

**Institutes of the Christian Religion by John Calvin**  
(Translation by Henry Beveridge)  
Men's Theology Study – March 4, 2020

Book 1 – Chapter 1: The Knowledge of God and of Ourselves Mutually Connected. Nature of the Connection

1. “Our wisdom, insofar as it ought to be deemed true and solid wisdom, consists almost entirely of two parts: the knowledge of God and of ourselves.”
  - How is the knowledge of God and of ourselves connected?
  - What should the good in our life lead us to think about God? What should the evil in our life lead us to think about God?
2. “On the other hand, it is evident that man never attains to a true self-knowledge until he have previously contemplated the face of God, and come down after such contemplation to look into himself.”
  - How do we naturally think of ourselves? Why?
  - If we do not look beyond ourselves when we judge ourselves, what will we be pleased with?
  - What happens to our physical sight when we stare at the sun? What happens to our own righteousness, wisdom, and virtue when we stare at God?
3. “...men are never duly touched and impressed with a conviction of their insignificance, until they have contrasted themselves with the majesty of God.”
  - What are some examples from Scripture where men were contrasted with God?
  - How should a right view of God impact the way we view ourselves?