GOD What is God like? September 10, 2023

What are the attributes of God? What are His characteristics & qualities? Can you describe His nature? How do you describe the Indescribable? Do you know God? Do you know Him in His fullness?

Understanding who God is & what He is like is of utmost importance. There's no more valuable topic or significant study than knowing God.

If we have an incorrect view of God or a misunderstanding of who He is or what He's like, we will struggle w/ our hope, belief, & our faith in Him.

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God... *He started it all - He made it all. He produced all life - He is the beginning & source of all time & space.*

God is Creator & Originator, & Overseer of all things. God is beyond all that we can imagine, how glorious is that?!

Colossians 1:15 Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created & is supreme over all creation, 16 for through Him God created everything in the heavenly realms & on earth. He made the things we can see & the things we can't see - such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, & authorities in the unseen world. Everything was created through Him & for Him. 17 He existed before anything else, & He holds all creation together. 18 Christ is also the head of the church, which is His body. He's the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead. So He's first in everything. 19 For God in all His fullness was pleased to live in Christ,

When we see God as our Sovereign King & still our Father, who has adopted us & claimed us as His own, it changes everything.

We're in awe of God! We're humbled by God! We respect & revere God! We recognize the majesty & glory & holiness of the Almighty!

Psalm 9:10a Those who know Your <u>name</u> trust in You... (name = character or reputation or who You are or what kind of a God You are)

When we don't know God for as great as He is, it's a tragedy.

When we know God properly, we move forward & experience Life. When we know God inadequately, we go backwards, small, less than.

Jeremiah 9:24 But those who wish to boast should boast in this alone: that they truly know Me & understand that I am the Lord who demonstrates unfailing love...

We must know, understand, & believe correctly about God. Let's do a deep dive into the Father's heart this Fall. I believe it's going to help us step back & reassess our priorities.

Romans 1:20 For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth & sky. 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.

As we intend to "know" V Him, we must purposely know about Him.

Our knowledge of God effects our relationship w/ Him?

Philippians 3:10 AMP ...that I may know Him experientially, becoming more thoroughly acquainted w/ Him, understanding the remarkable wonders of His Person more completely & in that same way experience the power of His resurrection which overflows & is active in believers, & that I may share the fellowship of His sufferings, by being continually conformed inwardly into His likeness, even to His death, dying as He did

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.

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 know God better by prayer, reading the Word, & being planted in church; & we establish a personal relationship w/ the holiness of God.

Colossians 1:10 Then the way you live will always honor & please the Lord, & your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the while, you will grow as you learn to know God better & better.

I am praying for you, as Paul prayed for the Church in Ephesus:

Ephesians 1:17 (*I'm*) asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom & insight so that you might grow in your knowledge of God.

Together, let's know what God is like (His attributes)

Exodus 34:4 NIV Moses chiseled out two stone tablets like the first ones & went up Mount Sinai early in the morning as the Lord had commanded him; & he carried the two stone tablets in his hands 5 Then the Lord came down in the cloud & stood there w/ him & 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 - caring; concerned; sensitive; considerate; nurturing Gracious - kind; giving not based on merit; merciful; forgiving Patient - uncomplaining; composed; tolerates delays; calm Loving - devoted; showing great care; close; adoring; warm hearted Faithful - trustworthy; dependable; reliable; loyal; constant; steadfast

Glorious Light Life Infinite Self-existent Flawless Immense Righteous Merciful Omnipresent Holy Eternal Sovereign Just Perfect Omnipotent Wise Forgiving Generous Gentle Kind Peaceful Omniscient Dependable Truthful Good Trustworthy Spirit & Truth Creative Reliable Almighty God!

Let's discover Jesus. Let's get to know the Holy One. I'm praying that we stir up a hunger to personally know, understand, & experience Almighty God. Let's be driven by the desire to know God in His fullness, enrich our relationship w/ Jesus & sense the closeness of the Holy Spirit.