

## God the Father

### Titus 3:3-7

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

When someone \_\_\_\_\_ of God, is He a mystery to you? Today we're going to see how God has \_\_\_\_\_ Himself to man. Second Peter 1:20-21 says, "But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's \_\_\_\_\_ interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of \_\_\_\_\_ will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God." The men who penned the words of the Bible didn't make up what they wrote, but they spoke from \_\_\_\_\_. Because the Holy Spirit moved them to write, their words are utterly \_\_\_\_\_. The Bible is holy because \_\_\_\_\_ is holy.

Though most people in America \_\_\_\_\_ in God, many have serious \_\_\_\_\_ about Him and many misunderstand Him. Americans view God in four ways. Some believe in an "authoritative God" who \_\_\_\_\_ people and is engaged in their lives. A second group believes in a "benevolent God," who is thoroughly involved in their lives, but is \_\_\_\_\_, not stern. A third group thought that God was a "critical God" who is \_\_\_\_\_ from daily events, but will render judgment in the afterlife. The fourth group said that He's a "distant God" who \_\_\_\_\_ the universe in motion, but then disengaged."

Surveying people only tells us what people \_\_\_\_\_. Surveys only show disagreements, and a majority opinion isn't a guarantee of the \_\_\_\_\_. We believe it's better to survey the \_\_\_\_\_ of God to discover what God says about Himself. Romans 3:4 says, "Let God be \_\_\_\_\_ though every one were a \_\_\_\_\_." Humans are often misinformed and easily deceived, but what God says \_\_\_\_\_ true. If you want to find the truth about God, \_\_\_\_\_ to God Himself! He will \_\_\_\_\_ lie or deceive you.

### **Our scripture reading comes from Psalm 103:1-5, a Psalm of David.**

How does God \_\_\_\_\_ about Himself? First, God, the Father is a \_\_\_\_\_, not a force or some disengaged power. The gods of the ancient times were \_\_\_\_\_ by human hands of wood or stone. These idols were formed the way people \_\_\_\_\_. They couldn't \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, or answer prayers. In contrast, the Thessalonians "turned to God from idols to serve a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ God" (1 Thessalonians 1:9). Paul said, "Being then the children of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature (that is, the Godhead), is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of \_\_\_\_\_" (Acts 17:29).

Instead, the God of the Bible who \_\_\_\_\_ us sees everything good and bad. He \_\_\_\_\_ our prayers; He provides for our \_\_\_\_\_; He protects us in times of trouble, and forgives our \_\_\_\_\_. Jesus invites us to \_\_\_\_\_ to our heavenly Father. **Read Matthew 7:9-11.** God the Father is a person who rejoices when we \_\_\_\_\_ and grieves when we \_\_\_\_\_.

Second, the God of the Bible is utterly unique, and there is no one and nothing else \_\_\_\_\_ Him in all the universe (Exodus 15:11). The many \_\_\_\_\_ of the Greeks and Romans were petty, uncaring, harsh, selfish, sinful, vengeful, and limited in power. They were also \_\_\_\_\_ by men. In contrast, the God of \_\_\_\_\_ is merciful, compassionate, comforting, loving, and perfect. He calls us to \_\_\_\_\_ holy and righteous lives, to be \_\_\_\_\_ and good to others, and to \_\_\_\_\_ Him as He loves us. The Lord Jesus reminds us that He is ever attentive to our \_\_\_\_\_ (Matthew 10:29-30).

Third, God is \_\_\_\_\_. A Samaritan woman at the well in Sychar asked Jesus about where she should \_\_\_\_\_. **Read what the Lord Jesus told the woman in John 4:23-24.** In Luke 24:39 Jesus said, “A spirit does not have \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.” Spirits aren’t physical or material; they don’t have the \_\_\_\_\_ that you and I have. God is supernatural; that is, He is above \_\_\_\_\_.

Fourth, God is \_\_\_\_\_. God isn’t limited by \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ but is omnipresent, everywhere present. **Read what David asked in Psalm 139:7-10.** Sometimes children ask, “Well, if God created us, \_\_\_\_\_ made God?” God wasn’t made; He wasn’t created; He’s \_\_\_\_\_ existed. God introduced Himself to \_\_\_\_\_ at the burning bush as, “I AM WHO I AM” (Exodus 3:14). God was explaining that He is self-existent, that He has \_\_\_\_\_ been. God is \_\_\_\_\_; we are temporal. Moses wrote, “Before the mountains were born, Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are \_\_\_\_\_” (Psalm 90:2). John heard God say, “‘I am the Alpha and the Omega,’ says the Lord God, ‘who \_\_\_\_\_ and who \_\_\_\_\_ and who is to \_\_\_\_\_, the Almighty’” (Revelation 1:8). Though you and I measure \_\_\_\_\_, to God “one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day” (2 Peter 3:8).

We need to know that God isn’t \_\_\_\_\_ in knowledge or wisdom, but is omniscient; He knows \_\_\_\_\_. **Read Psalm 147:5; Proverbs 15:3; Isaiah 46:10; Psalm 139:4; and Psalm 139:23-24.** God isn’t limited in \_\_\_\_\_ like you and I (Jeremiah 32:17; Mark 1:27).

Fifth, God is \_\_\_\_\_! (1John 1:5). God has \_\_\_\_\_ purity and holiness; in Him is no sin at all. God’s holiness means that He cannot and will not \_\_\_\_\_ of sin.

