

June 30, 2019

## God's Character

By Michael Hickox

# Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street  
Olney, IL 62450  
217-218-0803  
www.olneychurchofchrist.org

## Services

### Sunday

Bible Study	9:30 am
A.M. Worship	10:20 am
P.M. Worship	2:00 pm

### Wednesday

Bible Class	7:00 pm
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**Elders:** Mike Gerber, Travis Hall  
**Deacons:** John Frost, Dave Goff,  
Roger Sholders

*Visitors are welcome*  
*We offer Bible classes for all ages*  
*We also offer in-home Bible studies*

We have Bible lessons on the radio (92.9 FM) Sundays from 8:00-8:30 a.m.

God has a nature that is in some ways beyond our comprehension. He has, though, revealed some significant truths about who He is. Consider seven of these truths that relate to God's character.

God is All-Seeing: **Hebrews 4:13** teaches, "***There is no creature that is hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and laid open before the eyes of Him to whom we must give an account.***" God sees *everyone everywhere* at all times. God knows our every action, word, and thought (**Prov. 15:3**).

This serves as a motivation for fleeing unrighteousness. Others may not know something evil we have done, spoken, or thought, but God does (**Luke 16:15**).

On the other hand, God's all-seeing nature is a *comfort* to the righteous. God "**sees in secret**" (**Matt. 6:6**) the good deeds that often go unnoticed by others. One who is sincerely striving to do right can find joy in the fact that God sees all.

God is All-Powerful: God is also *all-powerful*. When Sarah laughed within herself upon hearing she'd have a child in her old age, God responded, "***Is anything too hard for the LORD?***" (**verse 14**).

God can do whatever He pleases with His creation. This does not negate man's free will, but it should motivate us to humble ourselves under God's mighty hand (**1 Pet. 5:6**), surrendering to Him with reverence and godly fear (**Heb. 12:28**).

# God's Character

(Continued)

God's all-powerful character is a comfort to the righteous, who can rest assured that no matter the trial faced, God in His power allows us to overcome (cf. **Rev. 1:17-18**).

God is Light: Scripture further teaches us "**that God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all**" (**1 John 1:5**). God is perfect and sinless. Everything He chooses to do with His infinite power is righteous.

Because He is light, God cannot be in fellowship with those in darkness, but only those who walk in the light (**1 John 1:6-7**).

God is Just: Not only does God not have fellowship with darkness, but, as a perfectly just God, He does not ignore sin. His righteousness demands that He punish sin justly (cf. **Acts 17:31**). This is part of God's character that makes hell a reality. Were God not perfectly just, He might ignore the wages of sin (**Rom. 6:23**). Yet, in His perfectly righteous character, He will not.

God is Love: Though God punishes sin justly, His love causes Him to not *desire* this punishment for anyone.

Thus, God in His love sent His Son to die for people who have grossly mistreated Him (**Rom. 5:8**). God's love is such a primary part of His character that Scripture teaches "**God is love**" (**1 John 4:8**).

God's love does not mean that He grants salvation *unconditionally*, but He does extend salvation to those who *receive* it through faith and obedience to His commands (**Heb. 5:9**).

God is Longsuffering: God's love is further demonstrated in His longsuffering character. **2 Peter 3:9** teaches, "**The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness; but is longsuffering to you-ward, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.**"

Had God sent Jesus to judge the world already, some who are now saved would still be lost. Because God does not wish for anyone to be lost, He has suffered mistreatment from mankind without rendering immediate vengeance.

God is Faithful: Though God is longsuffering, **2 Peter 3:10** teaches that there *will* come a time when God will send His Son to judge the world. Assurance of this Day rests in God's *faithfulness*.

**Titus 1:2** says that God "**cannot lie**." This passage emphasizes the surety of eternal life for the righteous. God's faithfulness also assures that He will send the unrighteous to eternal *punishment* in hell (**Matt. 25:46**). God will do as He's said.

Another application of God's faithfulness is seen in **1 Corinthians 10:13**. God in His faithfulness provides us the opportunity to obey Him. As difficult as temptations may be, we always have a *choice* to do right, because our faithful God makes it so.

May we consider what Scripture says about who God is, and be thus motivated to give our lives wholeheartedly to Him.

## Area Gospel Meetings

Bellair Church of Christ:  
July 8-12 (with Chuck Bartlett)  
*M-F: 7:00 PM*

Casey Westside church of Christ:  
July 12-14 (with Andy Cantrell)  
*F: 7:00; Sat: 6:00; Sun: 9:30; 10:20; 6:00*

River Ridge church of Christ:  
July 13 (Singing)  
*Sat: 2:30-4:00 PM*

Yale church of Christ:  
July 15-19 (with Mike Davis)  
*M-F: 7:00 PM*

Hazel Dell Church of Christ:  
July 28 - August 2 (with Greg Sharp)  
*Sun: 9:30; 10:30; 6:00; M-F: 7:00 PM*

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## God's Plan for Saving Man

God's Grace	Ephesians 2:8
Christ's Blood	Romans 5:9
The Holy Spirit's Gospel	Romans 1:16
Sinner's Faith	Acts 16:31
Sinner's Repentance	Luke 13:3
Sinner's Confession	Romans 10:10
Sinner's Baptism	1 Peter 3:21
Christian's Work	James 2:24
Christian's Hope	Romans 8:24
Christian's Endurance	Revelation 2:10

## Prayer List

Holly G  
Sandy S  
Betty P  
Mabel H  
Cheryl S  
Norma C  
Linda & Family  
Dody G  
Joe B  
Allen S (Cancer)  
Jeanette & Family  
Raymond & Maxine  
June H (Broken Pelvis)  
Loren G (Injuries from fall)  
Randy S (Strokes)

## Daily Bible Reading

June 30 – Job 3-4; Acts 7:44-60  
July 1 – Job 5-7; Acts 8:1-25  
July 2 – Job 8-10; Acts 8:26-40  
July 3 – Job 11-13; Acts 9:1-21  
July 4 – Job 14-16; Acts 9:22-43  
July 5 – Job 17-19; Acts 10:1-23  
July 6 – Job 20-21; Acts 10:24-48

***“For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of His mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.” - Proverbs 2:6***

### **Prayer Leaders**

Sunday, June 30, 2019

Bible Study: Jeff

Worship: Carlyle

Evening: John

Wednesday, July 3, 2019

Michael

### **Cleaning Building**

Janice (June) / Jessica (July)

### **Prepare Communion**

Janice (June) / Jessica (July)

### **Upcoming Reminders**

**July 20: Ladies' Bible Class @ 9:30 a.m.**

*Study: Two Gracious Souls (Ruth 2:8-13)*

**August 11-16: Gospel Meeting**

*Speaker: David Tant*

### **Assignments**

Sunday, July 7, 2019

Reading: Travis

Announcements: Darrell

Table: Larry

Serve: Carlyle

Mason

Steve

Dan H

Wednesday, July 10, 2019

Invitation: Mike

### **Anniversaries**

July 11 – Ethan and Lindsay

July 16 – Darrell and Sidney

### **Birthdays**

July 8 – Mark

July 12 – Holly

July 12 – Jessilyn