

## Do You Know God?

Many people answer “yes” to that question but fail to believe in The God described in the Bible. Often, we speak of the immeasurable power, majesty, and knowledge of God but are unsure of His capabilities and judgment. From the time before Noah’s flood, people have doubted, and even rejected, what God declares to be factual. In Noah’s day, people did not believe a flood would destroy the earth; today, people do not believe the incidents in Genesis 7 and 8 happened. Israel did not trust God to lead them from Egypt to the promised land (Hebrews 3:16-19), and people today say the Exodus never happened. The New Testament declares that God sent His son to save sinners. But people today say God is dead, and there is no sin if society allows the action. But what does the Bible say about God?

When people say that man is the product of evolution, God says He *“created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them”* (Genesis 1:26-27). Paul says, *“He gives to all life, breath, and all things”* (Acts 17:25). Many believe God is like a human. But God says, *“You thought that I was altogether like you; But I will rebuke you”* (Psalms 50:21). *“For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts”* (Isaiah 55:9).

Many today declare that there is no heaven or hell, no reward for believing in God, and no punishment for rejecting His authority. But God says, *“Seek the LORD while He may be found; Call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way and the unrighteous man his thoughts; And let him return to the LORD, and He will have compassion on him, And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon”* (Isaiah 55:6-7). God also says, *“The Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power”* (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9).

Some believe that God created the earth and then let everything progress naturally and does not take care of His creation today. However, the gospel writers indicate that God does care. *“But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? You of little faith! “Do not worry then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’ “For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. “But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you”* (Matthew 6:30-33). We also have this reminder from Peter, *“His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence”* (2 Peter 1:3).

Some people find it difficult to believe that there is a spiritual domain in which God exists and rules with His Son, The Holy Spirit, and a heavenly host. It is not surprising that one of Jesus’ chosen apostles said to Him, *“Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us”* (John 14:8). Jesus had previously taught that to see Him was to see the Father saying, *“He who believes in Me, does not believe in Me but in Him who sent Me. “He who sees Me sees the One who sent Me”* (John 12:44-45). But after Philip asks to see The Father, Jesus tells him, *“Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’”* (John 14:8-9).

God made people with curious minds. We ask questions to learn what we do not know. And God, who designed and made us, knew the information we need to journey through life and join Him in eternity. He provided a book with facts, examples, and instructions for us to read, study, and learn about Him. God describes Himself in that book, The Bible. Jesus lived with the disciples and expected them to learn about God. He also expects us to study the Bible and learn about Him. As Paul wrote, *"For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, so that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope"* (Romans 15:4). The evidence in scripture proves that there is a God and He created and cares for us. The testimony further confirms that He will reward faithful service. But "without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him" (Hebrews 11:6).

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