Sixth, God is \_\_\_\_\_ (1 John 4:8-10). We love because He \_\_\_\_\_ loved us (1 John 4:19). The faithful Christian understands that nothing can \_\_\_\_\_ us from the love of God

which is in Christ (Romans 8:37-39). He realizes that God demonstrated His love for us when we were weak, ungodly, and sinners; He did this by sacrificing His Son, Jesus, on the \_\_\_\_\_.

Some say if God condemns sin He \_\_\_\_\_ be loving; for if God is truly loving, He will not \_\_\_\_\_ sinners. But these traits, light, Holiness, and love are not contradictory but are complementary in describing the \_\_\_\_\_ of God. God isn't all \_\_\_\_\_ or all \_\_\_\_\_. One can be loving and yet \_\_\_\_\_ disapprove of sin. In fact, one cannot be loving \_\_\_\_\_ disapproving of sin. Good parents discipline their children because it's what's \_\_\_\_\_ for the child, and it's best for them in the long run. Unloving parents don't \_\_\_\_\_ what their children do. Since God cares what we do, He disciplines us in \_\_\_\_\_ life so He won't have to punish us in the \_\_\_\_\_ life.

Ultimately God loves everyone, but He judges people according to their \_\_\_\_\_, blessing those who repent and obey and showing wrath on those who will not obey. **Read Romans 2:5-11 where Paul addresses some Christians who were stubborn and rebellious.** How we \_\_\_\_\_ to God will determine our \_\_\_\_\_ with or without God. God is consistent in how He treats His people and in how He treats those who will not \_\_\_\_\_ the truth. God said, "Therefore, I indeed will deal in \_\_\_\_\_. My eye will have no \_\_\_\_\_ nor will I spare; and though they cry in My ears with a loud voice, yet I will not \_\_\_\_\_ to them" (Ezekiel 8:18).

Seventh, God doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ and He cannot be changed. God said, "For I, the LORD, do not change" (Malachi 3:6). James said, "Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from \_\_\_\_\_, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow" (James 1:17). Because God doesn't change we can know His words hold \_\_\_\_\_ for all time. Psalm 119:89 says, "Forever, O LORD, Your \_\_\_\_\_ is settled in heaven." Psalm 33:11 says, "The counsel of the LORD stands \_\_\_\_\_, The plans of His heart from generation to generation."

Because God doesn't change, we can \_\_\_\_\_ on God. God keeps His \_\_\_\_\_. Numbers 23:19 says, "God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor the son of man, that He should repent; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?" From the beginning we have seen how God \_\_\_\_\_ His promises. God told Noah, "While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease" (Genesis 8:22). Our days and months and seasons still \_\_\_\_\_ with precision just as they did in the beginning. God \_\_\_\_\_ His promises. After taking the land of Israel from the people of Canaan in fulfillment of God's commands, Joshua said, "Not one of the good promises which the LORD had made to the house of Israel \_\_\_\_\_; all came to pass" (Joshua 21:45).

God is \_\_\_\_\_! Deuteronomy 7:9 says, “Know therefore that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God, who \_\_\_\_\_ His covenant and His lovingkindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and \_\_\_\_\_ His commandments.” First Thessalonians 5:24 says, “Faithful is He who calls you, and He will bring it to \_\_\_\_\_.” Because God is faithful, we can depend on Him to \_\_\_\_\_ His promises and to \_\_\_\_\_ us in our lives. For instance, God helps His people when they’re \_\_\_\_\_ to sin. First Corinthians 10:13 says, “No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be \_\_\_\_\_ beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also provide the way of \_\_\_\_\_, so that you may be able to endure it.” God is also faithful when we \_\_\_\_\_ forgiveness. First John 1:9 says, “If we \_\_\_\_\_ our sins, He is faithful and righteous to \_\_\_\_\_ us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

Even when the world was crashing down on Jeremiah in the destruction of Jerusalem, he could say, “‘The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. The LORD is my portion,’ says my soul, ‘therefore I will hope in him’” (Lamentations 3:22-24). You too can have full confidence in God.

If God the Father created you, if He gives you life and daily provides for you, if He sent His Son Jesus to die for your sins, shouldn’t you \_\_\_\_\_ your trust, your love, and your obedience? Each one of us is accountable to the one true and living God found in the \_\_\_\_\_. He is God and there is no \_\_\_\_\_. He watched His beloved Son \_\_\_\_\_ crucifixion; and no one will ever love you as He has loved you. No one else can save your soul. No one else can give you eternal life.

Each day we choose whether we’ll \_\_\_\_\_ Him or \_\_\_\_\_ Him. Hebrews 11:6 says, “And without faith it’s impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God \_\_\_\_\_ believe that He is and that He’s a rewarder of those who seek Him.” Without faith in God and in Christ we can never be \_\_\_\_\_ to God. The Lord Jesus said to His apostles, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. He who has believed and has been baptized shall be \_\_\_\_\_; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned” (Mark 16:15-16).

God loves you deeply and wants you to be \_\_\_\_\_ from sin and \_\_\_\_\_ eternally in heaven with Him. Everything He’s done since the beginning was to bring you \_\_\_\_\_ and to save you. Every law of God is for your \_\_\_\_\_. Will you not put your \_\_\_\_\_ in Him, \_\_\_\_\_ of your sins, be \_\_\_\_\_ into Christ for the forgiveness of your sins? Today is your best day to get right with God. Nothing is as important as making your calling and election sure, of knowing that you have obeyed the gospel. Will you obey today?