

### HOW CAN WE HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD?

We find that we do not by nature seek God or love God. In fact, we feel awkward and uncomfortable about Him. It is easier for us to avoid God and anything that has to do with Him. Why is that so?

### WE ARE SINNERS

"But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you..." (Isa. 59:2)

"There is none righteous, no, not one..." (Rom 3:10)

"For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God"... (Rom 3:23)

Because we are sinners we feel guilty, ashamed, and alienated from a holy God and rightly so, but there is good news.

### GOD LOVES US

Even though we are sinners and have broken the laws of God, He still loves us. He has made provision for us to be forgiven and brought back into relationship with Him. How? Note what the Bible says...

"In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him" (1 John 4:9)

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom 5:8)

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should Not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16)

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, died for us on the cross and rose again from the dead to bring us back to God! Jesus is the expression of God's love to us. He paid the penalty for our sins so we could be forgiven and made a child of God.

**WILL YOU BELIEVE AND RECEIVE CHRIST AS YOUR LORD AND SAVIOR?**

**WILL YOU ACCEPT GOD'S LOVE AND COME BACK INTO RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM?**

**WILL YOU WORSHIP AND SERVE THE ONE TRUE GOD?**

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# THE TRUE GOD and True Worship

✓ *IS IT POSSIBLE TO REALLY KNOW ANYTHING FOR CERTAIN ABOUT GOD?*

✓ *IS ONE PERSON'S BELIEF AS GOOD AS THE NEXT?*

✓ *WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE ABOUT GOD?*

BECAUSE THAT WHICH MAY  
BE KNOWN OF GOD IS  
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GOD HATH SHEWED IT UNTO  
THEM" "(ROM 1:19)

*By: Pastor Michael Gilchrist*

All false images of God are not made out of wood or stone. It is possible for us to have a false image of God in our minds. If we do, we have an imaginary god, one of our creation. Have you ever heard someone say, "I have my idea about God and you have yours." Then they say, "You worship the way you want and I'll worship the way I want." That's the way many people think when it comes to God. One idea is about as good as another. What's wrong with that kind of thinking?

### **GOD IS REAL**

There is a true God and He has revealed Himself to us. Since God is real then we are incorrect to make up our own god in our minds. What we must do is find out about the one true God and what His purpose and plan is. To have an imaginary God is to have a false god...that is idolatry. What does the true God tell us about Himself? What does He tell us about His purpose, will and design for us? Where can we go to find information about the true God?

### **THE BIBLE TELLS US ABOUT GOD**

The Bible is a self-revelation of God. God has revealed Himself to us and caused that revelation to be permanently recorded. That permanent record is the Bible or Holy Scriptures. So we can go to the Bible and find out who the true God is and what He is like. God also tells us what He wants us to know about His purpose and will for us. What does the Bible teach us about God?

**HE IS THE CREATOR:** "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Gen. 1:1)

**HE IS SPIRIT:** "God is spirit..." (John 4:24)

**HE IS HOLY:** "I am the Lord...I am Holy..." (Lev. 11:44)

**HE IS LOVE:** "God is love..." (I John 4:8)

**HE IS TRUTH:** "God that cannot lie..." (Titus 1:2)

**HE IS ETERNAL:** "From everlasting to everlasting thou art God" (Psa. 90:2)

**HE IS EVERYWHERE:** "...Do not I fill the heaven and the earth? saith the Lord (Jer. 23:24)

**HE IS THE SOURCE OF OUR EXISTENCE:** "He giveth to all life, breath, and all things" (Acts 17:25)

**HE IS NEAR TO US ALL:** "...He be not far from everyone of us" (Acts 17:27)

**HE IS A GOD OF JUDGMENT:** "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God" (Heb. 10:31)

**HE IS A GOD THAT MUST BE WORSHIPPED IN THE CORRECT WAY:** "...They that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24)

**HE IS TRIUNE IN NATURE:** "...The Father, the Word and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one" (I John 5:7)

### **WHAT IS GOD'S DESIRE FOR US?**

God is a personal God. That means He has a real interest in us and wants to be involved in our lives. God has a plan for us and He has revealed that plan in the Scriptures.

**HE WANTS US TO SEEK HIM:** "...that they should seek the Lord...and find him though he be not far from everyone of us" (Acts 17:27)

**HE WANTS US TO BELIEVE ON HIM:** "Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him" (Heb. 11:6)

**HE WANTS US TO COME TO REPENTANCE AND BE CONVERTED :**(have a change of heart and turn to Him): "The Lord is ... longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance" (II Pet. 3:9)

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted that your sins may be blotted out..." (Acts 3:19)

**HE WANTS TO FORGIVE OUR SINS AND DELIVER US FROM SATAN'S POWER:** "to turn them from darkness to light and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me" (Acts 26:18)

**HE WANTS TO HELP US IN OUR DAILY LIFE AND GIVE US THE STRENGTH AND COMFORT WE NEED:** "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give your rest" (Matt 11:28) "Casting all your care upon him: for he careth for you" (I Pet. 5:7)

### **WE NEED GOD IN OUR LIVES**

God is our Creator as the Bible states, "The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life" (Job 33:4). We are designed by God to experience life in its fullest only in proper relationship to Him. Apart from God, life lacks meaning and purpose and often seems empty. Without a relationship with our Creator we wonder who we are and why we are here. Life often seems hopeless and senseless if all we do is struggle for 60 or 70 years and then die. Why this sense of lostness and hopelessness? Because we are designed to live life in relationship with our Maker. Only in relationship to Him can we know who we really are and what our real purpose is.

When we come into a real relationship with God we realize that we are not merely accidents of nature without any real purpose. We are not just a higher form of animal, but a special and unique creation of God.

**"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him..." (Gen. 1:27).**

We have a unique place in the design of God. We are designed to reflect His image and to have a special relationship with Him forever!