

THE CHRISTIAN CONCEPTION OF GOD

(Continued)

2. His Moral Attributes.

(1) Holiness.

Holiness is a general term which is descriptive of the moral perfection of God. By the Holiness of God we mean that He is absolutely free from all defilement. He is perfect. There is absolutely no trace of any evil in Him.

This is the one attribute which God would have His people to remember Him by more than any other. Holiness is the attribute which glorifies Him the most. The thing which stood out the most prominent about God, as He revealed Himself to men, was His holiness.

Exodus 15:11
Job 34:10
Psalm 47:8
Psalm 99:9
Psalm 145:17

Isaiah 6:3
Ezekiel 29:7
I Peter 1:15-16
I John 1:5
Revelation 4:8

God's holiness is manifested in His hatred of sin and in His delight with that which is righteous.

Proverbs 15:9

Proverbs 15:26

It is also shown in His separation from those who are living in sin.

Isaiah 59:1-2

Ephesians 2:13

He has also manifested His holiness in making provision for men to become holy in character and in conduct.

I Peter 2:24

Romans 8:1-4

(2) Righteousness or Justice.

God's righteousness is manifested in His dealings with men. All of His dealings with them are based upon absolute justice.

Deuteronomy 10:17
Deuteronomy 32:4
Joshua 24:19
Job 37:23
Psalm 11:7
Psalm 19:9
Psalm 84:11
Psalm 89:14
Psalm 103:6

Psalm 116:5
Psalm 145:17
Jeremiah 32:19
Daniel 9:14
Zephaniah 3:5
Romans 3:24-26
II Timothy 4:8
Hebrews 6:10

God always does that which is right. Because of His justice He will never treat any person unfairly.

(3) Love.

Love is that attribute which causes Him to seek the highest good of those whom He has created and give Himself unsparingly to them. God does not merely love, but He is love.

Psalms 103:13
Psalms 116:8
Jeremiah 31:3
John 3:16
John 16:27

Romans 5:8
Galatians 2:20
Ephesians 2:4
I John 4:7-11
I John 4:16

God loves all men, but He has a peculiar love for His born again children. He does not have the same love for the unregenerated that He has for those in Christ.

(4) Mercy.

Mercy is the desire to spare and to save the wretched and the undeserving. This attribute has to do with the love of God in its relation to both the obedient, and the disobedient sons of men.

Exodus 34:6-7
Deuteronomy 4:31
Psalms 86:5
Psalms 103:8

Psalms 107:1
Psalms 116:5
Psalms 145:8

God's mercy is manifested in sparing sinners, Nehemiah 9:16-19; in delivering from sickness and sorrow, Philippians 2:27; and in caring for His own in time of trouble, Psalms 59:16.

Romans 9:15-18
I Timothy 1:13
Hebrews 4:16

Hebrews 8:12
I Peter 1:3

(5) Faithfulness.

This means that God is one in whom we can trust implicitly and upon whom we can lean with perfect safety.

Deuteronomy 7:8-9
I Kings 8:23-24
Psalms 89:1
Psalms 92:1-2
Jeremiah 33:14
Lamentations 3:23

I Corinthians 1:9
I Corinthians 10:13
II Thessalonians 3:3
I Peter 4:19
I John 1:9

God is faithful in spite of the unfaithfulness of His people. "If we are faithless, He abideth faithful." He has never failed any person who has trusted Him. We can always rely upon Him.