

The True Nature of God Session 3 – His Nature Revealed in Jesus

I. Review

A. Session 1 – Knowing God vs Knowing About God

B. God's Nature of Goodness

1. What is Good?
 - a. Pleasant
 - b. Excellent of its Kind
 - c. Rich and valuable in estimation
 - d. Rich and valuable in estimation
 - e. Glad, happy, prosperous
 - f. Good and right in an ethical sense
 - g. A good thing or things being of benefit
 - h. Prosperity and happiness
2. The "Why" Dilemma
IF God is Good then why?
 - a. There is a fallen world.
 - b. There is a god of this world.

II. The Nature of God Revealed in Jesus

A. Hebrews 1:1-2 (NKJV) – ¹God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ²has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds.

Hebrews 1:2 (AMP) – has in these last days spoken [with finality] to us in [the person of One who is by His character and nature] His Son [namely Jesus], whom He appointed heir and lawful owner of all things, through whom also He created the universe.

Spoke/spoken = to use words to declare one's mind and disclose one's thoughts.

1. In the Old Testament, God used the prophet's words to declare his mind and thoughts.
2. In the New Testament age, God uses Jesus to declare his mind and thoughts.
3. I can know the nature of God (His mind/thoughts/actions/) through Jesus.
4. The revelation of God through Jesus is a more precise revelation than the Old Testament saints experienced.

B. John 1:18 (NKJV) – *No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.*

John 1:18 (GWT) – *No one has ever seen God. God's only Son, the one who is closest to the Father's heart, has made him known.*

Declared = to unfold – to draw out in a narrative
Jesus, through his actions and words, demonstrates to us a living image of what the Father is like.

C. John 14:6-11 (NLT) – ⁶*Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had really known me, you would know who my Father is. From now on, you do know him and have seen him!" ⁸Philip said, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹Jesus replied, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and yet you still don't know who I am? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father! So why are you asking me to show him to you? ¹⁰Don't you believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words I speak are not my own, but my Father who lives in me does his work through me. ¹¹Just believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me. Or at least believe because of the work you have seen me do.*

1. The Words that I speak are not my own but of my Father
As Jesus speaks, so the Father speaks.

2. Believe because of the work you have seen me do.
The works that Jesus did were exactly as the Father would do.
3. Anyone who has seen me has seen my father.
If you really want to know what God is like, consider Jesus.

D. What Kind of Works did Jesus do?

1. **Acts 10:38 (NKJV)** – *how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.*
 - a. Good – to do good/to bestow benefits
Origin – a worker of good.
 - b. Healing – to cure, heal or to make whole
to free from errors and sins in order to bring about one's salvation

Note: Salvation includes physical healing and wholeness in every realm.

- c. Oppressed – those under the harsh control of the devil.
- d. Jesus, demonstrating the nature of the Father, went everywhere doing good, bestowing benefits, healing and setting everyone free that was under the harsh control and treatment of the devil.
This is the nature of God.

2. What were His Works?

Luke 4:18-19 (NKJV) – ¹⁸*“The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; ¹⁹To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.*

- a. In Acts 10:16 – *It is declared that this was the message that was preached everywhere Jesus and the disciples went.*
- b. It was necessary for Jesus and his disciples to establish the true nature of God in the heart of the people so the supernatural could occur.
- c. In the time of Jesus' earthly ministry, many people had experienced a religious mindset regarding the nature of God.
- d. Because of the harsh laws that the religious leaders had enforced, many did not know the goodness of God.
- e. The greatest attraction of Jesus was that He presented God in a different way than previously presented through religion.
- f. His words were different – *They were astonished at his words because He spoke as one having authority. Luke 4:32.*
- g. He didn't just give them words, He provided evidence through his supernatural work of miracles and healing.
 - He forgave all who would receive forgiveness.
 - He healed all who would receive healing.
 - He delivered from demonic powers.
 - He always exercised grace when needed.
 - He never refused anyone who came to receive.
 - He never denied anyone because it was the Father's will for them to remain in their condition.
 - He never found anyone who had gone so far in sin that He could not help them.
 - He never refused anyone because God had sent their issues as a means of teaching them.
- h. The Nature of God may equally be revealed in the things that Jesus did not do as much as they are revealed in the things He did. *Take note of what He didn't do as you reflect on what He did.*