

WHAT the BIBLE TEACHES about GOD and JESUS CHRIST

Lesson 2 - Part 3

GOD THE FATHER

Four attributes of God

1. In the last lesson we learned three things which show that God is the greatest. What are these three things?

- which means
- which means
- which means

2. God is omnipresent; that is, He is in all places at the same time. He is omniscient; that is, He knows all things. He is omnipotent; that is, He has all power.

In this lesson we want to learn four attributes or things which show us what God is like.

- God does not change
- God is holy
- God is righteous and just
- God is true

We call these four things attributes of God. An attribute is something which tells us what a person is really like. When a person is kind, we say kindness is an attribute of this person.

What do attributes show us about God?

3. Attributes show us what God is really like. One attribute is that **God does not change**. He does not change in His being. He is always the same. He always was God and He always will be God.

Psalm 102:26,27

They (earth and heaven) will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be discarded. But you remain the same, and your years will never end.



What is one attribute of God?

4. One attribute is that God does not change. He always was God and He always will be God. God is absolutely perfect and He cannot change. He cannot be better because He is perfect. He cannot be worse because He is perfect and cannot be less than perfect. He cannot be more wise because He knows all things. He cannot be more holy, just, or truthful because He is perfect. God cannot change in His being or in what He is like.

Psalm 33:11

But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

Malachi 3:6

I the LORD do not change...

Who does not change?

5. God does not change. He is always the same. His love, righteousness, and power are always the same.

Psalm 103:17,18

But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD'S love is with those who fear him, and his righteousness with their children's children - with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts.

Who will never change in His love and righteousness?

6. God will never change in His love and righteousness. He does not

change in His being and in what He is like. Sometimes the Bible says God repented (relented); that is, He turned away from doing what He was going to do.

Jeremiah 18:8

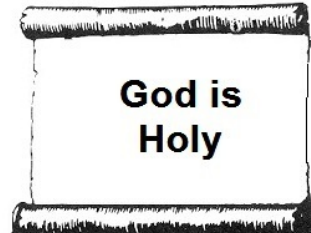
...and if the nation I warned repents of its evil, then I will relent (not do what I planned to do) and not inflict on it the disaster I had planned.

God often said, "If you keep on sinning, I will destroy you." Sometimes He relented and did not destroy these people. Did God change? No, he did not change because he said, "if". When people repented (turned from sin), God showed them love and forgiveness.

What is one attribute of God?

7. One attribute is that God does not change.

Another attribute is that **God is holy**. To be holy means to be pure and clean and without sin in thought, word, and action. God is perfect and there is nothing unclean in Him. There is absolutely no sin in His thinking, His words, or His actions.



Revelation 4:8

Day and night they (the four living creatures) never stop saying: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come."

Who is holy?

8. God is holy. To be holy is to be completely clean. It is to be perfect.

Leviticus 11:44,45

I am the LORD your God; consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I am holy. Do not make yourselves unclean by any creature that moves about on the ground. I am the LORD who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore be holy, because I am holy.

God does not change. What is another attribute of God?

9. Another attribute is that God is holy. People sin, but God cannot look at sin.

Habakkuk 1:13

Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrong.

Isaiah 59:1,2

Surely the arm of the LORD is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

What separates people from the holy God?

10. Sin separates people from the holy God. They cannot come to God as they are. Someone has to take the sin away.

Ephesians 2:13

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

Because Jesus died for people, they can come to the holy God.

Why must we come to God through Jesus?

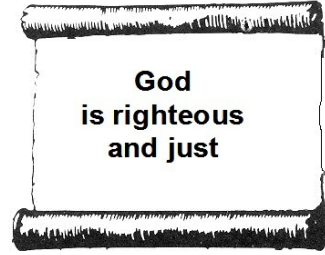
11. We must come through Jesus because God is holy and we have sinned.

We should have great respect for God because He is holy. Notice what God said to Moses. **Read** Exodus 3:5.

What are two attributes of God which we have learned?

-
-
- God is righteous and just
- God is true

12. God does not change. He is holy. A holy God also must be **righteous and just**. To be righteous or right means to be perfect and to do everything just as it should be done. God is righteous. There is no sin in Him, and there is nothing wrong about God.



Isaiah 45:21

. . . And there is no God apart from me, a righteous God and a Savior; there is none but me.

Psalm 119:137

Righteous are you, O LORD, and your laws are right.

Who is righteous and just?

13. God is righteous and just. He does what is right. He is right and does what is fair. When a man disobeys the laws of our country, he should be punished. When a man kills a child, he should be punished. This is right and fair because he disobeyed the laws of the country. When we break God's laws, it is only fair and right that we should be punished.

Ezekiel 18:20

The soul who sins is the one who will die.

Who is right and fair when He punishes a man for his sin?

14. God is right and fair when He punishes those who sin. Because God is fair and right, someone had to take our punishment. The person who took our punishment could not have any sin of his own. Jesus took our punishment. Now God can forgive our sin and still be fair.

2 Corinthians 5:21

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

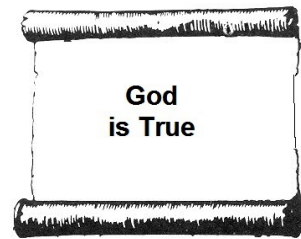
Who took the punishment for our sin?

15. Jesus took the punishment for our sin. God's justice says that all sin must be punished. God must be fair. He treats every person the same. Everyone who wants to come to God must have his sins forgiven and taken away by Jesus.

God does not change. He is holy. What is another attribute of God?

16. God is righteous and just. He is always fair with all people all the time.

The last attribute we want to look at in this lesson is **truth**. God is true, but truth is not God. What God thinks, says and does is true. Also that which God knows and stands for is true.



Revelation 6:10

They called out in a loud voice, "How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?"

What two attributes of God are spoken of in this verse?

17. God is true and holy. There is nothing false in Him. What God says about Himself is true. He is all that He says He is. What He says in the Bible is truth.

John 17:17

Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.

Whose word is truth?

18. God's word is truth. What He says He will do. All His promises are true because He never speaks a lie. We can depend upon His promises and know that God will keep all of them.

1 Kings 8:56

Praise be to the LORD, who has given rest to his people Israel just as he promised. Not one word has failed of all the good promises he gave through his servant Moses.

Why can we depend on God's promises?

19. You may have answered, God will keep all His promises. Or, you may have said, God is true. Talk about this with two or three other people.

20. Write down four attributes of God.

- God does not
- God is
- God is
- God is

WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES ABOUT GOD AND JESUS CHRIST by Helen Pope.
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