

Who is God?

Psalms 90:2: (NASB) *Before the mountains were born or You gave birth to the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.*



Defining God is a monumental task. The measure of its difficulty is such that very few will ever follow through with it for the world is overrun with contradictory myths, stories and legends about the nature and purposes of God. So many stories, so little truth! Defining God requires us to look into things that are beyond our natural sight. It requires us to grab hold of things beyond our physical reach, and it requires us to believe in things beyond our earthly capacity. To know who God is means we would know His character. It means we would know His mind and what drives Him. Can we know these things? Can we know God's heart and His mind? Can we know God's plans and purposes? Will knowing God help us to better know ourselves?

 **Who is He, *Who Is God*, theTruthProject.org**

- *A lot of people believe in God, whether that's a specific view of God or some vague understanding of a higher power. Many people know that there is something or someone out there that is bigger than themselves. People look at the massiveness of our universe, or the complexity of creation and many come to a similar conclusion: There must be a God. For these people, the question isn't, "Is there a God?" It's, "Who is God." So, we come up with this stereotype of who we think God is, is He really this old guy with a white beard in space with a deep voice just throwing down the old lightning bolt whenever he feels like it?*

Satan and God are not "opposites" because they represent good and evil. Please see our program, "Who is Satan?" from August 14, 2016, for more on this topic.

A simple description of God from our theme text:

Psalms 90:2: (NASB) *Before the mountains were born or You gave birth to the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.*

Everlasting to everlasting - perpetual non-ending existence; no beginning.

Now Satan - this text reveals much of Lucifer's role in heaven as compared to God's role:

Ezekiel 28:12-17: (NASB) ¹²...Thus says the Lord GOD, You had the seal of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.

Lucifer was created a special angelic being. But his path changed...

¹³You were in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was your covering...On the day that you were created they were prepared. ¹⁴You were the anointed cherub who covers, and I placed you there.

On the day that you were created - Lucifer specifically had a beginning.



You were on the holy mountain of God; you walked in the midst of the stones of fire. ¹⁵You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created until unrighteousness was found in you.

You were on the holy mountain of God - This also shows an inequality between the two beings. Lucifer was on God's mountain. Mountains in the Bible are symbols of governments. Here Lucifer was appointed to be a part of a governing group God put together.

He was blameless...from the day you were created - Another confirmation that Lucifer had a beginning.

God created a perfect being in Lucifer, to whom He gave the privilege of thought, decision and free will. God did not create him as corrupt.

Lucifer had a very privileged position. He was blameless until he followed a thought pattern that made him reach beyond his station and he was at odds with God.

¹⁶*By the abundance of your trade you were internally filled with violence, and you sinned;*

Lucifer did not keep the power and honor of the position he was given in a God-fearing way, but he focused on what he was given rather than who gave it to him. It all came down to selfishness.

God wanted a creation who could think and choose, beyond just running on instinct.

*Therefore I have cast you as **profane** <2490> from the mountain of God. And I have destroyed you, O covering cherub, from the midst of the stones of fire. ¹⁷Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor.*

Profane: Strong's #2490 *chahal khaw-lal'* properly, to bore, i.e. (by implication) to wound, to dissolve; figuratively, to profane (a person, place or thing), to break (one's word), pollute, (cast as) profane (self), prostitute, slay (slain), sorrow, stain, wound

Lucifer had so much going for him but could not resist being bigger and better. Given authority, beauty, wisdom, splendor and privilege, he chose to take credit for all of it and demand more! God and Satan are NOT opposites - God is higher, God is greater and Lucifer's/Satan's very existence was only there by the creativity and POWER of God. God's angelic creation is mortal; God is immortal. Satan is opposed to God but cannot stand as God's opposite.

God	Satan
Perpetual existence; no beginning (Psalms 90:2)	Created by God as Lucifer (Ezekiel 28:13,14)
Has dominion over the universe (Ephesians 4:6)	Given dominion over the Garden of Eden (Ezekiel 28:13)
Superior to all creation (Isaiah 46:9-10)	Subservient to God (Ezekiel 28:14)

How strong is the POWER of God? What does His POWER mean to us?

