

# To Whom, Then, Will You Compare God?

Romans 11.33-36

Most people really don't take the time to think very much about God. Our society is so busy with itself that it seldom takes the time to consider the eternal.

Yet Paul has been doing just that thus far in Romans. There is something about considering the greatness of God that moves us deeply. We can see here that it certainly moved Paul. He has been moved from theology to **doxology**. He has been moved from pondering the greatness of God to praising the glory of God. This is what an encounter with God will do for you. Let's look at some of the effects of an encounter with God.

## It Evokes a Response of Praise

*"Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!"* Romans 11.33a

## It Exposes us to God's Supremacy

*"How unsearchable his judgments,  
and his paths beyond tracing out!"* Romans 11.33b

*"For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways,' declares the LORD.  
'As the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.'" Isaiah 55.8-9*

## It Reveals His Incomparable Greatness

*"Who has known the mind of the Lord?  
Or who has been his counselor?  
Who has ever given to God,  
that God should repay him?"* Romans 11.34-35

Paul is quoting from two Old Testament texts, Isaiah 40.13 and Job 40.11. Both of these passages are indented to give the readers a heightened sense of the greatness of God. In Isaiah 40 the author asks and then answers a very important question:

***"To whom, then, will you compare God?"*** Isaiah 40.18, 25

- 1. God is incomparably great in his Power, Isaiah 40.12-17.***
- 2. God is incomparably great in his Person, Isaiah 40.18-24.***
- 3. God is incomparably great in his Pastoral Care (even for the little people), Isaiah 40.25-31.***

## It Declares His Centrality

*"For from him and through him and to him are all things."* Romans 11.36a

## It Demands We Give Him Glory

*"Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!  
How unsearchable his judgments,  
and his paths beyond tracing out!  
'Who has known the mind of the Lord?  
Or who has been his counselor?'  
'Who has ever given to God,  
that God should repay him?'  
For from him and through him and to him are all things.  
To him be the glory forever! Amen."* Romans 11.33-36