

# GOD

Who is God? What is He like? What does He do? And how do we relate to Him?

## WHO HE IS

He is, first of all, “The Eternal One”. His very name means “To Be” or as He revealed Himself to Moses at Mount Sinai, “I AM”. God simply is. He has always existed, and He always will. He is outside of time and is the maker of all that is.

He is the Creator. The Bible says that in the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The seas, the dry land, the sky and the heavenly bodies were all formed at his command. The same is true for the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, the beasts of the earth and man himself. We were all formed by God and for God. And how did He do this? He spoke them into existence. He said. “Let there be light” and there was light. “Let the dry land appear” and it appeared. When God speaks, the universe conforms to what He says. And this is the origin of everything that exists, physical or spiritual. (*Is 45:12*)

His name is Holy. We rarely use it because the Jewish people did not want to profane it through misuse, and before the time of Christ began to simply call Him “The Lord”. Even in the early days of the Church, the church leaders said that there was no need to use His name as if He had to be distinguished from other gods or goddesses. God alone is supreme and there is no comparison to Him.<sup>1</sup>

He is the Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ. He is the One that Jesus reveals to us. Jesus said, “I and the Father are One,” and, “If you have seen me you have seen the Father. It is the Father living in Me that is doing His work.” (*Jn 10:30, 14:9-10 NIV*) So if we want to know what God is like, we need only look to Jesus. This was God in our midst as a living man for us to know and see.

God is pure, and Holy. He is not evil and cannot be tempted with evil. (*Jas 1:17, 1 Jn 1:5*)

He does not lie, and His ways are not our ways. (*Num 23:19, Is 55:9*)

He knows everything, past, present, and future. Nothing is hidden from His sight (*Is 44:7-8, Heb 4:13*)

He is all-powerful and nothing is impossible for Him. (*Lk 1:37*)

He is glorious, and majestic, seated on His throne in heaven. The prophet Daniel was given a vision of heaven and wrote:

---

<sup>1</sup> Footnote: The name Jehovah is sometimes used in English for the name of God, but it is a mistake resulting from 16<sup>th</sup> century attempts to translate the Divine name into English. The true name of God is “Yahweh”, which sounds like the Hebrew words “To Be”. In order to keep His name holy, the Jews stopped using it around 500 BC and substituted the title “Adonai” which means “The Lord”.

"As I looked, "thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze.

“A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him.” *(Dan 7:9-10)*

He is the One to whom we must give account for our lives.

## **WHAT DOES GOD DO?**

The first thing God does is to rule over the works of His hands. It is God who made the universe and it is God who holds it together. As He says in the book of Job:

“Have you ever given orders to the morning,  
or shown the dawn its place,  
that it might take the earth by the edges  
and shake the wicked out of it? ...

"Have you entered the storehouses of the snow  
or seen the storehouses of the hail,  
which I reserve for times of trouble,  
for days of war and battle? ...

“From whose womb comes the ice?  
Who gives birth to the frost from the heavens  
when the waters become hard as stone,  
when the surface of the deep is frozen?” *(Job 38: 12-30)*

It is God who makes all these things happen.

He gives life to all things, and not even a sparrow falls to the ground without his consent. It is God who causes the crops to grow, the rain to fall, and the sun to shine on both the just and the unjust. *(Mt 10:29, 5:45)*

Furthermore, it is God who inspires people to do good, to love one another, and to improve our lives. He uses His word and the circumstances of life to lead us to Jesus for salvation and to change us into his image. And He blesses His family of believers. Ephesians chapter 1 tells us that He has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ, chosen us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight, predestined us in love to be adopted as his sons, and has redeemed us and forgiven our sins by the blood of Christ.

Many are the people who tell how God has brought peace and stability to their lives when

they submitted to Jesus Christ. Many are the testimonies of God's people being delivered from enslaving and destructive habits, of being delivered from death and sickness, and of God's miraculous provisions and answered prayers.

These are the normal acts of any loving father toward his children, and it is brings joy to the heart of God to do the same for His.

And like any loving father, He also corrects and disciplines us. The Bible says,

“My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline,  
and do not lose heart when He rebukes you,  
because the Lord disciplines those He loves,  
and He punishes everyone He accepts as a son.

“Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father? If you are not disciplined (and everyone undergoes discipline), then you are illegitimate children and not true sons. Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live!” *(Heb 12:5-10 NIV)*

This discipline is never pleasant, but afterwards yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness for those who have been trained by it. *(Heb 12:11)* This is far preferable to the judgement that will come on those who have rejected God and lived lives of sin or rebellion against Him.

“For behold the day comes burning like an oven,” the Bible says, “when all the arrogant and evildoers will be stubble. For the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, leaving them neither root nor Branch. *(Mal 4:1)*

And indeed, God is also the just judge who will one day judge the world with equity through the One He has appointed, namely Jesus Christ. As the Bible says,

“Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books...If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire. *(Rev 20: 11-12,15)*

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain,

for the old order of things has passed away." *(Rev 21:1-4)*

In short, God is a pure, good, and loving King ruling over all His people and His kingdom. He rewards those who do good, and punishes those who do evil, either in this life or the next, and thus maintains the balance of love and justice in all the earth. *(Psalm 73)*

There is only one true God. All others are false.