5,000 years - no God, *The Scathing Atheist*, *Just Who is This God Person*, *Noah Lugeons*

- There's a question that Adams poses in this book that's been stuck in my craw for two dozen years - just who is this "God person" anyway? You'd think that in 5,000 years of trying, the Abrahamic faiths would come up with a concise definition - or if not concise at least a consistent one. But as we all know, if you ask 20 Christians to define God, you'll get 20 different definitions. Sure, you'll get a few commonalities, but it will be pretty clear pretty quickly that all these Christians are worshipping a different guy. And none of them, none of the Christians, none of the Jews, and none of the Muslims are worshipping the guy from the Bible. The all-powerful, all-knowing, all-loving, moral, caring, forgiving, judicious, benevolent dude they talk about might make a cameo at some point but is nowhere to be found in the first four books.

God allows us to learn the lesson of sin and currently misunderstanding prevails.

We will use the 90th Psalm to help us define God. We will break it down into four sections, each furthering our understanding of Him.



Psalm 90:1: (NASB) *Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.*

That sounds poetic, but there is more to this simple statement. God was the original dwelling place of mankind.



Genesis 1:27-28: (NASB) *²⁷God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸God blessed them; and God said to them, be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth.*

We are the only part of His creation made in His image. We are able to think, reason and make decisions. We are able to create as well - we build, make music, art, writings and so much more.

The original plan was for man to have a relationship with God and dominion over the planet. It must have been amazing for the angelic realm to see this come into being.

Humanity was created to be on earth and in the presence of God:

Genesis 2:8: (NASB) *The LORD God planted a garden toward the east, in Eden; and there He placed the man whom He had formed.*



Man's home was custom-made by God. God's POWER created us and provided everything for us. Think about it: Air, water, soil, vegetables, fruit, meats, grains, mountains, valleys, sun, moon, stars, night, morning, afternoon, summer, winter, spring, fall, all creatures can produce more of their kind - He took good care of us!

Please see our program, "Does Science Show the Existence of a Creator?" from July 24, 2016, for more on the magnitude of the power needed for creation.

 **Who is God? When Asked "Who God Is" These Kids had Amazing Answers**

- (Interviewer) Who is God?
- (Child) Um, Somebody who created our world and created us.
- (Child) He is a father and He's my Father.
- (Interviewer) Can you tell me who God is?
- (Child) Jesus' Father.
- (Child) The person who created the world.
- (Child) He's Jesus' dad.
- (Child) He is the Father of everyone who's on earth.





Psalms 90:2: (NASB) *Before the mountains were born or You gave birth to the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.*

This shows massive power! Think of the implications of perpetual existence. God was there before the universe was, so He exists *outside* of the physical realm we see as so vast.

God challenging Job - could he answer these questions?

Job 38:12-27: (NASB) (Selected verses) ¹²*Have you ever in your life commanded the morning, and caused the dawn to know its place, ¹³that it might take hold of the ends of the earth? ...¹⁶Have you entered into the springs of the sea or walked in the recesses of the deep? ...¹⁸Have you understood the expanse of the earth? Tell Me, if you know all this....²²Have you entered the storehouses of the snow, or have you seen the storehouses of the hail...²⁵Who has cleft a channel for the flood, or a way for the thunderbolt, ²⁶to bring rain on a land without people, on a desert without a man in it, ²⁷to satisfy the waste and desolate land and to make the seeds of grass to sprout?*

God's POWER has designed and monitors the mighty powers and forces of earth. Job was asked the ultimate rhetorical questions!



