



MEMORY VERSES

- Isaiah 45:22 — “Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.”

INTRODUCTION

God is personal — we refer to God as He, not It. He is not simply a force, energy or substance, but a person. You'll find in God all the personality traits that you would expect to find in a person who is perfect, sovereign and who is absolute.

Not knowing enough about God can sometimes be just as dangerous as not knowing God at all. If you know that God hates sin, shouldn't you know what He considers to be sin? If you know that God loves righteousness, shouldn't you know what He defines as righteous living? To be consistent we should. This should be extremely practical, yet you may still find it to be quite conceptual and abstract.

1. God knows who He is (Self -aware)

God knows who He is. Being aware of yourself is essential to being a person. After all, if you don't know who you are, how would you expect others to know who you are? God knows He exists as a person. He is fully aware of His personhood. God told the timid Moses to tell the people, "Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you" (Exodus 3:14).



2. God is Confident in Who He is (Self -confident)



Confidence is being self-assured and showing self-reliance. God is a confident person. He speaks of Himself with confidence. He can do that because He's a person. God said to Israel, "For I am the LORD that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy" (Leviticus 11:45).

God is so confident in His personhood that He is fully aware that there is no person, no creature, no other God, nobody like Him. Isaiah said, "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else" (Isaiah 45:22).

3. God Freely Chooses What He Wills (Freedom to Choose)

God proves His personality by demonstrating the personal freedom He has to do whatever He chooses to do. God does have a mind of His own and He expresses His mind freely, doing whatever He chooses to do. Without reservation, the Lord explains, "My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it" (Isaiah 46:10-11).

ROMANS 11:33-34



**I CHOOSE
TO DO
THIS**

- FREE WILL
- SOVEREIGN
- EXPRESSES HIS THOUGHT
- PERSONALITY SEEN THROUGH CHOICES MADE

God is the supreme person and, as such, He needs counsel from no one else to determine what He will do. Paul said, “O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out! 34 For who hath known the mind of the Lord? or who hath been his counselor?” (Ro.11:33-34).

God demonstrates His personality through His personal choices or decisions.

4. God Makes Decisions that Moral Persons Make

PROVERBS 15:3



*I CHOOSE
THIS OVER
THIS*

- MORALITY
- INTELLIGENCE
- DISTINGUISH BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL
- GOD CHOOSES GOOD OVER EVIL

Proverbs 15:3 says, “The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.” He shows that He's aware of what is right and what is wrong, what is good and what is evil, and that makes God more than just a person. That makes Him a moral person.

God possesses both intelligence and morality. He knows the difference between what is right and what is wrong. Energy and concepts do not have the ability to discern between right and wrong. Only a moral person could know the difference. We sense freedom knowing that God is not obligated to us unless He chooses to initiate an obligation. Halleluiah, He made that choice toward us.

5. God is Knowable and Desires to be Known



You can get to know a person. We get to know God by reading His love letter to us called the Bible. He wants us to know Him in a deeply intimate way. The first step we can take in getting to know God is to look for Him, and then spend some intimate time alone with Him.

It appears God wants you to get to know Him more than you yourself want to get to know Him.

Hosea 6:6 says, “For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.” It was not that God did not want sacrifices. He commanded them. He wanted something more than external observances. He wanted a heart-felt relationship with them. The sacrifices could have been offered without the most desired involvement of the heart. It is the relationship that made them acceptable to God.

God Desires a Relationship



“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends”
(John 15:13)

- JESUS CALLED US HIS FRIENDS
- JESUS DIED FOR HIS FRIENDS




God has always desired our hearts and minds to love Him (Du.6:4-5). Abraham was called the friend of God (Ja.2:23). God is not some distant deity. He's not way out there somewhere. He's not some impersonal force. He is a God who cares. He is a God who really wants us to get to know Him.

6. God Expresses Emotions

He possesses the emotions that persons possess.

- **LOVE:** when He sent His only Son, Jesus Christ, to die at Calvary for you. God's great sacrifice at the cross is the ultimate proof that God is love
- **ANGER:** He exhibits the emotion of anger. Psalm 7:11, "God is a just judge, and God is angry with the wicked every day." He's displeased when we sin against Him.
- **KINDNESS:** God is kind toward us. Kindness is one of God's emotions. "As a father pities his children, so the LORD pities those who fear Him" (Ps. 103:13). If you think no one else pities you, then meet the God of this universe, who pities us the way a father pities his children. He cares enough for you and me that He sent His Son to die for you and me. God is angry with our sin, but He loves us. And He is kind toward us.

Why Study the Emotions of God?

- **We feel God's emotions towards God**
 When I understand that God enjoys me, I will grow in the ability to enjoy God
- **We feel God's emotions towards ourselves**
 We should feel God's emotions towards ourselves.
- **We feel God's emotions towards others**
 We treat others, and consequently ourselves the way we perceive God to be relating to us



Over time, I am liberated from the pervasive spiritual boredom that plagues even committed believers. We don't want to be bored with God, but often things like prayer, fasting and studying the Bible can be so difficult. The remedy is to understand God's emotions towards us. When we do, we will have corresponding emotions of love, enjoyment and desire towards Him.

By searching out the emotions of God's heart towards us in the Word of God, we grow to possess a Biblical self-esteem which is sensing God's emotions towards us. Let us renew our minds (Romans 12:2) with the Word of God and become people after God's own heart.

He is a God worth getting to know. Since God is a person you can know Him. Open His Book, find out what He said about Himself, and let Him show you how very much He cares for you.

PROBLEM: A question or problem exist among some between God being eternal and immutable, and say, the emotion of grief. The reasoning goes like this: if God is timeless and He grieves this would be a logical contradiction. They contend that a timeless Being cannot change (a transition from one state into another). This would be a temporal succession of change. The Fallacy is the assumption that expressing an emotion such as grieving is a change. God is greater than our ability to comprehend His Being.



God is a Person Summary

God is a person. God has the characteristics of personality (intellect, emotion, and will). He is not mere energy nor a blind force nor the sum total of everything (pantheism). God is a person who speaks and hears and blesses! The Bible clearly states that God knows (Ps.139:1-6). The Scriptures state too that God feels both wrath and love (Nahum 1:2 and John 3:16 show the contrast). The Bible also says that God wills (1Th.4:3). Knowledge, emotion, and will are the traits of personality. God is not some cloudy, hazy, indefinite, blindly operating, omnipotent Force. God is a living, loving Person who speaks and hears and blesses.

Characteristics of Personality		
God possesses the characteristics that persons possess — God is the Ultimate Person		
Intellect	Emotion	Will
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He thinks (Psalm 139:1-6) • Self Aware (He knows Who He is) (Ex.3:14) • God has confidence in Himself Is.45:22) • Responds (Psalm 103:6-14) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He Grieves (Ge.6:6) • He Loves (Jn.3:16) • Anger (Ps.7:11) • Kindness (Ps.103:13) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decides with Freedom of Choice (Psalm 115:3) (Moral person Who knows difference between evil and good (Pr.15:3) • God pursues a relationship with man



QUESTIONS

1. What are the three essential characteristics of personality?
2. What did God tell Moses to tell the people to call Him (Ex.3:14)
3. How does Isaiah 45:22 describe God?
4. What verse tells us that God makes moral choices between right and wrong (Pr.15:3)?
5. What does God want above sacrifice (Hosea 6:6)?