

THE NATURE OF GOD

By Keith Greer

Sometimes, as I look around the religious world in general, my mind wonders if men even understand the basic nature of God. Who is God? What is His character? What do the scriptures reveal about Him? In this short article we will give some insight into the answers of these vital questions.

HE IS A GOD OF JUSTICE. God is one who is always fair and just. He never renders an incorrect verdict. "God is a just judge, And God is angry with the wicked every day." {Psalms 7:11} "The way of the just is uprightness; O Most Upright, You weigh the path of the just." {Isaiah 26:7} "...for the Lord is a God of justice: ... " {Isaiah 30:18} None are as just as God! This judge and His justice cannot be purchased by money or be favored by one person over another. All will be treated fairly no matter what their race, color, social status, or what men may say about them.

HE IS A GOD OF MERCY and COMPASSION. God is willing to forgive and extend mercy for those who will repent. "Who is a God like You, Pardoning iniquity And passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, Because He delights in mercy. He will again have compassion on us, And will subdue our iniquities. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea." {Micah 7:18,19} "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." {Hebrews 8:12} What a wonderful God we serve! Sadly, too many in the world just believe in this part of His nature!

HE IS A GOD WHO HEARS THE PRAYERS OF HIS FAITHFUL SERVANTS. God is concerned about the plight of all men, but especially of those who are His children. "Therefore I will look to the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation; My God will hear me." {Micah 7:7} "For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, And His ears are open to their prayers; But the face of the LORD is against those who do evil." {1 Peter 3:12} God will always listen to His faithful children.

HE IS ONE WHO IS TOUCHED BY OUR PROBLEMS. Do we ever begin to think that God in heaven cannot be touched by our pain on earth? "... casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. " {1 Peter 5: 7} "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, ... " {Hebrews 4:15} "So God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God acknowledged them. {Exodus 2:24,25} Yes, God cares and He can help like no one else can.

HE IS A GOD WHO HAS MADE PROVISIONS FOR OUR SALVATION. God created man in His own image. Man was His highest creation. God made provisions for man to redeem and reconcile man to Him when he fell. How?

"In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace, " {Ephesians 1:7} "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God," {Ephesians 2:8} "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ," {Ephesians 1:3 } " ... as

His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue. " {2 Peter 1: 3} The Scheme of Redemption was determined by our Father before the world was even created. God has provided everything needed in order to bring about a return to fellowship with Him and a way for man to overcome His greatest problem—SIN!

Yes, God surely is wonderful in all He has done and continues to do for His creation. Are you appreciative and thankful for His blessings? Do you really understand His greatness? Only by being one of His children and availing ourselves to His love can we know His true greatness in our lives. ***