Psalms 90:3-4: (NASB) ³*You turn man back into dust and say, Return, O children of men. ⁴For a thousand years in Your sight are like yesterday when it passes by, or as a watch in the night.*

Genesis 2:16-17: (NASB) ¹⁶*The LORD God commanded the man, saying, From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; ¹⁷but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.*

Genesis 3:19: (NASB) *By the sweat of your face You will eat bread, till you return to the ground, because from it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.*

God's POWER enforces His will and His way - His POWER can give life and demand death when appropriate.



Psalms 90:5-6: (NASB) ⁵*You have swept them away like a flood, they fall asleep; in the morning they are like grass which sprouts anew. ⁶In the morning it flourishes and sprouts anew; toward evening it fades and withers away.*

In the morning it flourishes and sprouts anew - This gives the idea God can also return life.

Genesis 3:15: (NASB) *And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel.*

God's POWER provides opportunity for life even if it has been forfeited because of sin. That is POWER!



God's POWER is raw, mighty and eternal - what keeps this awesome POWER focused?

Vicki comments: From studying the Bible and looking at His plan, we could sing praises about God's attributes all day long. The attribute I think about the most is LOVE.

1 John 4:8: God is love. 1 John 1:5: God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. What a beautiful combination - love and light. These elements are both powerful. I am glad the God I know very intimately is love. Imagine an all-

powerful Being who wasn't full of love! That would be scary.

How does God show you His love? Reading and really studying the Bible allows us to develop a relationship with our Heavenly Father. It was then that I saw His love jumping out of His plan in many ways. Think about being able to see in color...God could have made everything in black and white. We have color just because He loves us.

In the big picture, it is His plan that shows how much He loves me. He sent His only son to die for the entire world of mankind, even those who do not behave in accordance with His will and those who do not show Him love at all.



I have made it my life's goal to learn all I can about who God is.

How has knowing God changed your life? Knowing the incredible being God is has made me want to please and serve Him and do what I can to further His plan. People ask, "What can God do for me?" and their prayers are a litany of what they want done, but for me, knowing what I know about God and loving Him the way I do, I want to know what I can do to please Him. I offer my life in sacrifice to Him, and by doing that I become one of His children - not a servant of God, which is also mentioned in Scripture, but a child of God. That is a beautiful opportunity. By being His child, He gives me the gift of His power, the Holy Spirit. This allows me to change my perspective on life and see my life individually and in the big scheme of things, from God's view. It gives me the strength to rise above my fleshly tendencies and hopefully deal with my daily struggles and experiences in a God-like way. By knowing who God is and what His character is, I can filter out error. People blame God for things that are no part of His character. I know that because I have read the Bible multiple times and studied it. When something like that comes up, I can say, "This does not fit with what I know about His character in the entire Bible, not just one verse someone is pulling out." I need to keep looking for another explanation.



))) Censored rant - no God, *The Scathing Atheist, Just Who is This God Person, Noah Lugeons*

- *Is God the dude that shows up in the Garden of Eden in Genesis, or is He the guy that nobody can survive seeing from Exodus? Or is He the disembodied spirit they talk about in the Gospels? Is He the all-knowing guy from Jeremiah and Acts, or is He the bumbling idiot from Genesis and Numbers? Is He the hard-to-anger guy they sing about in Exodus, or is He the unjust, wrathful bully that was killing people for no reason right before they started singing about it? And if He's all-powerful, why does He need Moses to do everything? If He's all-loving, why does He (CQ censored) virtually everyone He encounters? If He's all-knowing, why do people keep reminding Him of it? If He's moral, why does He champion slavery? If He's caring, why does Moses have to keep talking Him out of killing people?*

God's POWER could not be wielded for our ultimate good without God's JUSTICE driving it:

Psalms 89:13-16: (NASB) ¹³You have a strong arm; Your hand is mighty, Your right hand is exalted. ¹⁴Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; lovingkindness and truth go before You. ¹⁵How blessed are the people who know the joyful sound! O LORD, they walk in the light of Your countenance. ¹⁶In Your name they rejoice all the day, and by Your righteousness they are exalted.

