

## GOD HAS NO NEEDS

I recently read a piece by a well-known Arminian in which he referred to God's "needs" five times in one short paragraph. That is five times more than the entire Bible has to say about God's needs. We read in Acts 17:25 that God is not worshipped with men's hands, "as though He needed anything." The clear implication here is that God has no needs. Why would the God "that made the world and all things therein" need anything? He says in Psalm 50:12 that if He were hungry He would not tell us, for the world is His, and the fulness thereof. There is no hint in the Bible that God has ever hungered, or that He *could* hunger, but even if that were possible, He could still make bread out of stones.

Christ was capable of hunger, but that was because he was both God and man. He did not hunger as God, but as man. Similarly, He could become weary as man, but not as God. He could shed tears, as man, He could and did pray to His Father, as man, but not as God. There is only one occasion in the New Testament when Christ is said to have need of something, and that was an ass and a colt upon which He rode into Jerusalem (Matt. 21:3). But that need was not a *want*, or a lack of something that He could not have. It was not a *wish*, or a *craving*, or something that was beyond His reach, but it was something that was supplied by His own divine arrangement and according to His own purpose (See Zach. 9:9).

The writer that I mentioned in the outset, was exhorting *us* to be mindful of *God's* needs, but he was placing needs upon the wrong party. It is *us* who are poor and needy—not the God who rules the universe, not the God who owns "every beast of the forest," and "the cattle upon a thousand hills," and all the gold of Ophir. Some people have an exalted view of themselves and a very diminutive view of God. They do not recognize Him for the all-powerful, all-sufficient and self-sufficient being that He truly is, and they do not

view themselves as the poor, wretched and needy creatures that they are. Again, it is not God who is needy—it is *we*.

—Elder Ralph Harris