Welcome to “Learning and Living the God-centered Life”

The Immutability of God-part1

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February 21, 2010
What is the chief end of man?

Answer - to glorify God and enjoy Him forever

So this begs the question “how” are we to do it?

There is a danger of NOT understanding the how when it comes to glorifying God”

➢ In lacking this understanding or knowledge a man will tend to form his own god and develop his own religion in which he serves and worships the god that his hands have made.

Turn to Isaiah 44:12-17

The heart of man is so evil and desperately wicked that he makes gods out of the same material which he heats his home and cooks his food
Application

“I thought I could get away with whatever I wanted to. I felt that I had worked hard my entire life and deserved to enjoy all the temptations around me. I felt I was entitled. Thanks to money and fame, I didn't have to go far to find them.”

(transcript from Tiger Woods statement on Friday, February 19)
Hosea 4:1-2, 6
“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge”

Hab. 2:14
“For the earth will be filled
With the knowledge of the glory of the LORD,
As the waters cover the sea.

2Cor. 4:6
For God, who said, “Light shall shine out of darkness,” is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

The answer to the question regarding “how” is; “The Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy Him.”
What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.

...We tend by a secret law of the soul to move toward our mental image of God. This is true not only of the individual Christian, but of the company of Christians that compose the Church. Always the most revealing thing about the Church is her idea of God, just as her most significant message is what she says about Him or leaves unsaid, for her silence is often more eloquent than her speech. She can never escape the self-disclosure of her witness concerning God.
George Barna in his recent report on the church today in America;

- We desire experience more than knowledge
- We prefer choices to absolutes
- We embrace preferences rather than truths
- We seek comfort rather than growth

- Faith must come on our terms or we reject it, we have enthroned ourselves as the final arbiters of righteousness, the ultimate rulers of our own experience and destiny we are the Pharisees of the new millennium.
George Barna says that most Americans value

Time and efficiency over everything else

Minimizing long term commitments while we maintain our independence and individuality at all costs.

Even to the point of being skeptical of institutions, of authorities external to the self, certainly the church but even the Scriptures.

Anything that stands outside of me and my personal experience and what would constitute for me my best life now.

Above all trust your feelings to guide you. Set goals and achieve them have fun, stay in good health, discover and revel in the purpose of your life.
Bryan Chapell - Christ-centered worship

When people see the greatness of God, they fall on their faces and they say “woe is me, I am undone, if that is who God is, then I am undone by this.”

And God comes along and says “even though you are undone by this, I present you with My grace because My grace allows you to know My goodness, I assure you that you can have peace of heart through My provision.” (Romans 5:1)

In our class we are “knowing” God through knowing what He has purposely revealed to us about Himself in the Bible.

We are knowing Him by knowing His attributes.

John 17:3 “This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.
The Attribute of Immutability - to say that God is immutable is to say Biblically at least two things:

1. God can’t change in His attributes, His essence, His very being, that is who God is as God

2. He can’t change in His ethical commitments that are an extension of His own moral nature

The first aspect of His immutability is called **ontological** because this is referring to the very being of God, His essence can not change

- God is holy which means He can not be unholy (Lev 11:44-45)
- God is love which means He can not be not loving (1John 4:8)
- God is just and therefore can not be unjust (Is 30:18)
- God is omnipotent which means God can’t lack power (Genesis 18:14 and Luke 1:37)