

## LIVING THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

Seeing God In The Midst Of Life

Acts 3 - 4:31

Week 4 March 6, 2022

The perceptions of God vary on a wide scale.

### **THE AUTHORITARIAN GOD**

31.4% of people God is angry at humanity's

### **THE BENEVOLENT GOD**

23% of people believe there are rules and standards to live life by but see God as forgiving, kind and like a father who embraces his repentant prodigal son.

### **THE CRITICAL GOD**

16% believe God has His judgmental eye on the world but He is not going to intervene, either to punish or to comfort.

### **THE DISTANT GOD**

24.4% see God as a cosmic force that launched the world that left it spinning on its own.

### **GOD DOESN'T ALWAYS GIVE YOU WHAT YOU ASK FOR HE USUALLY WANTS TO GIVE YOU MORE**

*Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, "Look at us!" So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them. 6 Then Peter said, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." 7 Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man's feet and ankles became strong. 8 He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Acts 3:5-8a NIV*

*You want something but don't get it...You do not have, because you do not ask God.*

James 4:2 NIV

*From there you will search again for the Lord your God. And if you search for him with all your heart and soul, you will find him. Deuteronomy 4:29 NLT*

## **WE OFTEN CURSE THE VERY GOD WHO DESIRES TO BLESS US**

*The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has given this complete healing to him, as you can all see. Acts 3:13-16 NIV*

*When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways. Acts 3:26 NIV*

## **NO ONE ELSE IN THE WORLD HAS THIS POWER**

*Then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. He is 'the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone.' **Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.** Acts 4:10-12 NIV*

## **THE PEACEFUL STRENGTH OF THE SPIRIT**

*Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John, and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were marveling, and began to recognize them as having been with Jesus. Acts 4:13 NAS*

## **BOLD WITNESS FOR JESUS**

*But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you be the judge; for we cannot stop speaking what we have seen and heard."*

Acts 4:19-20 NAS

The second time the Holy Spirit's presence is felt.

*After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. Acts 4:31 NIV*