

## The God of the Bible Isaiah 40:25-26

Longer passages are not quoted in the study sheet, but they can be read in the accompanying transcript.

Who is the God of the Bible and what is He \_\_\_\_\_? Today we will look at what God \_\_\_\_\_ about himself. The Bible isn't simply another book; it's God's book, divinely inspired and full of \_\_\_\_\_. Through the Bible \_\_\_\_\_ reveals His character, His heart, and His nature. Bible history is truly His \_\_\_\_\_. Scripture reveals \_\_\_\_\_ He created and interacted with man through the centuries. God \_\_\_\_\_ everyone and has always wanted what is \_\_\_\_\_ for us. This is why we spend our time studying the Bible.

We know many \_\_\_\_\_ to believe in God: the starry heavens above, the moral law within, the complexity of the cells of our body are only a few. These things couldn't have just happened by \_\_\_\_\_; they came by intelligent \_\_\_\_\_. Only a supremely intelligent and powerful Being could have \_\_\_\_\_ them. Romans 1:20 says God's "invisible attributes, namely, his eternal \_\_\_\_\_ and divine \_\_\_\_\_, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made." We can perceive some things about God from looking at the \_\_\_\_\_, but to know God truly, we must go to \_\_\_\_\_.

If God did in fact, create us, then we need to \_\_\_\_\_ Him. We need to know \_\_\_\_\_ we can come into a relationship with Him and what He desires from us. We can't find that in the woods or by the seashore; we \_\_\_\_\_ God by looking into His divinely revealed Word, the Bible. Only the Bible can help us \_\_\_\_\_ His character, His nature, and His love for us.

### **Our reading today comes from Isaiah 40:25-26.**

How do you \_\_\_\_\_ God? J. B. Phillips wrote a book entitled, *Your God Is Too Small*. He saw that what many \_\_\_\_\_ God was like and how the Bible \_\_\_\_\_ God were quite different. Many people have never taken the time to \_\_\_\_\_ what the Bible actually says about the nature and the character of God. Some simply \_\_\_\_\_ on one aspect of the Lord's nature and \_\_\_\_\_ other aspects that are just as important. God is gracious, but God is also \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. God is compassionate, but He will also \_\_\_\_\_ evildoers who will not \_\_\_\_\_. God is not lopsided in character. He doesn't have \_\_\_\_\_ like we do.

**Read Isaiah 55:8-9.** Since we are imperfect and weak creatures, it's \_\_\_\_\_ to understand our Creator who has no imperfections or weaknesses. We'd like to \_\_\_\_\_ that He's just like us, but He isn't. We compromise, but He doesn't. We \_\_\_\_\_, but He doesn't. We lie to ourselves, but God never lies. He is indeed \_\_\_\_\_.

God is not a “\_\_\_\_\_” or simply an immovable object, like some people think. Scripture describes God as a \_\_\_\_\_. He thinks, feels, acts, loves, wills and judges. He has the \_\_\_\_\_, the emotions, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of a person. He can be \_\_\_\_\_ as He was in Noah’s day in Genesis 6. He can love and He showed that love by giving Jesus for our \_\_\_\_\_. He can rejoice when sinners \_\_\_\_\_, as He does in Luke 15. He can \_\_\_\_\_ and He asks us to reason with Him in Isaiah 1:18. He can become \_\_\_\_\_ and does so with those who will not repent. God can \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for the future. When Jesus prayed, He prayed “Our \_\_\_\_\_.” Christians have a relationship with God as a \_\_\_\_\_ would with his father. God made man in His own \_\_\_\_\_, so that man has an intelligent and moral spirit.

When Jesus came to earth, He had \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_; but the Father in heaven and the Holy Spirit are not physical or material. Jesus said, “God is \_\_\_\_\_, and those who worship Him must worship Him in spirit and truth” (John 4:24). The Lord said, “a spirit does not have flesh and blood” (Luke 24:39). **Read what Paul told the philosophers at Athens in Acts 17:24-25 and verse 29.**

Sometimes children ask, “Where did God come from?” The answer is that God has \_\_\_\_\_ existed. He is self-existent. Acts 17:28 says, “in Him we \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and have our very being.” God introduced himself to Moses in Exodus 3:14 as, “I AM WHO I AM.” This phrase was revered as the holy \_\_\_\_\_ of God by the Israelites.

God is not only spirit and self-existent, He is also \_\_\_\_\_. God does not have the limitations that \_\_\_\_\_ have. Space and time cannot \_\_\_\_\_ God. As to time, God is \_\_\_\_\_ (Psalm 90:2). Unlike us, God exists \_\_\_\_\_ of time (2 Peter 3:8). He created time for \_\_\_\_\_, but He is not limited by it. Nor is God limited by \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Kings 8:27). Proverbs 15:3 says, “The eyes of the LORD are in \_\_\_\_\_ place, Watching the evil and the good.”

Beyond this, we must \_\_\_\_\_ that God is all-wise and all-knowing. God knows and understands all things about people, about nature, about animals and the universe. **Read Romans 11:33-36.**

God is not only all-knowing, He’s also all-\_\_\_\_\_. Jesus said, “With God all things are \_\_\_\_\_” (Mark 10:27). Job 42:2 says God “can do \_\_\_\_\_ things.” Jeremiah said, “Ah Lord God! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too \_\_\_\_\_ for You” (Jeremiah 32:17). Being all-powerful doesn’t mean that God can or will perform \_\_\_\_\_ impossibilities, such as making a square circle or a stone so large it can’t be moved.