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne - Power is dangerous without justice. Thankfully God is both!



Psalms 90:7-8: (NASB) ⁷For we have been consumed by Your anger and by Your wrath we have been dismayed. ⁸You have placed our iniquities before You, Our secret sins in the light of Your presence.

God's JUSTICE is not the arbitrary JUSTICE we witness from the gods of mythology who were fashioned in the likeness of imperfect men.



God's JUSTICE is clear, precise and righteous:

Romans 5:12-14: (NASB) ¹²Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned ¹³for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. ¹⁴Nevertheless death reigned from Adam until Moses, even over those who had not sinned in the likeness of the offense of Adam, who is a type of him who was to come.

God's JUSTICE is simple - one man sinned and all suffer. Atonement for that one man is needed.



What does He look like? When Asked "Who God Is" These Kids had Amazing Answers

- (Interviewer) Do you think God is real? What do you think He looks like?
- (Child) White hair.
- (Interviewer) What do you think God looks like?
- (Child) A person, probably.
- (Child) I'm pretty sure he has brown hair and it's kind of long.
- (Interviewer) What do you think He looks like?
- (Child) Long hair.
- (Child) I think I know now.
- (Interviewer) Ok, what do you think God looks like?
- (Child) I think He has a beard and has, um, a star.



Psalms 90:9-10: (NASB) ⁹For all our days have declined in Your fury; we have finished our years like a sigh. ¹⁰As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, or if due to strength, eighty years, yet their pride is but labor and sorrow; for soon it is gone and we fly away.

There is nothing we can do about the sentence of death except wait for it to catch up with us.

Romans 5:15-16: (NASB) ¹⁵But the free gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, much more did the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abound to the many. ¹⁶The gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned; for on the one hand the judgment arose from one transgression resulting in condemnation, but on the other hand the free gift arose from many transgressions resulting in justification.

Our days and lives are futile - God's JUSTICE opens the door for hope by a perfect payment for sin to atone for the perfect man who originally sinned.



Psalms 90:11-12: (NASB) ¹¹Who understands the power of Your anger and Your fury, according to the fear that is due You? ¹²So teach us to number our days, that we may present to You a heart of wisdom.

Romans 5:17-19: (NASB) ¹⁷For if by the transgression of the one, death reigned through the one, much more those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

This verse fulfills verse 12 by the grace of God.

¹⁸So then as through one transgression there resulted condemnation to all men; even so through one act of righteousness there resulted justification of life to all men. ¹⁹For as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the one the many will be made righteous.

All die in Adam, therefore, by God's JUSTICE all are given life opportunity in Christ.



Censored rant - no God, *The Scathing Atheist, Just Who is This God Person, Noah Lugeons*

- Of course these Christians that are so quick to define God don't know what the Bible says because they've never read it. If you press them, they'll often claim that they've read most of it, but then you start quizzing them and it turns out they don't know there's a talking donkey in the fourth book. How much could you have possibly read, that's the fourth book! That's like saying, "I've seen most of the movie, but I missed the parts after the opening credits." If I believed the Book to be inspired by the all-knowing Creator of the Universe, let alone directly revealed by Him, I'd know it by heart, but these dingbats, even the literal word of the Bible, guys, can't be bothered to crack it open. And I don't think it's because they're too lazy either. I'm willing to bet many, if not most of them, started it at some point. And I don't think they turned away because of the genealogies or the archaic language or the repetition or the both. I think they met their God and He scared them. I think they turned away because they started to realize the more they know about their religion, the harder it's going to be to believe.*

He does not understand that God had a plan put in place before we were born. He loved us before we ever could have loved Him.



God's LOVE is magnificent, for it is built upon the foundation of His JUSTICE and it is fueled by His POWER and it shines out as the dominant characteristic of His glory:

1 John 4:7-10: (NASB) ⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

God is LOVE and has proven it to the whole human creation by the sending of Jesus.



