

Know God's Character

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. – Deuteronomy 7:9

The problem with our theology today is that we make God like us. J.B. Phillips says *Your God is Too Small*. We have shrunk God to man-size deity – “You thought that I was one like unto you.”

Dallas Willard, The Divine Conspiracy

The acid test for any theology is this: Is the God presented one that can be loved, heart, soul, mind, and strength? If the thoughtful, honest answer is; “Not really,” then we need to look elsewhere or deeper. It does not really matter how sophisticated intellectually or doctrinally our approach is. If it fails to set a lovable God— a radiant, happy, friendly, accessible, and totally competent being— before ordinary people, we have gone wrong. We should not keep going in the same direction, but turn around and take another road. –

If your God is mean, angry, judgmental, moody, vacillating, aloof, silent, cruel, hard to please, and impossible to love, then you've got the wrong God.

Exodus 34:6-7, 14

And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, 7. maintaining love (mercy) to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation." ... 14. **Do not worship any other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.**

Here are ten great attributes of God revealed, and all ten are under attack by the enemy to turn God into a god like that of pagans. He accuses the Father of wrong doing.

- 1. God is Always Faithful**
- 2. God is Always Good**
- 3. God is Always Gracious**
- 4. God is Always Loving**
- 5. God is Always Forgiving**
- 6. God is Always Merciful**
- 7. God is Always Patient**
- 8. God is Always True**
- 9. God is Always Just**
- 10. God is Always Jealous over you**

God is always who he says He is - everywhere - at all times - to all people - to everyone and anyone who looks to him in faith. He cannot deny himself - that means that He cannot be anything other than what He declares himself to be. He does not lie. He cannot lie. He does not fail. He cannot fail. He does not change, vacillate, diminish, erode, or evolve. Even when we are unfaithful He remains faithful.

God is who He says He is. God cannot lie. God does not deceive. God does not promise and fail to perform. God is not a slick lawyer looking for loopholes to get out of his promises. His promises are absolute. They are “Yes” and “Amen.”