

Romans 11:33-36

³³ Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

³⁴ “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?”

³⁵ “Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?”

³⁶ For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

- The revelation and understanding of God’s plan of salvation revealed in history in Romans 9-11 leads Paul to finalize this section with verses of praise to the Creator God.
- It is made clear that Paul’s understanding and explanation are only scratching the surface of God’s full plan along with the wisdom, knowledge and richness that has gone into man’s salvation by his Creator. The fullness and richness cannot be told or understood by mere man.
- Just as God’s wisdom cannot be known by man, creature or angel, neither can God’s plan be thwarted. The Creator will accomplish his purpose. In fact, he is in the midst of accomplishing his purpose right now.
- Note there is no reference to Jesus or Christ in these closing four verses. Thus, this is not a Christological text.
- This is a hymn to God with parallels in:
 - Revelation 4:11
 - Revelation 7:12
 - Revelation 15:3-4
 - Revelation 16:7
- This is carefully composed set of verses based on the use of triads:
 - The threefold structure (11:33 and 11:34-35 and 11:36) each depend on the word βάθος or “depth”:
 - Three rhetorical questions set in parallel:
 - “Who has known the mind of the Lord?”
 - “Who has been his counselor?”
 - “Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?”
 - The three rhetorical questions are answered by three words:
 - Depth of “knowledge”
 - Depth of “wisdom”
 - Depth of “riches”
 - Followed by three prepositions in 11:36:
 - “From him”
 - “Through him”
 - “To him”

◀ Romans 11:33 ▶

Romans 11 Interlinear

	5599 [e]	899 [e]	4149 [e]	2532 [e]	4678 [e]	2532 [e]	1108 [e]	2316 [e]	5613 [e]	419 [e]
	Ὡ	bathos	ploutou	kai	sophias	kai	gnōseōs	Theou	hōs	anexeraunēta
33	Ὡ ,	βάθος	πλούτου ,	καὶ	σοφίας ,	καὶ	γνώσεως	Θεοῦ !	ὡς	ἀνεξεραύνητα
	O	[the] depth	of riches	both	of wisdom	and	knowledge	of God	How	unsearchable
	I	N-NNS	N-GMS	Conj	N-GFS	Conj	N-GFS	N-GMS	Adv	Adj-NNP

	3588 [e]	2917 [e]	846 [e]	2532 [e]	421 [e]	3588 [e]	3598 [e]	846 [e]
	ta	krimata	autou	kai	anexichniastoi	hai	hodoi	autou
	τὰ	κρίματα	αὐτοῦ ,	καὶ	ἀνεξιχνίαστοι	αἱ	ὁδοὶ	αὐτοῦ !
	the	judgments	of him	and	untraceable	the	ways	of him
	Art-NNP	N-NNP	PPro-GM3S	Conj	Adj-NFP	Art-NFP	N-NFP	PPro-GM3S

◀ Romans 11:34 ▶

Romans 11 Interlinear

	5101 [e]	1063 [e]	1097 [e]	3563 [e]	2962 [e]	2228 [e]	5101 [e]	4825 [e]	846 [e]	1096 [e]
	Tis	gar	egnō	noun	Kyriou	ē	tis	symboulos	autou	egeneto
34	Τίς	γὰρ	ἔγνω	νοῦν	Κυρίου ,	ἢ	τίς	σύμβουλος	αὐτοῦ	ἐγένετο ?
	who	indeed	has known	[the] mind	of [the] Lord	or	who	counselor	of him	has been
	IPro-NMS	Conj	V-AIA-3S	N-AMS	N-GMS	Conj	IPro-NMS	N-NMS	PPro-GM3S	V-AIM-3S

◀ Romans 11:35 ▶

Romans 11 Interlinear

	2228 [e]	5101 [e]	4272 [e]	846 [e]	2532 [e]	467 [e]	846 [e]
	ē	tis	proedōken	autō	kai	antapodothēsetai	autō
35	ἢ	τίς	προέδωκεν	αὐτῷ ,	καὶ	ἀνταποδοθήσεται	αὐτῷ ?
	Or	who	has first given	to him	and	it will be recompensed	to him
	Conj	IPro-NMS	V-AIA-3S	PPro-DM3S	Conj	V-FIP-3S	PPro-DM3S

◀ Romans 11:36 ▶

Romans 11 Interlinear

	3754 [e]	1537 [e]	846 [e]	2532 [e]	1223 [e]	846 [e]	2532 [e]	1519 [e]	846 [e]	3588 [e]	3956 [e]	846 [e]
	hoti	ex	autou	kai	di'	autou	kai	eis	auton	ta	panta	autō
36	ὅτι	ἐξ	αὐτοῦ ,	καὶ	δι'	αὐτοῦ ,	καὶ	εἰς	αὐτὸν ,	τὰ	πάντα .	αὐτῷ
	For	from	him	and	through	him	and	unto	him	[are] the	all things	to him [be]
	Conj	Prep	PPro-GM3S	Conj	Prep	PPro-GM3S	Conj	Prep	PPro-AM3S	Art-NNP	Adj-NNP	PPro-DM3S

	3588 [e]	1391 [e]	1519 [e]	3588 [e]	165 [e]	281 [e]
	hē	doxa	eis	tous	aiōnas	amēn
	ἡ	δόξα	εἰς	τοὺς	αἰῶνας !	ἀμήν .
	the	glory	to	the	ages	Amen
	Art-NFS	N-NFS	Prep	Art-AMP	N-AMP	Heb