

THE FATHER:

When you close your eyes and think of God what do you see? The classic old man with a big white beard? A ball of light? Loving Father? Maybe you see nothing.

The men and women in the scripture saw God as “a someone”. He was someone who was worshiped, praised, feared, and sacrificed too. To the Jews, God is a someone, that was so powerful, so magnificent, so awe-inspiring. The Jews would not even say the name, Yahweh, it was too personal.

We have come a long way from this.

WHEN IS THE LAST TIME YOU WERE STRUCK WITH THE FEAR OF THE LORD?

When Moses saw the burning bush and God spoke to him, Moses was so struck with fear that he hid his face and removed his shoes. It was during this exchange that God revealed himself to Moses, as “I AM THAT I AM” (Exodus 3:14).

When was the last time you felt such awe and reverence that you removed your shoes, hid your face, and were struck with fear? The fear of God is reverent, but I am wondering about honest to goodness, scared to your core, fear.

If God is Yahweh - "the self-existent, eternal God, one who never came into being, and one who always will be" (Isaiah 40:3), all-powerful, creator of the universe, giver and taker of life. You would think that there would be more fear?

This is the God we serve. This is the God we worship, the “ONE TRUE GOD”. Deuteronomy 4 says “There is one God” and this God is worthy to receive all glory, honor, and power (Revelation 4:11, Psalm 115:1).

If fear doesn't drive you to worship, the same God who could create the universe and destroy it in a day. Wants to be in a relationship with YOU! Before the creation of the world, God created you, (Ephesians 1:4) in secret, (Psalm 139:15) out of LOVE. He knows every hair on your head (Luke 12:7) and He has a plan for YOU (Jeremiah 29:11).

Having a worship problem? It's likely a perception problem. When we begin to perceive God for “Who He is”, worship becomes easy and natural.

As we study God, our mind reveals to our hearts who God is, our perception should change. When we perceive him correctly our only response should be to worship Him. Worship flows from our hearts as we realize who God is. As the weight of “who God is” rests in your heart, mind, soul; your worship should become more passionate and more uncontainable. (Matthew 22:37)

What is your perception of God? How do you worship as a result?

We all worship something because we were created to worship (Isaiah 43:7). Intentionally or unintentionally, we don't always worship the "One True God". John Calvin says, "the human heart is an idol factory" – and as a result, it is easy for us to fall into false worship.

Worship comes down to submission and service. Who or what do you submit to. Who, what, or where do you serve. Look where your time goes, where your money goes, where your heart is.

What are you most scared to lose? What do you desire to obtain?

Idol worship is putting our faith, trust, hope, time, money, happiness in anything other than God himself.

Our perception of God changes when we get to know Him.

One way to get to know God is through his names. The names of God should be looked at as "WHO HE IS" not simply His name. If His name is "Yahweh-Rapha" we should believe that He is a God who will heal us. "Yahweh-Jireh" we are to believe that He will always provide for us.

AS WE READ THESE THERE SHOULD BE REVERENCE AND AWE FOR THE GOD WE SERVE.

1. Yahweh – Bore: The LORD Creator: Genesis 1:1
2. Yahweh – Nissi: The LORD My Banner: Exodus 17:15
"He goes before us and behind us to give us the victory in all circumstances of life."
3. Yahweh -Raah: The LORD My Shepherd: Psalm 23
4. Yahweh-Rapha: The LORD That Heals: Exodus 15:26
5. Yahweh-Shalom: The LORD Is Peace: Genesis 49:10
6. Yahweh – Sabaoth: The LORD of Hosts: 1 Samuel 17:45
"The name Yahweh Sabaoth declares God's reign over heaven and earth and all armies, earthly and spiritual."
7. Yahweh - Jireh – The Lord Our Provider: Genesis 22
8. Yahweh – Shammah – The Lord Ever Present: Ezekiel 48:35

HERE ARE A FEW MORE TITLES OF GOD:

Abba – Father: meaning “Daddy” something more intimate: Galatians 4:6

Alpha and Omega - Beginning and End: Revelation 1:8

Attiyq Youm - The ancient of days: “God is all-knowing – eternal”: Isaiah 46:9-10

El Shaddai - God Almighty: Genesis 17:1-2

Elohim - The Creator: Genesis 1:1-3

God is a Warrior: Exodus 15:3

God is a Shield/Refuge: Psalm 28:7, 91

God is not a man: Numbers 23:19

God is a spirit: John 4:24

God is a consuming fire: Deuteronomy 4:24

God of gods: Deuteronomy 10:17

God is Love: 1 John 4:8

GOD IS A PERSON:

We were created in the image of God and as such God is a person. Not a person as you and I are flawed, but a person in the sense that God has emotions, displays justice, has a mind, shows love, and communicates these are considered to be attributes of God’s personhood. Some are known as incommunicable (not sharable by humanity) and some communicable (shared by humanity).

INCOMMUNICABLE: (Not shared by man)

Omnipotence: All-Powerful (Psalm 147:5)

Omniscience: All-Knowing (Psalm 139:2)

Omnipresent: All Present-God is everywhere (Jer. 23:23-24; 2 Chron. 2:6; Ps. 139:7-16; Acts 17:27-28).

Immutable: He never changes (Malachi 3:6)

Immanence: God is near to us and actively participating in His world. (Jeremiah 23:23-24, Acts 17:27-28, Haggai 2:5)

Infinite: He is self-existing, eternal, without origin (Colossians 1:17, psalm 90:2, 102:12, Heb. 13:8)

Incomprehensible: Beyond our understanding (Job 36:26; Isa. 40:18-26; matt. 11:27; Rom. 11:33-34).

Pre-eminent: All things were created by him and for him (Col. 1:15-19; Exod. 15:1,11, 18; rev. 19:11-16).

Sovereign: I will do all that I please (Isa. 46:10; cf. ps. 135:6; Dan. 4:35; Eph. 1:11).

Self-sufficient: God has no needs (John 5:26, Ephesians 3:20)

God Is Glorious: He is infinitely beautiful and great (Habakkuk 3:4)

Holy: Separate from Sin (Leviticus 11:44-45, 1 Sam 2:2, Isaiah 6, 1 Peter 1:16)

COMMUNICABLE: (Shared with a man)

God Is Wise: (Romans 11:33)

God is Faithful: (Deut 7:9, 2 Timothy 2:13)

God is Good: (Psalm 34:8)

God Is Just: Unchangeably Right and Perfect in All He Does (Duet 32:4)

God Is Merciful: Unchangeably Compassionate and Kind (Romans 9:15-16)

God Is Gracious: God Is Infinitely Inclined to Spare the Guilty (Psalm 145:8) Knowable, Kind, Just, Righteous: (Jeremiah 9:24)

Trustworthy: (Psalm 145:14)

Loving: (John 3:16, 1 John 4:8)

Jealous: (Deuteronomy 4:24)

He can be grieved: (Ephesians 4:30)

He can be angered: (Psalm 7:11)

He laughs: (Psalms 2:4)

He sings over us: (Zephaniah 3:17)

God is Love: (1 John 4:8)

Learn and claim these names, get to know your Creator. These names will strengthen our faith, teach us how to pray, and give us passion behind our worship.

He is worthy to receive ALL glory, honor, and power.

"Worship is the continuous outpouring of all that I am, all that I do and all that I can ever become in light of a choosing God. Worship does not stop and start, despite our notions to the contrary. Once we place emphasis on specific times, places, and methods, we misunderstand worship's biblical meaning."

- Harold M. Best