

Proverbs 30:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

I neither learned wisdom, nor have the knowledge of the holy.

Analysis

Agur continues: 'I neither learned wisdom, nor have the knowledge of the holy.' The Hebrew 'lamad chokmah' (learned wisdom) and 'daat qodesh' (knowledge of the holy/Holy One) are beyond human attainment apart from revelation. This emphasizes God's transcendence and human dependence on His self-disclosure. Reformed theology distinguishes knowledge of God from knowledge about God—the former requires revelation and regeneration. Natural theology has limits; saving knowledge comes only through Christ and Scripture.

Historical Context

Israel's faith insisted that true knowledge of God came through covenant revelation, not human speculation. Agur's confession reflects this theology—we know God only as He makes Himself known.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How do you balance confidence in biblical revelation with humility about your understanding?

2. What is the difference between knowing about God and truly knowing Him?
3. How does this verse challenge intellectual pride in theological knowledge?

Interlinear Text

אַלְאָתָּה לֹמַדְתִּי חָכְמָה הַזֹּאת יְדָעָה קָדְשָׁה מִן־אַתָּה
H3808 I neither learned wisdom the knowledge of the holy nor have
H3925 H2451 H1847 H6918 H3045

Additional Cross-References

Proverbs 9:10 (Holy): The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.

Romans 11:33 (Parallel theme): O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!

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