Psalms 90:13-14: (NASB) ¹³Do return, O LORD; how long will it be? And be sorry for Your servants. ¹⁴O satisfy us in the morning with Your lovingkindness, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.

There is great comfort in these verses. God's LOVE is also manifest in His attention to satisfying the needs of those who seek Him.

1 John 4:11-14: (NASB) ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has seen God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us. ¹³By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. ¹⁴We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the son to be the savior of the world.



God's LOVE is further manifested in our reflecting that love to one another.



A caller from Connecticut quotes astronaut John Glenn: Being up here and seeing what we see, it is impossible not to believe in God. (Here is the full quote: "I pray every day and I think everybody should. I don't think you can be up here and look out the window as I did the first day and look out at the earth from this vantage point. We're not so high compared to people who went to the moon and back. But to look out at this kind of creation out here and not believe in God is, to me, impossible. It just strengthens my faith.") Thousands of years ago, King David declared almost the same thing: Psalms 19:1: *The heavens declare the glory of God.*

A story: A kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children. While they were drawing, she would occasionally walk around to see each child's work. She got to one little girl who was working diligently. She asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God." The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without missing a beat or looking up from her drawing, the little girl replied, "They will in a minute!"



Psalms 90:15: (NASB) *Make us glad according to the days You have afflicted us, and the years we have seen evil.*

God's LOVE does make us glad even within the context of our trials and shortcomings - here's how:

Romans 5:1-5: (NASB) *¹Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom also we have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we exult in hope of the glory of God. ³And not only this, but we also exult in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; ⁴and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; ⁵and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.*

God's LOVE opens the door to His grace and His hope. With all of these opportunities before us, we can truly begin to exult in tribulation for God's LOVE is present in our tribulations as well. We grow through our trials!

Jesus is the best example of God's love for us.





God's LOVE is fully expressed in the LOVE of Christ:

Romans 8:35-39: (NASB) ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶Just as it is written, for your sake we are being put to death all day long; we were considered as sheep to be slaughtered. ³⁷But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

If we let them, the things of the earth could separate us from the love of Christ. What could separate us from the love of God? Heavenly things that are bigger and more powerful than we are, if it were not for God's LOVE. Either way, we can be "safe" in God's love through Christ because of this full expression of God's LOVE - we can choose to be inseparable from Him.

How does God keep his POWER, JUSTICE and LOVE all perfectly working together and balanced?



Isaiah 45:15: *Verily thou art a God that hidest thyself, O God of Israel. If you have a chance, please discuss the wisdom of why He hides himself.*

There IS a wisdom to God being hard to find in our world. That makes no sense if you just look at it narrowly instead of from the perspective of eternity. More on this soon!



God is the epitome of WISDOM applied. His WISDOM drives His plan and provides a basis for the perfect application of His POWER, JUSTICE and LOVE. Conversely, His POWER, JUSTICE and LOVE provide opportunities for His WISDOM to be applied and emulated. These are all balanced perfectly.

Romans 11:33-36: (NASB) ³³Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways! ³⁴For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who became his counselor? ³⁵Or who has first given to him that it might be paid back to him again? ³⁶For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.

God's LOVE is empowered by His WISDOM. His WISDOM is lofty, broad and exacting. The mere act of observing it brings enlightenment.

 He can't be known, [Who Is God, theTruthProject.org](http://WhoIsGod.theTruthProject.org)

- Part of the very nature of God is that He is beyond understanding. He is too big and too complex for a human to ever comprehend fully. We don't have the capacity to fathom all of who God is. Though we will never know everything of who God is, He allows us to see parts of Him that really matter. God is all-powerful, all-knowing and always present. He is huge. He is bigger than we can imagine and yet He's personable. This God that created the stars, the planets and set the galaxies in motion. He created you.



Why does God hide himself when this world needs Him now so desperately?



