

June 20, 2021

God's Character

By Michael Hickox

Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street
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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 our free will, but it should motivate us to humble ourselves under His 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.

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 the unrighteous will face eternal *punishment* in hell (**Matt. 25:46**), just as God has 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

Walnut Chapel Church of Christ:

June 20-25 (with Ron Griffin)

Sun: 9:30 AM, 10:20 AM, 6:00 PM; 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

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Words to Consider

“Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called sons of God.”

– Matthew 5:7-9 (ASV)

Prayer List

Holly G
Sandy S
Cheryl S
Norma C
Raymond & Maxine
Barbara G (Cancer)
Robert C
Don C (Esophageal Cancer)
Gerry S (Cancer in leg)
Ken G (Pancreatic Cancer)

Daily Bible Reading

June 20 – 2 Kings 4-6; Luke 24:36-53
June 21 – 2 Kings 7-9; John 1:1-28
June 22 – 2 Kings 10-12; John 1:29-51
June 23 – 2 Kings 13-15; John 2
June 24 – 2 Kings 16-18; John 3
June 25 – 2 Kings 19-21; John 4:1-30
June 26 – 2 Kings 22-25; John 4:31-54

“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.”

– Psalm 1:1-2 (KJV)

Prayer Leaders

Sunday, June 20, 2021

Bible Study: Jeff

Worship: Mark

Evening: Roger

Wednesday, June 23, 2021

Dan D

Assignments

Sunday, June 27, 2021

Reading: Larry

Announcements: Dave

Table: Steve

Serve: Mason

Jim

Clean Building

Cynde

Prepare Communion

Linda

Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Invitation: Larry

Upcoming Reminders

Aug 8-13: Gospel Meeting (with Jim Stauffer)

Anniversaries

June 23 – Mason & Stephanie

Birthdays