

INTRODUCTION

Thesis Statement: *Lorem ipsum*

I. Tell Them What You're Going To Tell Them

1. Illustration of Perceived Need (*Real Life Example*)

(1) Our parents:

- i. Knew all (eyes in the back of my head) (where you were, with whom you were with, and what you were doing).
- ii. Were all (parent, pastor, teacher, sports coach, life coach, driver, nurse, maid, butler, barber, builder, banker, fixer, chef, laundry service, entertainer, investigator, interrogator, mediator, executioner, and of course, warden).
- iii. Controlled all (where you went, how often you went and whether you went; what you had, how much you had, how often you had it; what you did; when you did it; how often it needed to be done).

(2) The older we get, the we find out they didn't know as much, couldn't be enough, and have much less control.

(3) Old men at Starbucks

- i. Angry that he can't figure out his Wifi
- ii. Anxious he's doesn't know enough about Android
- iii. Regrets that may have bought the wrong phone

2. Explanation of Perceived Need (*Real Life Implications*)

(1) Accepting limitations are hard

- i. Especially with regard to control, information and time.
- ii. We anxious about what we don't know, regret time spent, and angry about what we can't control.

(2) Gen 3 = limitations

II. Bridge

1. Introduction To Today's Text

(1) Today's text is wrought with limitations.

2. Problems To Be Resolved

(1) What are we to do with so little information. Why give it to us at all?

- i. We don't know about George the Gileadite
- ii. Or Eddie the Ephraimite.

3. Chart



#1 - YOUR NOT OMNISCIENT, SO TRUST JESUS (9a,11a,13-14a)

I. What Is Omniscience?

1. Exposition

- (1) We are limited to what we know by the author, by extension, by the Lord.
- (2) Omniscient (all-knowing)
 - i. Omni - all
 - ii. scientia (science) - to know; knowledge
- (3) His knowledge is complete
 - i. Lk. 12 - He knows the # of hairs on your head
 - ii. Ps. 147 - He knows every star in the universe and knows them by name
 - iii. job 34 - He knows every step we've taken
 - iv. Matt. 6 - He knows every need we have
 - v. 1 Chron 28 - He knows every intention and every motive of every action
 - vi. Matt. 24 - There are things that angels don't even know, that God knows.
 - vii. Deut. 29 - He knows secret things intentionally unrevealed to us
- (4) His knowledge is perfect
 - i. Job 21 - You cannot teach God anything new
 - ii. Psalm 18 - What He knows is never wrong and always perfect
 - iii. Pslams - all his knowledge is always immediately and directly before his mind

2. Illustration

- (1) Minor Point

3. Application

- (1) God knows our thoughts, so we can't hide from him
- (2) God knows our sin

Psalm 69:5: *"O God, you know my folly; the wrongs I have done are not hidden from you"*

- i. Yet, still loves us

Rom. 5:8: *"...but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."*

- (3) God knows the future

- i. All of how it's going to play out

Heb. 4:13: *"Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account."*

- ii. All of how it's going to play out

Jer. 29:11 *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."*

II. Why Is It Important?

1. Exposition

Psalm 139:1-6

2. Application

- (1) Because anxiety is a bi-product of limited knowledge.
- (2) You don't have to freak out about making wrong decisions because of what you know or don't know.
- (3) Instead, knowledge and wisdom are given to us to steward.



#2 - YOU'RE NOT OMNIPRESENT, SO TRUST JESUS (v10,12,15)

I. What Is Omnipresence?

1. Exposition

- (1) They were limited to time and space by their deaths.
- (2) Omniscient (all-present)
 - i. Omni - all
 - ii. praesens (present) - to be present

2. Illustration

- (1) Leading a family; Leading a church = can't be there for everyone; all the time
- (2) But this is not true of God

3. Application

- (1) God is not present in everything
 - i. Pantheism - God is identical with creation (rather than separate and distinct from)
 - ii. Panentheism - God is present in creation (rather than with creation)
- (2) God is naturally present in every aspect of the natural order of things, in every manner, time and place
- (3) God is present, observing everywhere.