Psalms 90:16-17: (NASB) ¹⁶*Let Your work appear to Your servants and Your majesty to their children.* ¹⁷*Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us; and confirm for us the work of our hands; yes, confirm the work of our hands.*

Let Your work appear... - if God allows His work to appear, that means He is no longer hidden.

...to Your servants - Notice just to His servants; not to every man.

Let's trace some of the basics of God's WISDOM in His plan:



Man sinned and consequences were needed for ALL who inherited that sin through his lineage.

God in His WISDOM planted the seeds of the rebuilding process in the first proclamation of consequences:

Genesis 3:15: (NASB) *And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, and you shall bruise him on the heel.*

It may not seem like it, but this was a promise of salvation, a great prophecy of redemption - something to look forward to. Here God speaks to Satan and promises that the seed of Eve (Jesus) would someday *bruise thy head* - a death blow.

God hid His plan from most because it was not time yet to reveal it in full.

The promised seed would begin to become clear many years later:

Genesis 22:15-18: (NASB) ¹⁵*Then the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, ¹⁶and said, by Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. ¹⁸In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.*

Even in a sinful world, God promised Abraham something very special. Blessing would be coming for Abraham and his children. But then, blessing would come *through* his children to all the nations of the earth!

So, if such a blessing is coming, why does God hide Himself? For the human race to truly and eternally appreciate the power, justice, love and wisdom of God, we need to understand what it is like to live without Him. There are consequences to making the choice to do it our own way, like Adam and Eve and Lucifer did. In this way, we get the full import of the horrible effects of sin and death. When God reveals Himself fully, the contrast will be magnificent!

God knew what humankind and angelic beings needed to go through for the greatest eternal lessons. He hides Himself so that when He is revealed He will be revered.



In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed - This seed was Isaac and then Jacob. Jacob's name was changed to "Israel," and he had 12 sons who would become the nation of Israel. The 12 tribes of Israel would carry the promise of that seed, until that final seed (the Messiah) arrived.

Everything in the promise led us to Jesus, whose death paid the price for Adam:

Galatians 3:16: (NASB) *Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, and to seeds, as referring to many, but rather to one, and to your seed, that is, Christ.*

God's ever-expanding WISDOM would provide Gentiles the opportunity to join Jews in becoming a part of that seed:

Galatians 3:28-29: (NASB) ²⁸*There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.* ²⁹*And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise.*

Heirs according to promise - What do we inherit? A comfortable life? A big house?

2 Corinthians 5:18-19: (NASB) ¹⁸*Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation,* ¹⁹*namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.*

We inherit the promise of all the families of the earth being blessed. *How will they be blessed?*

The promise to Abraham is fulfilled two-fold:

1. The earthly, Jewish nation becomes a "blessing nation," (beyond the scope of today's podcast) and
2. The heavenly seed of Abraham is given the *ministry of reconciliation*. True followers of Christ are part of that heavenly seed, with the responsibility of making the world compatible with God again.

God's WISDOM took the LOVE He expressed through the sacrifice of Jesus, which fulfilled the JUSTICE required due to Adam sinning. This was generated by God's POWER to make it all happen. By being given this *ministry of reconciliation*, we are given a part in bringing the world back to God. We believe this will happen in the near future.

How has God shown us who He is through recorded history?

Life is God's novel. Let him write it. - Isaac Bashevis Singer

We walked through Psalms 90 and established God's attributes of POWER, JUSTICE, LOVE and WISDOM. Now we will look at what these things actually mean to us.



God's character is one of eternal integrity, only seen if we examine Scripture carefully and comprehensively:

Isaiah 46:8-10: (NASB) ⁸Remember this, and be assured; recall it to mind, you transgressors. ⁹Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, ¹⁰declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times things which have not been done, saying, My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all My good pleasure.

God says something and then does what He says. God's finished plan will be a jaw-dropping experience! We would love for this to happen right now, but it is not yet time.



