

The God We Worship

Isaiah 42:5-8

5 Thus says God the LORD, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it, Who gives breath to the people on it, And spirit to those who walk on it: 6 "I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, And will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, As a light to the Gentiles, 7 To open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the prison, Those who sit in darkness from the prison house. 8 I am the LORD, that is My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images.

"We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name is JEHOVAH" NHCOF

96% of Americans believe in God. But what they mean by God differs greatly from one end of the spectrum to the other end.

It has always been that way. Since the beginning Satan has attempted to usurp God's position and glory. Any time mankind worships that which is not God, Satan gets ahead. His goal is to distort man's idea of God.

Romans 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 ¶ because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, 21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, 23 and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man — and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

So since there is the pull of the world to influence us in our idea of God, it is important that we know what we know about God.

- I. There one and only one God.
 - A. There are different ways to think about God.
 1. Atheist - there is no God.
 2. Polytheist - there are many Gods.
 3. Pantheist - everything is god.
 4. Theist
 - a. Trinitarian Theist
 - b. Unitarian Theist.

- B. The Bible teaches in our text that there is only one true God.
 - 1. So I will hear some say yes there is only one God, and we all worship Him in different ways. The Jew the Islamist, the Christian, and all the others we all worship the same God.
 - 2. This is a very naive view of God and it is only liberal Christianity that holds to that view.
 - 3. Ask any Muslim if Christians and Muslim's worship the same God and you will get a resounding no.
 - 4. The God of Mohamad is not the God of Jesus.
 - 5. And all the other ideas of God are naturally opposed to each other.
- C. God is opposed to those who have wrong views of God.
 - 1. Joh 17:3 "And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

II. He is a living God.

- A. He is a person, a living being.
 - 1. He has personality.
 - 2. All the names given to God in the Scripture denote personality. Here are some of them:
 - a. Jehovah—Jireh: The Lord will provide (Gen. 22:13, 14).
 - b. Jehovah-Rapha: The Lord that healeth (Exod. 15:26).
 - c. Jehovah-Nissi: The Lord our Banner (Exod. 17:8-15).
 - d. Jehovah-Shalom: The Lord our Peace (Judges 6:24).
 - e. Jehovah-Ra-ah: The Lord my Shepherd (Psa. 23:1).
 - f. Jehovah-Tsidkenu: The Lord our Righteousness (Jer. 23:6).
 - g. Jehovah-Shammah: The Lord is present (Ezek. 48:35).

The Great Doctrines of the Bible. Evans

- B. He is not a mere force or cosmic power. (Star Wars)

III. He is infinite.

- A. He is infinite in all His attributes.
 - 1. Holiness
 - 2. Power

3. Eternal
4. Wisdom, intelligence
5. Love
6. Goodness
7. Mercy
8. Wrath
9. Isaiah 40:12-26 (NKJV) 12 Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, Measured heaven with a span And calculated the dust of the earth in a measure? Weighed the mountains in scales And the hills in a balance? 13 Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, Or as His counselor has taught Him? 14 With whom did He take counsel, and who instructed Him, And taught Him in the path of justice? Who taught Him knowledge, And showed Him the way of understanding? 15 Behold, the nations are as a drop in a bucket, And are counted as the small dust on the scales; Look, He lifts up the isles as a very little thing. 16 And Lebanon is not sufficient to burn, Nor its beasts sufficient for a burnt offering. 17 All nations before Him are as nothing, And they are counted by Him less than nothing and worthless. 18 To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare to Him? 19 The workman molds an image, The goldsmith overspreads it with gold, And the silversmith casts silver chains. 20 Whoever is too impoverished for such a contribution Chooses a tree that will not rot; He seeks for himself a skillful workman To prepare a carved image that will not totter. 21 Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? 22 It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in. 23 He brings the princes to nothing; He makes the judges of the earth useless. 24 Scarcely shall they be planted, Scarcely shall they be sown, Scarcely shall their stock take root in the earth, When He will also blow on them, And they will wither, And the whirlwind will take them away like stubble. 25 "To whom then will you liken Me, Or to whom shall I be equal?" says the Holy One. 26 Lift up your eyes on high, And see who has created these things, Who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, By the greatness of His might And the strength of His power; Not one is missing.

B. Without beginning or end

1. Not governed by time but time is His creation.
 - a. Psalm 102:24-27 (NKJV) 24 I said, "O my God, Do not take me

away in the midst of my days; Your years are throughout all generations. 25 Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands. 26 They will perish, but You will endure; Yes, they will all grow old like a garment; Like a cloak You will change them, And they will be changed. 27 But You are the same, And Your years will have no end.

2. Psalm 90:2 (NKJV) 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, Or ever You had formed the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.
3. 1 Timothy 6:16 (NKJV) 16 who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen.

IV. He is a spirit.

A. He does not have a material existence but created all material things.

1. First, God is limited neither by space (he is everywhere in his fullness continually) nor by time (there is no "present moment" into which he is locked as we are). Concise Theology: A Guide to Historic Christian Beliefs.

B. He does not have a body.

1. God is not only spirit, but he is pure spirit. He is not only not matter, but he has no necessary connection with matter (Luke 24:39—"A spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye behold me having"). Strong, A. H. (1907). Systematic theology (p. 250). Philadelphia: American Baptist Publication Society.

C. Bible says

1. John 4:24 (NKJV) 24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."
2. 1 Kings 8:27 (NKJV) 27 But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You. How much less this temple which I have built!

V. His name is Jehovah.

- A. Psalm 113:1-3 (NKJV) 1 Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD, Praise the name of the LORD! 2 Blessed be the name of the LORD From this time forth and forevermore! 3 From the rising of the sun to its going down The LORD'S name is to be praised.
- B. Exodus 3:15 (NKJV) 15 Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God

of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.'

We worship the one and only true God.

Some will tell us that no one can know if they really know about God let alone know God.

But the Bible says, 10 He who believes in the Son of God has the witness in himself; he who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed the testimony that God has given of His Son. 11 And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life. 13 These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God. 1 John 5:10-13 (NKJV)