

# GOD JUST TOUCHED ME - WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT

## Chapter 2 - GOD

### **Introduction to God**

Mankind has always felt a need for something bigger than ourselves. Down through the centuries we have tried to define that something in human terms. The Greeks, and the Romans after them, identified a whole family of gods, very human in nature but larger than life in some abilities. They fought with each other, were ruled by the entire gamut of human emotions, and did not seem to have a lot of power. However, they were bigger than us. Still others have chosen to worship demon gods that needed to be appeased to keep them from harming humans. The Hindus have over 300,000,000 of them, and the list is still growing. The people that Israel found in the Promised Land also served demon gods. Our God, however, is one that the human mind could never have invented. There is nothing in our experience that could even suggest the nature of our God. Had He not chosen to reveal Himself to us we would still be stumbling around in the dark, seeking and finding poor substitutes, or worse, demons.

### **The Revealed God**

God has revealed to us that we cannot find Him on our own, (Job 37:23). He is beyond our reach and He is exalted in power. We are not able to comprehend Him because our human minds are too small to grasp Him. Though He is in control and He directs, preserves, and maintains His created order, we only observe the results. God lives in eternity while we live in time and space. We can only guess at what He is really like in nature and in character unless He tells us. It has been said that God created us in His image, and humanity has been trying to redefine God in our image ever since.

### **God Is Spirit**

God is spirit and His worshipers must worship in spirit and truth (John 4:24). "God is spirit" means He is not a physical being limited by time and space. He is present everywhere and He can be worshiped anywhere at any time. It is not where we worship that counts, but how we worship. He told us that He is not interested in our sacrifices, but desires a broken and contrite heart. He is not interested in empty ritual or in things, but in our relationship. He will accept what we give Him when we love Him so much we want to give Him our very best.

### **God Is Love**

God is love (1 John 4:8). Love is not something God does or God has, it is what He is, His very nature. Some people tend to see God as being a mean taskmaster, or amusing Himself by trifling with us. However, absolutely nothing can exist within God that is contrary to His nature. It is impossible for Him to be untrue to Himself. If we are faithless, He will remain faithful, for He cannot deny Himself (2 Timothy 2:13). God's love will not allow Him to do anything that causes us permanent harm.

### **God Is One**

God tells us "I am God and there is no other; I am God and there is none like me"(Isaiah 46:9-10). He is absolutely unique. There is nothing in all creation, or human experience, to which we can compare Him. All that exist is our one God and what He has created. There is no other source of power and authority anywhere. At the very beginning of time He determined the ending. His purpose will stand and He will do all that He pleases.

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### **God Is Supreme**

God is supreme over all that exists (1 Chronicles 29:11, 12). He created all that exists and it all belongs to Him. His is the only power and He is the ruler of all. Fortunately for us, He makes His creation available for our use. He is capable of providing everything we might ever need both physically and emotionally.

Our God reigns (Revelation 19:6). No matter what men or demons may strive for, God's way will triumph. Even though we have the freedom to follow or rebel, what we are really choosing is either the road to life or the road to death (Deuteronomy 30:19). There are no other roads given us to travel. No matter the reasoning we may use, triumphing over God is not an option. We already know the end of the story, and God is supreme.

Our God is almighty; He is all-powerful, and is absolute sovereign (Genesis 17:1b). There are no limits to His power and might. The energy radiated by our sun is mind boggling, and it is only a minor star. God created trillions of stars, most much larger than our sun, and He sustains them all. To suddenly find our sun right in our faces would be terrifying because we could not exist in the presence of such awesome energy. How much more we should stand in awe of the One who sustains the heavens. We must obey the Lord in every respect because He is God.

### **God Is Good**

Our God is merciful, gracious, longsuffering, faithful, and forgiving (Exodus 34:6-7). He gives us what we need, not what we have earned. Because of His graciousness He gives even more than we need. Sometimes a stubborn child can provoke its parents to anger or weary them into submission. Not so with our God. He can endure beyond what we are capable of doing. However, we must remember that the Lord said "My Spirit will not contend with man forever." God's glory is revealed in His characteristics.