The key is timing - God's timing which ALWAYS takes longer than we want it to:

Habakkuk 2:2-3: (NASB) ²Then the LORD answered me and said, Record the vision and inscribe it on tablets that the one who reads it may run. ³For the vision is yet for the appointed time; it hastens toward the goal and it will not fail. Though it tarries, wait for it; for it will certainly come, it will not delay.

Sin has to be allowed to run its course and get so out of control that no one would ever want to go back to that way of life. Man will choose righteousness.



A CQ App User writes: I needed this topic. In the humdrum of everyday, sometimes I forget who I am and who I belong to...I am a child of the King of the Universe! That is definitely not humdrum!! Thank you for reminding me!!



"Names of God," (Verse one) Laurell Hubick

Elohim, the Creator
Jehovah-Shammah, the Lord is there
My Master, Adonai
El Elyon, the God Most High
Yhwh, You Are the Lord
Jehovah-Rohi, My Shepherd
Mekaddishkem sanctifies you
The Lord of Righteousness, Jehovah-Tsidkenu
Worthy is Your Name; Worthy of all my praise

If we are humble enough to learn the Scriptures, rather than dictate to them and twist them to serve what I want, let me twist *me* to serve what God wants and what He wills. Let's find the answer of God's plan.

This is the culmination of who God is. You can tell who He is by what He plans for us, just like you can tell the type of father someone is by how he cares for his children. We are God's children, and even though the world is sinful and messed up, God loves us. This is what is in store for us:

Revelation 21:1-4: (NASB) ¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer any sea.



A new heaven and a new earth - Not a different planet and different heaven, but instead, a renewed and repaired physical earth and governmental structure.

The heavens = symbolic of government

The earth = symbolic of social order

Restless sea = the restlessness of imperfect, unhappy humanity

There will be a new world government and a new social order as the restlessness of imperfect humanity will have been drained away. Peace and harmony will result because the just, wise, powerful and loving plan of God has designed it to be so.

²*And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband.*

This new system will be implemented through the faithful true church, (referred to as *the bride adorned for her husband*, Jesus) for their call was to the *ministry of reconciliation*. These are represented by this new Jerusalem coming down from heaven to work with the billions of resurrected people to teach them righteousness and undo all of the wrongs.

³*And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He will dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself will be among them,*

God will be back among men - FINALLY! When was the last time He was among men in this way? In the Garden with Adam. The curse will be taken away. God's plan of restoration will truly be a plan that restores what was lost - man in God's image and mankind as sons of God.

⁴*and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.*

God's hand will again be directly upon His entire human family and all of the life-giving, love-driven arrangements that He made in the beginning will be showered upon all men. This is who God is! That is His plan!

Revelation 22:1-2: (NASB) ¹*Then he showed me a river of the water of life, clear as crystal, coming from the throne of God and of the Lamb, ²in the middle of its street. On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.*

God now provides trees of life for the healing of the nations.

Trying to define who God is is almost a foolish endeavor but we gave it our best try. What we see of God is just a mere glimpse, but we readily see His four main attributes:



In this world and in this life God is hard to see - but He is there. His heart is in the magnificence of the universe and His signature is in the Scriptures. Most fail to see the magnitude of His character because they get stuck in details, which only reveal tiny, unexplainable and contradictory fragments of the plan behind it all. God's enormity organizes the details, clarifies the contradictions and understands the short-sightedness of humanity. Look for Him in Scripture and prepare to be amazed!

*So, who is God?
For Jonathan and Rick and Christian Questions...
Think about it...!*

*And now even more to think about...
only in the **Full Edition** of CQ Rewind!*





For a wonderful video called, "A God Who Hides Himself," please see:
<https://chicagobible.org/a-god-who-hides-himself/>

One more simple text on the wisdom of God:

Proverbs 21:2-3: (NASB) ²Every man's way is right in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the hearts. ³To do righteousness and justice is desired by the LORD more than sacrifice.

