**“CONFIDENCE, NO DOUBT”**

“W

hat we think about God is the most important thing about us.” So said the late pastor/author A.W. Tozer.

If God has a resume,’ what would be on the top line? His love for you is so vast that you’ll spot your name right there next to His own Son’s! As Denny Fitzpatrick says, “God doesn’t love anybody more than you!” God thinks of you more often than you can count (Psalms 40:1-5, 139:17-18)!

We can’t see God, so why trust Him? Jesus came to show us who His Father is (John 7:28-29, 14:8-11). We could doubt God’s existence had we no eyewitness accounts of Jesus’ life on earth, and fulfilled prophecies. But when we know His nature, our faith replaces doubts with certainty, giving us confidence in Him. The song goes, “When you cannot trace God’s hand, you can always trust His heart.”

Is God who He said He is? Will He keep His promises? Or is He some cosmic bellhop who should jump whenever you want room service?

He’s in control, *not* us. Satan wants to destroy us. To fulfill God’s purpose for us, we need to know Him intimately, gaining confidence to trust Him in every situation. Frequency develops certainty.

DISCUSS: When it comes to God, what are you sure of?

*SEMINARY LITE*

Identifying God’s attributes may sound nerdy, but it’s vital if you want to do serious business with Him in a personal relationship. Therefore, mark the following foray as “Good to know.”

**Love** – “God ***IS*** love,” wrote John. The ultimate proof is that He traded His Son’s life for your sin and mine. Paul describes Christ’s *agape’* (unconditional love) in 1 Corinthians 13:1-13.

**Sovereign** – Nothing exists over which God does not rule. Past, present and future belong to Him (Romans 11:36).

**Eternal** – We live in 4 dimensions: length, width, depth and time. Science has identified at least 10, but God has no constraints. He told Moses, “I AM the One who always is” (Psalms 90:1-4).

**Trinity** – The Bible clearly states that God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit are separate personalities, albeit operating as one (Matthew 3:16-17; 2 Corinthians 13:13).

**Omniscient** – Having *created* everything, God *knows* everything (Psalms 139:1-16; Job 42:1-6).

**Omnipresent** – I used to think that only my wife knew where I was at all times. But God does too (Jeremiah 23:23-24).

**Immutable –** God is perfect, so why would He ever change? Graham Cooke says, “God remains the same toward us even if our obedience to Him fluctuates” (Hebrews 13:8).

**Omnipotent** – Iron Man is a gutless wimp alongside God whose deeds, e.g. creation, testify to who He is (Hebrews 1:1-3).

**Infinite** – It’s impossible to fully describe God, but He has revealed all we need to know. Why would He owe us an explanation of anything (Revelation 1:8; Isaiah 55:8-9)?

**Holy** – God cannot sin, so to enter heaven we too must be sinless. Thus He put ***all*** our sins on Jesus and declares those who trust Him to be as right with Him as His Son is (2 Corinthians 5:17-21).

**Wisdom** – Father knows best, always. With “Christ in you,” you have His mind (Psalm 119:98-100; Proverbs 3:5-7)!

**Good –** When asked, “Good Teacher, what must I do to receive eternal life?” Jesus replied, “Why call Me good? No one is good except God.” In other words, “I am God” (Psalms 136:1-3).

**Just** – God defines right and wrong so that we may live in peace (Deuteronomy 32:4).

**Merciful** – We are mega-blessed that God, in offering forgiveness for our sin, does not give us what we deserve (Titus 3:3-7).

**Gracious** – God in His kindness gives us faith to accept that Jesus took your place and mine on the cross (Ephesians 2:2-9).

**Trustworthy** – Since God keeps His promises, Christ’s followers will ***never*** lose their salvation. Knowing God’s nature, we can place our full faith in Him (Romans 11:29; 2 Timothy 2:13).

DISCUSS: Which of God’s traits means most to you at this time? Why?

*DOUBTS OUT, TRUST IN*

 “Confidence is a byproduct of predictability,” says Bobb Biehl.

Because of who He is, you can rely on God to be ***all*** you need ***all*** the time. When you’re right with God, you’ll be at peace, enjoying “quietness and confidence forever” (Isaiah 32:17). “Happy and whole is he who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him” (Jeremiah 17:7). “Being confident that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus” (Philippians 1:6)

Reading God’s Word and recalling His faithfulness to you erases your doubt, equipping you to face anything with your confidence soldered firmly to your trustworthy Savior (Philippians 4:13).

Now knowing God’s character, if you have not already, by faith, put your trust in Jesus, why not close that deal today?

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