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined **according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will.** NASB

Summary - See chart on God's Knowledge and Power