

DISCOVERY 2000

God the Father

Misconceptions / perversions of what God is like

Santa / grandfather - will give you whatever you want

Angry / vengeful God - Jesus has to placate Him, convince Him to forgive

Arbitrary dictator / spoilsport

No one has seen the Father John 1:18 (1025)

God is spirit John 4:24, Luke 24:39 (1024)

Key verses 1 John 4:9, 10 (1170) John 3:16

The nature of God

There are 5 characteristics of God which set Him apart from any other being in the universe:

1. God is Eternal - He is without beginning or end

Psalm 90:2 (569)

Revelation 1:8 (1174)

2. God is everywhere present (He is never "out of range")

1 Kings 8:27 (328)

Psalm 139:7-9 (597)

Jeremiah 23:23, 24 (754)

Hebrews 4:13 (1150)

3. God knows everything - past, present and future

Proverbs 15:3 (617)

Isaiah 40:28 (694)

Acts 15:18 (1068)

Romans 11:33 (1094)

4. God is able to accomplish what He wills - nothing is too hard for Him

Job 42:2 (513)

Jeremiah 32:17 (765)

Matthew 19:26 (955)

Revelation 1:8; 19:6 (1174)

5. God is unchangeable - God is perfect, He cannot change for better or for worse. He can never be greater or more holy than He is, nor can He be less so.

Malachi 3:6 (930)

Hebrews 1:12 (1148)

James 1:17 (1158)

His Attributes

Holy	Psalm 99:9 (574)
Righteous / Good / Merciful	Exodus 34:6,7 (85)
Just	Psalm 37:28 (535)
Loving kindness	Jeremiah 31:12 (763)

People matter to God?

Matthew 5:45 (939)	Impartial
Matthew 6:4	He rewards
Matthew 6:8, 32	He knows what we need
Matthew 6:14	He forgives us
Matthew 7:11	He gives good gifts
John 6:38, 39 (1032)	Wants to give eternal life
John 14:26	Sends the Holy Spirit
2 Thessalonians 2:16, 17 (1138)	Gives hope and comfort
Acts 17:31 (1072)	Has a day of judgement
Jeremiah 2:32 (727) Hosea 11:8 (880)	He hurts when He is rejected

How do we relate the apparently vengeful God in the Old Testament with the God of the New Testament.?

God has always given opportunity and warning before he sent judgement.

Examples:

The Flood - Noah preached 120 years. The invitation to live was given

The conquest of Caanan - word had spread about what God was doing - did they repent?
Joshua 2:9 - (203) Genesis 15:16 (12)

The Babylonian exile - 2 Chronicles 36:14-16 (442)

There are many examples of God being very patient with people and nations

Nebuchadnezzar,
Ninevah

He wants people to turn to Him and live, not be destroyed Ezekiel 18:30-32 (818)