

GOD What is God like?
October 15, 2023

What are the attributes of God? What are His characteristics & qualities? How do you describe the Indescribable?

His attributes are what He's like. Not what He has, but who He is.

Proverbs 9:10 AMP The reverent fear of the Lord, that is, worshiping Him & regarding Him as truly awesome is the beginning & the preeminent part of wisdom [its starting point & its essence], And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding & spiritual insight.

We have to know God. We must. We must see God. We must hear God. We must feel God. Nothing less will do. Nothing else will satisfy our souls.

Romans 1:20b ...Through everything God made, they can clearly see His invisible *qualities* - His eternal power & divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God. 21 Yes, they knew God, but they wouldn't worship Him as God or even give Him thanks. And *they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like*. As a result, their minds became dark & confused. 22 Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools.

We're getting to know the Holy One. I'm praying we stir up a hunger to personally understand & experience the Almighty!

Exodus 34:5 NIV Then the Lord came down in the cloud & stood there w/ him (*Moses*) & proclaimed His name, the Lord. 6 And He passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate & gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love & faithfulness,"

**Compassionate - Gracious - Patient - Loving – Faithful Immense
Infinite Glorious Light Life Holy Good Righteous Merciful
Omnipresent Eternal Sovereign Omnipotent Wise Forgiving
Generous Omniscient Truthful Trustworthy He is Almighty God!**

Gracious – the part of God's character when He gives any of His divine attributes; undeserving, generous *favor*; it's God freely imparting His virtue; generosity in all of His qualities; His blessing not based on merit.

Grace is God's good pleasure towards us, & it's what He's like.

Psalm 103:8 AMP The Lord is merciful & *gracious*, slow to anger & abounding in compassion & lovingkindness... **10** He has not dealt w/ according to our sins, as we deserve, nor rewarded us w/ punishment according to our wickedness. **11** For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear & worship Him w/ awe-filled respect & deepest reverence.

Grace is not something that God has, but grace is who God is.

Psalm 145:8 AMP The Lord is *gracious* & full of compassion, slow to anger & abounding in lovingkindness. **9** The Lord is good to all, & His tender mercies are over all His works, the entirety of things created.

*Grace is God's kindness, the goodness of God's heart, benevolence.
You'll always find God gracious & full of good will.
At all times. Toward all people, everywhere. Forever.*

John 1:14 AMP The Word (Christ) became flesh, & lived among us; & we actually saw His glory, glory as belongs to the One & only begotten Son of the Father, the Son who's truly unique, the only One of His kind, who is full of *grace* & truth... **16** For out of His fullness, the super abundance of His *grace* & truth, we have **all** received *grace upon grace*, spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing, *favor upon favor*, & gift heaped upon gift. **17** For the Law was given through Moses, but *grace*, the unearned, undeserved favor of God & truth came through Jesus Christ.

*Grace is getting what you don't deserve.
Mercy is not getting what you deserve.*

Romans 3:24 God, in *His grace*, freely makes us right in His sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when He freed us from the penalty for our sins.

Jesus was content to come & die for us, we were not a burden. You're not a problem to God. He's happy to bring you into favor.

Romans 5:15 There's a great difference between Adam's sin & *God's gracious gift*. For the sin of this one man, Adam, brought death to many. But even greater is *God's wonderful grace* & His gift of forgiveness to many through this other man, Jesus Christ.

Jesus is the channel through which God's grace flows!

2 Corinthians 12:9a AMP He has said to me, *My grace* is sufficient for you [My lovingkindness & My mercy are more than enough - always available - regardless of the situation]; *(it's all you need)*

God's grace is still here today. God is still God; yesterday, today, & forever! The grace of God is still being manifested in us today.

2 Corinthians 8:9 You know the *generous grace* of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that by His poverty He could make you rich.

Grace is incomprehensibly immense; an overwhelming abundance of kindness, benevolence, & goodness. There's no meanness in God. No resentment. No ill will.

Ephesians 1:6 We praise God for the *glorious grace* He has poured out on us who belong to His dear Son. ⁷ He's so rich in kindness & *grace* that He purchased our freedom w/ the blood of His Son & forgave our sins.

We didn't earn salvation or the right to be filled w/ the Holy Spirit or being the beautiful Christian people that we are. God gave all of that as a free gift - Grace.

Ephesians 2:6 He raised us from the dead along w/ Christ & seated us w/ Him in the heavenly realms because we're united w/ Christ Jesus. ⁷ So God can point to us in all future ages as examples of the incredible wealth of *His grace* & kindness toward us, as shown in all He has done for us who are united w/ Christ Jesus. ⁸ God saved you by *His grace* when you believed. And you can't take credit for this; it is a gift from God.

No one was or ever will be saved, except by His grace. We've earned zero of what God has given to us. It's by God's grace alone that we're saved when we make Jesus our Lord.

Titus 2:11 The *(remarkable, marvelous) grace* of God has been revealed, bringing salvation to all people.

God's grace is still being poured out to all people.

Whoever will receive God's grace, will receive His salvation & power!

Hebrews 4:16 AMP Therefore let us, w/ privilege, approach the *throne of grace*, that is, the *throne of God's gracious favor* w/ confidence & w/out fear, so that we may receive mercy for our failures & find *His amazing grace* to help in time of need [an appropriate blessing, coming just at the right moment].

God is infinitely inclined to spare the guilty because He is gracious.

James 4:6 AMP He gives us *more & more grace* through the power of the Holy Spirit to defy sin & live an obedient life that reflects both our faith & our gratitude for our salvation. Therefore, it says, "God is opposed to the proud & haughty, but *continually gives* the *gift of grace* to the humble who turn away from self-righteousness."

God continually shows us favor, even when we betray Him or turn our backs on Him.

Throughout the Bible, we see the magnificent God of the universe finding ways to reconcile w/ a hard-hearted & rebellious humanity.

The Word is about how God is relentlessly pursuing a relationship w/ us.

And that's what it means when we say God is gracious.