Series: The Riches of His Glory; Sermon: To Him Be Glory Forever Delivered by: Dr. Josh Moody, senior pastor; Date: October 9, 2016

Bible text explored: Romans 11:34-36

or who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?"^[a]

35"Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?"^[b]

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

[a]Isa. 40:13; [b]Job 41:11

[ESV]

Review and application:

Our spirituality can be "God-lacking." Today's doxology (expression of praise to God) suggests that three elements fuel an altar of worship for God to set ablaze.

- 1. Mind (v. 34): One definition of an atheist is someone who thinks he can contain God within his own mind. Have you been tempted to say, "If I were you, God, I would . . ."?
 - What Christian book have I read recently that helps me to explore God?
- 2. <u>Money</u>: How would you answer (*v. 35*) what Pastor Moody called apostolic sarcasm: Have you done so much for, or given so much to, God, that you feel you deserve something back from him? Does how we allocate our resources square with Luke 12:29-34?
- 3. Matter (v.36): This verse expresses the world view that shaped Paul's thinking. While acknowledging God's transcendence (above and beyond all), do we also acknowledge his immanence (all-pervading presence)? —See also, Isa. 40:12-17 and 57:15. At the same time, when we feel broken, do we see Christ as still bearing the weight of our pain?
 - Reflect on Charles Spurgeon's take-away from this doxology: As a Christian, you are "of God and through God." Then live "to God."