Knowing and Not Knowing

- Promises of understanding
  - 1 Corinthians 2:6 – 3:2
    - Christians can understand the wisdom of God through the Spirit, although some spiritual maturity is required.
    - If only the teachers were made to understand, they would have no students.
    - Understand "the things which God has prepared for those who love Him."
    - "Know the things that have been freely given to us by God."
    - "We have the mind of Christ."
  - 2 Corinthians 3:3:12 – 18
    - The veil over understanding is taken away in Christ.
    - Christians should "behold as in a mirror" their transformation
    - With unveiled understanding ("heart") through the work of the Spirit.
  - Ephesians 1:15 – 21
    - Paul prayed for the Christians in Ephesus, implying that they were not there yet.
    - In the knowledge of Him
    - The eyes of your heart be enlightened
    - That you may know the hope of His calling
  - Ephesians 3:13 – 19
    - Comprehend with all the saints what is the length and width and depth and height of Christ's love
    - Paul prayed that it be "granted" to some.
- Some knowledge is not promised
  - The date on which Jesus returns (Matthew 24:36, Mark 13:32, 1 Thessalonians 5:2 – 3, 2 Peter 3:10)
  - Anything not specifically promised
- Speculation is discouraged
  - 1 Timothy 1:3 – 7, 6:4, 6:20, 2 Timothy 2:16, 4:4, Titus 3:9
  - Romans 12:3, 16 Do not think more highly of yourself than you ought
- How do we know if our question can be answered?
  - If it requires a human to explain what God was unable to make clear…
    - The Trinity
    - How we interact with our spirits
    - What our spirits are doing now
    - What our spirits will do between our physical death and Judgment
    - What we will do in heaven
    - Simplicity, not complexity
    - Summary, not expansion
  - Evidence
    - Is my faith big enough?
    - Do I do enough?
    - The evidence is in the work of the Spirit.
  - Focus on what you know, not on what you don't know.
  - Be satisfied with what God has revealed through the Word.
  - The Spirit is the one tasked with increasing our understanding