God is slow to anger, loving, and forgiving (Numbers 14:18-20). God is immensely patient. His love is a promise we can always count on. He forgives again and again, is merciful listening to and answering our prayers. He has not changed since creation. With God, there is no shadow of turning (James 1:17). He always loves us, and if we confess, He is willing to forgive us our sins. He doesn't give up on us, but is always eager to welcome us back when we stray.

### **God Is All-Knowing**

God is omniscient (all knowing) (1 Samuel 2:3, Job 28:24). God not only has all understanding and knowledge about everything, but also about all time, past, present and future. Since God is everywhere and is eternal, He sees and He knows all things that ever did happen, all things that are happening, and all things that ever will happen. Before He created the earth, He knew we would rebel, and had already prepared a solution (Ephesians 1:4&5).

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### **God Is Perfect**

God is perfect in all ways (Psalm 18:30). He is flawless and protects us from harm. He is without blemish, complete with nothing lacking. There is no possibility of improvement. Since He is infinitely perfect, any change, however small, would be a lessening of His perfection. He is perfect in His love, perfect in His care of us, and perfect in all His ways.

### **God Is Eternal**

God is eternal (Psalm 93:2). God always was, is now, and always will be. Eternity is a difficult concept, because we live in time where everything has a beginning and an end. God created everything we have knowledge of, including time. Time is nothing more than how we order events so we can communicate with each other. Before time and space came into being, God was. God always will be. When He created us He made us to be eternal beings like Himself, except that we had a beginning. There was a time for each of us when we did not exist. However, He created us to live with Him for the rest of eternity, which is forever and ever.

### **God Is Righteous**

God is good and righteous (Psalm 145:7). Because of who and what He is, God cannot do evil or be unfair (Job 34:10). As a matter of fact, He cannot even look upon evil because of His purity (Habakkuk 1:13). No evil can exist in His presence, so there cannot be evil in eternity with Him. When we do evil it puts a block between us and our God, and we must repent to restore that relationship.

### **God Has All Understanding**

God is mighty and has infinite understanding (Psalm 147:4-5). God understands us fully, perfectly. The more we become like God, the better we will understand our selves. Infinity, like eternity, is difficult to understand, because it is outside of our normal experiences. It is quantity without limit. Quantities like billion and trillion are beyond our understanding. Though we can talk about them we would stand in awe of a billion or a trillion of anything heaped up in front of us. Yet they are as nothing when compared to infinity. Still God is infinite in all His attributes.

### **God Acts**

God's acts, He does not react (Romans 5:8). God had His plans in place before creation and He carries them out as He wills. If He reacted to what we do then we could control His actions, and He would not be much of a God; He would be more like the ones invented by the Greeks and Romans. Throughout scripture He warns His people over and over that He has already determined what happens and tells them what the blessings are and what the curses are, and what brings on the curses. He has given us a set of spiritual laws, just as binding as the physical laws. The law of gravity tells us that unless we are supported by an equal and opposite force, gravity will compel us to fall towards its center. And sure enough, if you step off a roof you fall, every time. It's the same way with spiritual laws; do right and the rewards come, but do wrong and the consequences come. It's our own doing. God does not wait for us before he acts. He did not wait for us to repent and then send Jesus, but God loved us even before we turned to him.

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### **God Is Triune**

We know God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:13-17; Matthew 28:19). God is three persons, yet one essence, one divine being. All three persons were present and active at the baptism of Jesus. The Father spoke, the Son was baptized, and the Holy Spirit descended. The concept of the Trinity wasn't invented by man, but comes directly from Jesus. The concept of the Trinity is one of the mysteries of God we will not fully understand until we see Him face to face. The closest beings we have in creation are humans, ourselves. We were created in His image and we are body, mind, and spirit, yet that is not exactly the same as God, just similar. We also can be multiple persons. To our parents we are child and have that type of relationship. To our children we are parent, and have that type of relationship. To our brothers and sisters we are brother or sister, and have that type of relationship. However, we are still one human being. Yet that is not exactly the same as God, just similar. When we see Him face to face we will exclaim "Of course! It couldn't be any other way".

What shall we say then to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? (Romans 8:31).