

## 1. Who is God?

God has many names if we look at the original Hebrew meanings – a study in itself! Here we will consider just a few aspects of who God is in relation to us as new believers and members of His family.

### Creator

God is the Creator of the universe – and me! We may feel that our God is so great and the universe so vast; how amazing that He knows all about me and loves me so deeply!

You will probably have heard the creation account in Genesis from an early age. Many would try to argue that it is just a story, but remember -

“All Scripture is given by inspiration of God - - -“  
2 Timothy 3 v.16

We read in Genesis chapter 1 that “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth” – the very first words in the Bible. If you read the whole of ch.1 you will see that in six days God created everything in the universe, including other planets and every single creature that lives in our world. Adam and Eve were the pinnacle of His creation –

***Read v.27 & 28. What set Adam apart from the rest of creation?***

***Read v. 31. What does this verse tell us about God’s creation?***

Each one of us is made in God’s image – you are **good** in His eyes! Yes – we are all in need of restoration but you are unique and loved by Him. Nothing about you is a mistake!

Find out more in . . .      *Psalm 139, especially v. 14-18*  
   *Psalm 148*  
   *Romans 1 v. 18-20*

We see from Genesis 1 that God spoke the Word – “Let there be - - -“ and it was so. He created all things by His Word and continues to create His image in us by His Word. When He speaks to us and we respond in faith, amazing changes can take place in our life!

### Provider

God rested when He had completed His creation and now sustains all things by His powerful Word – He is not hard at work keeping everything going, as we might imagine!

We read in Hebrews ch.1 v.3 that He (through Jesus) “- - - upholds all things by the Word of His power”.

In the book of **Job ch.38 v.41** we are told that God “provides food for the ravens when its young ones cry to God”

How much more will He watch over His beloved children who call out to Him, as Jesus told us to!

***Read Matthew ch.6 v. 25-34. Why is it wrong to worry about our needs?***

### Ruler

It may be hard to accept the fact that God rules over all as we look at a world in turmoil, but look what His Word tells us:

“He rules by His power forever; His eyes observe the nations” Psalm 66 v.7

Nothing is out side of His control – what a comforting thought this is.

“The Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses.”

Daniel ch.4 v. 17, 32

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## 2.

### Redeemer

God is referred to as our Redeemer many times in His Word, and we know that He redeemed us (bought us back to Himself) from sin through His Son the Lord Jesus Christ. We will consider this central truth in a later session. However, even in the Old Testament we read about the Lord our Redeemer. Consider these verses:

**“You, O Lord, are our Father; our Redeemer from everlasting is Your Name.”**  
Isaiah 63 v. 16

Job exclaimed, in the midst of his suffering: **“For I know that my Redeemer lives, and He shall stand at last on the earth.”** Job 19 v.25. He had a deep assurance that in the end God would save him from satans’ attempts to cause him to lose faith in God.

### Judge

It is both a sobering and a comforting thought to know that God is a righteous Judge; in the end everything that is evil and ungodly in this world will be judged, and the righteous will receive their rewards. Look at these Scriptures:

***Hebrews 12 v. 23 – God is the “Judge of all”***

***Psalm 58 – “He is God who judges in the earth.”***

***2 Timothy 4 v. 8 – We see from this verse that He is a righteous Judge who rewards His servants.***

### Father

This is probably the aspect of God’s nature that influences most the way we relate to Him in our daily life; what a wonder that the God of the whole universe **loves** us so deeply as our Heavenly Father! How do we know of His great love for each of us as individuals?

The greatest truth of all is that God was willing to send His only beloved Son to this sinful earth, to die on the Cross for our sins – so that we may be forgiven and restored into a loving relationship with our Father God who created us for Himself.

**“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”** John 3 v.16. Here is the Gospel in a nutshell!

We read in **Romans 8 v. 15** that **“...you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, ‘Abba, Father’.”** Abba was a familiar name that children of that time would have called their father within the family – something like ‘Daddy’ today.

Jesus told His disciples (including us) that they should pray : **“Our Father in heaven . . .”** so God wants us as Christians to address Him as ‘Father’. He loves us as His children and talking to Him in this way pleases Him.

A good father loves his children even when they ‘mess up’ because fatherhood is a reflection of God’s nature and heart.

***Read Luke 15 v. 11-32 – the story of the Prodigal Son*** to help you understand the extent of God’s forgiveness for those who turn to Him in repentance. Notice that the father never stopped loving his wayward son, and on his return welcomed him with open arms. This is a wonderful picture Jesus gave to us in order to convey the Father heart of God.