Ephesians 4:6 says there is “one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.” God is certainly \_\_\_\_\_. The first of the Ten Commandments says, “You shall have no

other gods before Me.” That is, no other gods besides Me. Man-made gods are forbidden, because they are imaginary and don’t \_\_\_\_\_. Idols can’t \_\_\_\_\_ the true grandeur and glory of the eternal God who doesn’t live in temples made with hands (Acts 17:24). Men sin against God when they \_\_\_\_\_ the immortal God and \_\_\_\_\_ creatures as the pagans did with idolatry in ancient times (1 Corinthians 8:4).

Since God is Lord of \_\_\_\_\_, He is sovereign. God \_\_\_\_\_ the nations. According to Jeremiah 18:7-10, God plants and uproots nations. According to Acts 17:26, He “made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place.” God now commands all men everywhere to \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 17:30). At the end of the world, God will \_\_\_\_\_ each of us according to our works and according to His Word.

God doesn’t show favoritism, but He accepts men from every nation who \_\_\_\_\_ him and do what is \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 10:34-35). Because God is \_\_\_\_\_, we can regard what He teaches as righteous (Psalm 19:9). God’s moral and religious \_\_\_\_\_ will stand firm at the judgment. God hasn’t given us any weak or useless \_\_\_\_\_. Each one has a \_\_\_\_\_.

As we consider God’s \_\_\_\_\_, we must realize that God is utterly holy. Isaiah tells of the seraphim who cry out, “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of Hosts” (Isaiah 6:3). James 1:13 says, “Let no one say when he is tempted, ‘I am being tempted by God’; for God \_\_\_\_\_ be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.” God commands His children, “Be ye holy, for I am holy” (1 Peter 1:16). Because God is holy, \_\_\_\_\_ is offensive. People today are keenly aware of what offends \_\_\_\_\_, but they may not know what offends \_\_\_\_\_. While God loves the sinner and has provided a way of \_\_\_\_\_, God still gets offended when the people He loves sin against Him.

God’s grace doesn’t \_\_\_\_\_ out His holiness. God \_\_\_\_\_ approves of sin (Habakkuk 1:13). According to Hebrews 6:18, “it is impossible for God to \_\_\_\_\_,” or to commit any sin. It’s God’s holiness that demands \_\_\_\_\_ when people sin. God’s goodness means that He cannot \_\_\_\_\_ sin. Sin is sin, because God knows it’s destructive and \_\_\_\_\_. God speaks out against sin, because He \_\_\_\_\_ people. Being holy is \_\_\_\_\_ for people; and sin is always \_\_\_\_\_.

In addition, God is unchangeable; He, Himself said, “I am the Lord, I do not \_\_\_\_\_” (Malachi 3:6). Moses wrote, “God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should \_\_\_\_\_; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?” (Numbers 23:19). God doesn’t have the weaknesses of fickle men who \_\_\_\_\_ at a whim (James 1:17). We can count on Him to keep His \_\_\_\_\_. We can also count on

His commandments and His moral \_\_\_\_\_. Culture doesn't change God. Right and wrong do not change with the \_\_\_\_\_.

God is \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus said that the Father in heaven "causes His \_\_\_\_\_ to rise on the evil and the good, and He sends \_\_\_\_\_ on the righteous and the unrighteous" (Matthew 5:45). Even though men were foolish and disobedient, God's kindness and love appeared in Christ Jesus (Titus 3:5). God's mercy can save even the \_\_\_\_\_ of sinners when they repent and turn to Him. That's because God is love. We know what love is and what good is, because of the great \_\_\_\_\_ of our God in Christ Jesus. **Read 1 John 4:7-11.** God's character teaches us how to \_\_\_\_\_ and how to \_\_\_\_\_. We love because He \_\_\_\_\_ loved us (1 John 4:19).

Why does this matter? The more we \_\_\_\_\_ about God, the more we \_\_\_\_\_ Him and the more we want to be \_\_\_\_\_ Him. Christ embodied every good and righteous thing, and everything He did \_\_\_\_\_ us and gives us life (John 15:13). We need to know the Lord Jesus; and the more we know Him, the \_\_\_\_\_ our understanding of our Father in Heaven will be.

God is God. He created us, gives us life, and will judge us at the last day. Whether we accept or approve of Him, He's still the one \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ God. God's power, His teaching, and character hasn't changed, even if our \_\_\_\_\_ changes. What we \_\_\_\_\_ or feel about God doesn't define Him. God defines and describes Himself through His \_\_\_\_\_ Word. We must accept Him on His \_\_\_\_\_. The God of the Bible is very different from many \_\_\_\_\_ beliefs. Some serve a \_\_\_\_\_ god that they \_\_\_\_\_ existed rather than the true God revealed in Scripture. This is why we must \_\_\_\_\_ the Scriptures. We want the \_\_\_\_\_ God.

Paul called the God of the Bible "\_\_\_\_\_ God" in Philippians 4:19. Is He your God? Be honest: are you living in such a \_\_\_\_\_ that honors or dishonors God, that pleases or offends Him? If you are living in such a way that God is offended shouldn't you think about your \_\_\_\_\_?

To get right with God, love and believe in Jesus Christ. Believe that He died for your sins and arose from the dead. Make Him your Lord by turning from your sins in \_\_\_\_\_. With your love, and faith, and repentance, \_\_\_\_\_ your faith and be \_\_\_\_\_ into Christ. Baptism is an immersion in water for the forgiveness of your \_\_\_\_\_. Baptism is the time when God \_\_\_\_\_ the old man of sin and \_\_\_\_\_ you up to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:3-7). In baptism God acts upon you, making you His \_\_\_\_\_, adding you to the \_\_\_\_\_, forgiving your sins, and giving you eternal life. The Bible says, "Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name" (Acts 22:16). Won't you do that today?