Proverbs 15:3: *"The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good."*

- i. One of the reasons he knows everything is because he sees everyone, because He is everywhere.

- (4) God is present, ruling everywhere.

Pslam 103:19: *The LORD has established his throne in the heavens, and his kingdom rules over all.*

- i. God is present in heaven ruling and reigning over all our affairs

Isaiah 41:10 *"...fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand..."*

- ii. God is present with us convicting, comforting and empowering us to His glory.
- iii. Which means he didn't leave us when it's hard

Isaiah 58:11 *"And the LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail"*

II. Why Is It Important?

1. Exposition

Psalm 139:7-12

2. Application

- (1) Because regret is a bi-product of limited space.
- (2) You don't have to freak out about where to be, who to be with and wasting time and space.
- (3) Instead, time and space are given to us to steward.
- (4) The omnipresence of God should serve to remind us that we cannot hide from God when we have sinned, yet we can return to God in repentance and faith without even having to move.



#3 - YOU'RE NOT OMNIPOTENT, SO TRUST JESUS (v9b,11b,14b)

Key Text: "lorem ipsum"

I. What Is Omnipotence?

1. Exposition

- (1) Their authority was limited by their tenure. They were only given so much control. Limited.
- (2) Omnipotent (all-powerful)
 - i. Omni - all
 - ii. potens (potent) - to have power

2. Illustration

- (1) President is limited by his tenure (8 years max)

3. Application

Isaiah 66:1: "Thus says the LORD: "Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me, and what is the place of my rest?"

- (1) God has power over salvation.
 - i. Over eternal things outside our control
 - ii. 1 Cor. 15 - He has power over death...and He he has power over sin. So only by His power can we be saved from either.
 - iii. 1 Cor. 6:14 - His power raised Jesus, same power will raise us
- (2) God has power over creation.
 - i. Over everyday things outside our control
 - ii. Psalm 8 - He is holding the moon and star in its place
 - iii. Job 33:4 - While at the same time sustaining the oxygen you breathe
 - iv. Psalm 47:8 - The God that is sovereign over all rulers and nations
 - v. Prov. 16:1-4 - Is sovereign over your plans and pains

II. Why Is It Important?

1. Exposition

Psalm 139:13-22

2. Application

- (1) Because anger is a bi-product of limited power.
- (2) You don't have to freak out about what you can't control or what you don't have power over.
- (3) Instead, power and control are given to us to steward.
- (4) **Ryrie explains**, "When faced with those inexplicable circumstances in life we invariably take refuge and find solace in the omniscience of God. Not only does He know what actually happened, but He knows what might have happened. He always knows what ultimate good and glory will come from events which we cannot understand."



CONCLUSION

I. The Point of Our Limitations

Psalm 139:23-24

1. He knows all things (Col. 1:16)

(1) "visible and invisible"

(2) The most important thing you can know is the Gospel

Rev. 12:12: *"...that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ..."*

(3) Trust the omniscience of God in all other things.

2. He is before all things (Col. 1:17)

(1) As a result, wherever you're at and however much time you have left...be present with Jesus.

Matthew 28:16-20: *"Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in[b] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

(2) Trust the omnipresence of God in all other things.

3. He is over all things (Col. 1:15)

(1) The only real thing you should be worried about controlling is how much control you'll give to Jesus

1 Cor. 1:18: *"For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God."*

(2) Trust the omnipotence of God in all other things.

II. The Gospel In Our Limitations

1. What Are The Real Problems?

(1) Our limitations are not the problem...it's trying to push the boundaries of our limitations.

(2) Limitations are a grace of God for the glory of God.

2. What Are The Real Answers?

(1) They either result in a deeper, wider, fuller trust in what Jesus has done for us...or the same folly of first parent Adam/Eve who rebelled against God's sanctioned limitations for their lives.

(2) How will you handle the limitations God has sanctioned for your life?

