# **Discovering His Nature in Scripture**

Why is understanding the nature of God important? Many Christians have a wrong view of God. "What we think about God is the single most important thing in our spiritual journey" - Graham Cooke

We can go through this lesson and learn mentally some of the characteristics of God's nature but to really understand the fullness of who He is and who He wants to be for you requires a lifelong journey of discovery.

The more we come to know and experience the nature of God, the more intimate our relationship with Him becomes.

## God Is Loving and He Is For You

At the core of God's love lies the concept of redemption and forgiveness. Regardless of our past actions or the burdens we carry, God's love extends an invitation to experience healing and transformation. It is a love that offers forgiveness, allowing us to release guilt, shame, and regret. Through this love, we find the strength to grow and embrace a future that is free from the chains of our past.

God's compassionate heart allows us to find solace in times of pain, knowing that we are not alone in our suffering. In this love, we discover the Holy Spirit's presence that listens, supports, and extends a comforting hand when we need it most.

God's love has the power to unveil our true identity and potential. It is a love that sees beyond the surface and recognizes the inherent worth within each of us. It empowers us to recognize our unique gifts, talents, and purpose, and empowers us to live a life guided by love and compassion.

"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love." - 1 John 4:7-8

"You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over." Psalms 23:5

"Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you. I will uphold you with My righteous right hand." Isaiah 41:10

## God Is Merciful

God's mercy is an expression of divine compassion that transcends our shortcomings and offers us redemption and forgiveness.

To fully embrace God's mercy, we must open our hearts to receive it. This begins with humility, acknowledging our own imperfections and limitations. Through prayer and repentance, we find God's mercy and allow it to transform our lives. It is through this ongoing process of seeking and receiving mercy that we cultivate a deeper relationship with Him and experience the transformative power of God's love.

But You, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, Slow to anger and abundant in loving-kindness and truth. Psalms 86:15

Therefore the LORD longs to be gracious to you, And therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you. For the LORD is a God of justice; How blessed are all those who long for Him. - Isaiah 30:18

We count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and is merciful. - James 5:11

But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ Ephesians 2:4-5

## **God Is Gracious**

God's graciousness is a gift freely bestowed upon us, regardless of our merits or deserving. It is an expression of divine love that uplifts, supports, and empowers us on our journey.

To fully experience the transformative power of God's graciousness, we are called to live in a state of **gratitude**. It begins with recognizing the abundance of grace in our lives and acknowledging our dependence on Jesus.

"The LORD is gracious and merciful; Slow to anger and great in lovingkindness." – Psalm 145:8

Therefore the LORD longs to be **gracious** to you, And therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you. For the LORD is a God of justice; How blessed are all those who long for Him. -Isaiah 30:18

And all were speaking well of Him, and wondering at the gracious words which were falling from His

lips; and they were saying, "Is this not Joseph's son?" -Luke 4:22

Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; Yes, our God is compassionate. Psalms 116:5

#### God Is Holy

God's holiness encompasses moral perfection and absolute righteousness. It signifies a nature that is completely pure, without any sin or moral flaw. The holiness of God **sets the standard** for what is good, just, and right. It calls us to strive for righteousness and to align our lives with His values, recognizing that the path to holiness is found in pursuing moral excellence.

"Now flee from youthful lusts and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart." 2Tim 2:22

"A highway will be there, a roadway, And it will be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean will not travel on it, But it will be for him who walks that way, And fools will not wander on it." - Isa 35:8

"Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord Almighty" – Revelation 4:8

#### God is All Powerful

God's limitless power signifies a divine sovereignty that surpasses any human or spiritual authority or strength.

Knowing that God is all powerful means that the enemy, the devil is not. The enemy still needs to go before the throne room of God to ask permission. So what about spiritual warfare? God is not at war with the enemy, we are. God is training us how to deal with the devil and his schemes. He wants us to learn how to take spiritual authority and overcome in all areas of life. God's power goes uncontested on earth and in the heavens.

Because of this, it is easy to see why God tells us not to worry or be fearful. He is all powerful and He is for you and lives in you!

"for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely **powerful** for the destruction of fortresses." 2 Cor 10:4

"By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth." – Psalm 33:6

The LORD said to Moses, "Is the LORD'S power limited? Now you shall see whether My word will come

true for you or not." Numbers 11:23

For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His **eternal power** and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. Romans 1:20

#### God Is All-Knowing and Everywhere

God possesses complete and perfect knowledge of all things, including the past, present, and future, as well as the inner thoughts, intentions, and desires of all beings.

"For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the **thoughts and intentions of the heart."** Heb 4:12

"Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please" - Isaiah 46:9-10

"Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the dawn, If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, even there Your hand will lead me, And Your right hand will lay hold of me." Psalm 139:7-10

"'Am I a God at hand,' declares the Lord, 'and not a God afar off? Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him?' declares the Lord. 'Do I not fill heaven and earth?' declares the Lord" - Jeremiah 23:23-24

# God Is Faithful

God is dependable, trustworthy, and true to His promises. He does not change or waver in His commitment to His creation. God's goodness, love, justice, and mercy are unchanging and reliable. He can be trusted to act in accordance with His divine attributes, and His actions are consistent with His nature.

"For the word of the LORD is upright, And all His work is done in faithfulness." - Psalm 33:4

"Your lovingkindness, O LORD, extends to the heavens, Your faithfulness reaches to the skies". - Psalm 36:5

"Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands." - Deut 7:9

"[I]f we are faithless, he remains faithful— for he cannot deny himself." 2 Timothy 2:13

# God Is Good

Just as parents want good for their children, our Heavenly Father wants only good for us. James 1:17 says, "Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows." We should remember, however, that good things may not always show up as happy experiences. Sometimes good can come disguised as adversity or hardship, but God can use difficulties for good, as we learn in Romans 8:28: "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

The Goodness of God is the core of our Christian faith. It is because of His desire for our good that He provided salvation through His son. Everything God does is for our good. We can see proof of the goodness of God all around us in the life-sustaining provisions He supplies—from crops that provide our food, to the very air we breathe. We can have goodness in us, and even desire to do good, but true goodness comes from the One who is perfectly good and wants good things for all people. One goal should be to show through our words and actions the goodness of God to everyone we meet.

"The Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works." Psalm 145:9

"No one is good but One, that is, God." Mark 10:18

"He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the goodness of the Lord." Psalm 33:5

"I would have lost heart, unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." Psalm 27:13

"O, taste and see that the Lord is good" – Psalm 34:8