God used beautiful mathematics in creating the world. - Paul Dirac

Men must be governed by God or they will be ruled by tyrants. - William Penn

Any fool can count the seeds in an apple. Only God can count all the apples in one seed. - Robert H. Schuller

A man can no more diminish God's glory by refusing to worship Him than a lunatic can put out the sun by scribbling the word, "darkness" on the walls of his cell. - C.S. Lewis

God's will is not an itinerary but an attitude. - Andrew Dhuse

Just a few of the names for God in the Old Testament that describe His character:

El Shaddai: Strong's #7706 (shad-dah'-ee) Almighty; most powerful; the Almighty (of God)

Genesis 17:1 (KJV) And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the **Almighty <7706> God <410>**; walk before me, and be thou perfect.

Job 37:23: (KJV) Touching the **Almighty <7706>**, we cannot find him out: he is excellent in power, and in judgment, and in plenty of justice: he will not afflict.

Psalms 91:1: (KJV) He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the **Almighty <7706>**.

Job 33:4: (KJV) The Spirit of **God <410>** hath made me, and the breath of the **Almighty <7706>** hath given me life.

Genesis 35:11: (KJV) And God said unto him, I am God **Almighty <7706>**: be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall be of thee, and kings shall come out of thy loins;

Exodus 6:3: (KJV) And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of **God <410> Almighty <7706>**, but by my name JEHOVAH was I not known to them.

This refers to God completely nourishing, satisfying, and supplying His people with all their needs as a mother would her child. Connected with the word for God, **El**, this denotes a God who freely gives nourishment and blessing; He is our sustainer.

El Elyon: Strong's #5945. (El-yone'); an elevation, lofty; as title, the Supreme; Most high (-er, -est), upper (-most)

Genesis 14:18: (KJV) And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the **most high <5945> God <410>**.

Psalms 7:17: (KJV) I will praise the LORD according to his righteousness: and will sing praise to the name of the LORD **most high <5945>**.



Psalms 78:35: (KJV) *And they remembered that God was their rock, and the **high <5945> God <410>** their redeemer.*

One example of Strong's #5945 not relating to God:

Deuteronomy 28:1: (KJV) *And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on **high <5945>** above all nations of the earth.*

It expresses the extreme sovereignty and majesty of God and His highest preeminence. When the two words are combined (El Elyon) it can be translated as "the most exalted God." See **Psalms 57:2.**

Adonai: Strong's #136 (Adonay ad-o-noy'); Lord; lord; God; my lord, Lord-title, spoken in place of Yahweh in Jewish display of reverence

Psalms 68:19: (KJV) *Blessed be the **Lord <136>**, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the **God <410>** of our salvation. Selah.*

Psalms 86:15: (KJV) *But thou, O **Lord <136>**, art a **God <410>** full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.*

2 Samuel 7:28: (KJV) *And now, O **Lord <136>** GOD, thou art that God, and thy words be true, and thou hast promised this goodness unto thy servant:*

2 Samuel 7:29: (KJV) *Therefore now let it please thee to bless the house of thy servant, that it may continue forever before thee: for thou, O **Lord <136>** GOD, hast spoken it: and with thy blessing let the house of thy servant be blessed forever.*

Psalms 62:12: (KJV) *Also unto thee, O **Lord <136>**, belongeth mercy: for thou renderest to every man according to his work.*

Daniel 1:2: (KJV) *And the **Lord <136>** gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of God: which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god.*

What are we supposed to do with all of this? PRAISE HIM!

Psalms 148:1-14: (NRSV) *¹Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise Him in the heights! ²Praise Him, all his angels; praise Him, all His host! ³Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you shining stars! ⁴Praise Him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! ⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD, for He commanded and they were created. ⁶He established them forever and ever; He fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed. ⁷Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, ⁸fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command! ⁹Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! ¹⁰Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds! ¹¹Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! ¹²Young men and women alike, old and young together! ¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD, for His name alone is exalted; His glory is above earth and heaven. ¹⁴He has raised up a horn for His people, praise for all His faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to Him. Praise the LORD!*

Praise