

His Mercy Is More; Hebrews 8:8-12

I. God

A. Omnipresent

1. Where are you?
2. Genesis 3:9 (ESV); But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?”
3. We may get the idea that God is someone we can hide from, that He doesn’t see all, that He isn’t everywhere
4. That is a completely false idea — God is everywhere!
5. We tend to think linearly, like events along a timeline — past, present, and future
6. Psalm 139:7–10 (ESV); ⁷ Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? ⁸ If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! ⁹ If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, ¹⁰ even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me.
7. God is everywhere at all times and chooses to manifest Himself where He wills
8. John 20:19 (ESV); On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

B. Omnipotent

1. All powerful
2. Isaiah 44:24 (ESV); Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, who formed you from the womb: “I am the Lord, who made all things, who alone stretched out the heavens, who spread out the earth by myself,
3. Ephesians 1:18-23
4. “Well may the saint trust such a God! He is worthy of implicit confidence. Nothing is too hard for Him. If God were stunted in might and had a limit to His strength we might well despair. But seeing that He is clothed with omnipotence, no prayer is too hard for Him to answer, no need too great for Him to supply, no passion too strong for Him to subdue; no temptation too powerful for Him to deliver from, no misery too deep for Him to relieve.” ¹

C. Omniscient

1. All knowing
2. Isaiah 46:8–10 (ESV); ⁸ “Remember this and stand firm, recall it to mind, you transgressors, ⁹ remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, ¹⁰ declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done, saying, ‘My counsel shall stand, and I will accomplish all my purpose,’
3. Psalm 139:1–3 (ESV); ¹ O Lord, you have searched me and known me! ² You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. ³ You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways.
4. Psalm 139:13–16 (ESV); ¹³ For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother’s womb. ¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. ¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. ¹⁶ Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.

D. I tend to think that we don’t really have a good grasp on God’s mercy, not without understanding His omnipresence, omnipotence, and omniscience

II. Many Sins

¹ Pink, Arthur, The Attributes of God. (Grand Rapids: Baker), p. 51.

- A. “Our Sins, they are many”
 - B. One of the most powerful parables from Jesus is the one about the two sons
 - 1. One takes his inheritance before he is even allowed to have it
 - 2. Luke 15:11–13 (ESV); ¹¹ And he said, “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless [*loose (NAS95), wild (NIV84)*] living.
 - a) Under any normal circumstances the younger son would have to wait for the father to die to receive his inheritance — but the father gave it to him anyway
 - b) Squander — to scatter or disperse
 - c) I get the idea of a farmer feeding chickens, just throwing the seed everywhere on the ground — some will get eaten, some will get stomped into the ground
 - d) There are so many sinful behaviors wrapped up in the word “reckless (loose, wild)” — most of them have to do with lasciviousness
 - e) I can look back on my life and see where I squandered my time, my efforts, and my resources — and yes, some of it was on wild, loose, reckless living
 - 3. Luke 15:14–16 (ESV); ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.
 - a) A God fearing Jew was not supposed to be around unclean animals, of which a pig was one
 - b) They could not eat the meat from a pig
 - c) Yet, he finds himself in a pig sty eating what pigs eat!
 - d) I imagine he is at the lowest point in his life
 - e) His sins, they are many!
- III. His Mercy Is More
- A. Luke 15:17–19 (ESV); ¹⁷ “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.” ’
 - B. “More than enough bread” would say to me that the man’s father took care of his servants — no one wanted for the basics of life
 - C. We often see the opposite in our world today
 - 1. When bargaining for an item we often think to ourselves, “what is the least amount I can pay for this” instead of, “I should pay what it is worth”
 - 2. The seller has his employees to pay, or his family to feed
 - 3. Companies often want to pay their employees the lowest they can so their profit margin is bigger
 - 4. We often forget about what is best for the other person in the midst of thinking of what is best for us
 - 5. What is morally and ethically right seems to get lost
 - D. Luke 15:20 (ESV); And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.
 - 1. What we don’t read here (but has to have happened) is that every day the Father must have been searching, looking, longing for his son to come home
 - 2. The father’s love for his son outweighed his disappointment in his son’s actions
 - 3. His father was willing to forgive his son — even before his son’s request for forgiveness

4. God wants us to come home — he is waiting, looking, longing for us to “come to our senses”
 5. He wants to forgive us, to show us mercy
 6. The Omniscient, Omnipresent, Omnipotent Father’s mercy is bigger than our sins
 7. Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more!
- IV. Abba, Father
- A. Our God is bigger (than the boogie man — Veggie Tales)
 - B. Our sins, they are many
 - C. His mercy is more