

GOD What is God like? *What are the attributes, characteristics & qualities of God?*

November 19, 2023

Let's better understand, what we will never fully understand.

We want to know God theologically & experientially.

Psalm 34:1 NKJV I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise shall continually *be* in my mouth. 2 My soul shall make its *boast* in the Lord; The humble shall hear of it & be glad. 3 Oh, *magnify* the Lord w/ me, And let us *exalt* His name together!

A basic problem w/ the Church is our low view of God.

Our faith is weak because our God is weak.

Our faith is small because our God is small.

Exodus 15:11 Who is like you among the gods, O Lord - *glorious* in holiness, *awesome* in splendor, performing *great wonders*?

Colossians 1:15 Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. He existed before anything was created & is *supreme over all* creation... **17** He existed before anything else, & He holds all creation together.

Our faith is based on our confidence in who God is.

Faith will come more easily when we know what kind of God, God is.

Throughout the Bible, we see the magnificent God of the universe...

Indescribable performed by Chris Tomlin

From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea; Creations revealing Your majesty; From the colors of fall to the fragrance of spring; Every creature unique in the song that it sings; All exclaiming

Indescribable, uncontainable; You placed the stars in the sky; And You know them by name; You are amazing, God

All powerful, untamable; Awestruck, we fall to our knees; As we humbly proclaim; You are amazing, God

Loving; Gracious; Holy; Sovereign; Forgiving; Omniscient/Wise...

Faithful -Merciful; Compassionate; Patient; Light/Life; Generous; Omnipotent/Immense/Self-existent/Creative; Omnipresent/Immanent; Infinite/Eternal; Just; Gentle; Kind; Peaceful; Truthful - Good

1 Chronicles 16:34 Give thanks to the Lord, for **He is good!** His faithful love endures forever.

Psalm 119:68a You are **good** and do only **good**...

Good - kindhearted; gracious; good-natured; benevolent in intention; generous towards us; never any bad or harmful thoughts toward us (not evil or wicked); upright, full of integrity, morally right, virtuous, true, honest, superior quality... **All of these qualities, He is infinitely.**

*Goodness is an attribute that we are able to possess. But, let's not put God on our human level. Let's be sure **not** to view God's goodness, w/ **our** ability to be good or do good. It's not the same.*

Mark 10:18 (rich young ruler, "Good Teacher...") **Why do you call Me good?** Jesus asked. **Only God is truly good.**

Let's never pump up or magnify ourselves to where we think we deserve His goodness. Let's magnify & exalt God. Let's strive to see Him as big as He is; as good as He is; so good that He loves us even in our sin.

Psalm 25:8 The Lord is **good** & does what's right; He shows the proper path to those who go astray.

Think of all the effort God has gone through, continues to go through, to take us out of our sinfulness & prepare us to be w/ Him now & forever!

Psalm 34:8 AMP O taste & see that the Lord our God is **good**; How blessed, fortunate, prosperous, & favored by God is the man who takes refuge in Him.

God's heart is for us. He is gracious; He loves us unconditionally.

Psalm 23:6 Surely **Your goodness** & unfailing love will pursue me all the days of my life, & I will live in the house of the Lord forever.

His goodness is looking for YOU. You don't have to chase it down. God designed "goodness" to follow you ALL the days of your life!

Psalm 27:12 Do not let me fall into their hands (*his enemies*). For they accuse me of things I've never done; w/ every breath they threaten me w/ violence. ¹³ Yet I'm confident I will see the Lord's **goodness** while I'm here in the land of the living.

Nahum 1:7 The Lord is **good**, a strong refuge when trouble comes. He is close to those who trust in Him.

*Encountering God's goodness is a living reality!
All God is, and everything God does is infinitely good.*

Psalm 145:5 I will meditate on Your majestic, glorious splendor & Your wonderful miracles. ⁶ Your awe-inspiring deeds will be on every tongue; I will proclaim Your greatness. ⁷ Everyone will share the story of Your wonderful **goodness**; they'll sing w/ joy about Your righteousness. ⁸ The Lord is merciful & compassionate, slow to get angry & filled w/ unfailing love. ⁹ The Lord is **good** to everyone. He showers compassion on all His creation.

*Let's raise our expectations & live free from negative emotions caused by a misconception of God's truly **good** & loving nature.*

2 Chronicles 5:12 The Levites who were musicians - Asaph, Heman, Jeduthun, & all their sons & brothers - were dressed in fine linen robes & stood at the east side of the altar playing cymbals, lyres, & harps. They were joined by 120 priests who were playing trumpets. ¹³ The trumpeters & singers performed together in unison to praise & give thanks to the Lord. Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals, & other instruments, they raised their voices & praised the Lord w/ these words: "He is **good!** His faithful love endures forever!" At that moment a thick cloud filled the Temple of the Lord. ¹⁴ The priests could not continue their service because of the cloud, for the glorious presence of the Lord filled the Temple of God.

God is kind, generous & answers prayer; & it's because He's good.

Matthew 7:11 AMP If you then, evil, sinful by nature as you are, know how to give good & advantageous gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven, perfect as He is, give what is **good** & advantageous to those who keep on asking Him.

No one's ever received anything from God on the grounds that they deserved it or earned it.

Everything God does is from His goodness. So when we experience anything truly good and kind and generous, it's because God is good.

James 1:17a Whatever is **good** & perfect is a gift coming down to us from God our Father, who created all the lights in the heavens...

*We've all been saved by grace - out of the goodness of God.
And now...we're His because of His goodness.*

1 Peter 2:9 ...you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the **goodness** of God, for He called you out of the darkness into His wonderful light.

Romans 2:4 Don't you see how wonderfully **kind, tolerant, & patient** God is w/ you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you see that His **kindness** is intended to turn you from your sin?

God is going to be as pleased to have you w/ Him in heaven as you are to be there! Praise God for His goodness.