

God the Father (part 1)

Jesus says that knowing God is the equivalent to eternal life. (John 17:3) Many people refer to "god" in a general way, or have misconceptions about His character. We must build our understanding of God from the way He has revealed Himself in the bible. Any idea about God contrary to the bible is just an idol. God eternally exists in three persons- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit each equally deserving worship and obedience.

Read Ps: 89:7-8. How is God described? _____

A person can only know the true living God through Jesus Christ. (Hebrews 1:3, 1 Tim. 2:5) As the eternal creator He is the father of all mankind. But He is only spiritual father to followers of Jesus Christ.

Attributes of God

Holiness: God's holiness means that He is separated from sin, and devoted to seeking His own honor. (Isaiah 6:3, Psalm 99:9)

Righteousness and justice: God's righteousness means that God always acts in accordance with what is right and He is the final standard of what is right. (Deut. 32:4, Ex. 34:6-7)

*** God's righteousness makes it necessary for Him to treat people as they deserve, meaning He must punish sin.

Read Ps 89:14. What does it mean that these are the foundation of God's throne? _____

Sovereignty: God's sovereignty means that He has supreme power, and is free to do all that He wishes. (Isaiah 46:9-10) (Ps.115:3)

***God's sovereignty is encouraging for the Christian, because we can trust that nothing happens outside of God's control, plan, or purpose or outside His righteous and judicious character.

Eternality: God's eternity means that there has never been a time when God did not exist. God has no beginning, and will have no end. (Ps. 90:2) (Isaiah 44:6)

***Since God is eternal, He is not bound by time. He sees the past and the future as clearly as He sees the present. How should this impact how we trust God with all areas of our lives? _____

Immutability: "*Unchangeableness*" God's immutability means that He never changes in His nature or purpose. (Ps.102:25-27)

***Since God never changes, we can trust that He will be faithful to keep His promises, even when our circumstances change.

Read Malachi 3:6. How does God describe Himself? _____

Personal application --- God's attributes become very practical to our worship, adoration, and trust of Him. Take a few minutes to reflect on how these specific attributes encourage you, or motivate the praise of His name.