

WHO IS GOD AND HOW DO I CONNECT WITH HIM?

There are a number of ways people can contemplate God. Here are a few. Which ones best help you to connect with the concept of a Designer or Living God?

- 1. In nature...from macro-astronomy to creatures and plants.
- 2. Through science...from species to atoms, DNA molecules to forces of nature.
- 3. Archeology...all that we can infer from digging up old stuff.
- 4. Religious writings...places in history God may have authentically shown up.
- 5. Philosophical writings...stories of personal experience and observation.
- 6. Personal experiences...compelling evidence from those who are credible or those we trust personally.

Who is God based upon your current personal thoughts?

What sources have provided primary avenues for your conclusions?

Do you feel like you know God? How and in what ways?

What would you assess as the level of your desire to please God?

The Bible tells us that we can have a personal relationship with God. Through His Son we may talk to Him, hear from Him, and see Him at work in the world around us and in the lives of people. To what depth do you believe this and how do you believe you are experiencing this in your personal journey?

WHO IS OUR FATHER AND WHO HAS HE REVEALED HIMSELF TO BE?

God's personal name in the New Testament: ABBA, FATHER! PSALM 84...Abba means "Daddy." Read Mark 14:36; Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:6 What do you learn about a personal relationship with God from the following passages?

Some things you and I can count on about our Father:

Matthew 7:6-11

He is our Protector and has our best interests at heart so that we can live without speculation! *How protected do you feel?*

Hebrews 12:3-11

He disciplines us for our holiness so that we can have an example for our growth! (He totally understands us...Hebrews 5:7-9) How have you seen this in your life?

Romans 8:31-39

There is nothing that can separate us from His love so we can live without fear! *How big of an issue is fear in your life?*

Romans 8:26-30

He will continue to work with us and in us so we can be secure in His love! What can separate you from God's love?

John 14:1-3

He is preparing a place for us so that we can trust Him, reject anxiety, and invest our hearts in eternal things (Matthew 6:25-34). *Does this excite you?*

Romans 9

Because He is God of all that exists He has rulership over everything. Our "free will" is subjected under the umbrella of His sovereign will. *Do you allow God to rule in your life?*

SOME OF LORD GOD'S REVEALED NAMES

What does each of these names help is to understand about the nature of our Creator?

EL ELYON	"The Most High"	Genesis 14:22, Isaiah 14:14
EL OLAM	"The Everlasting God"	Genesis 21:33, Isaiah 40:28
EL SHADDAI	"The Almighty God"	Genesis 17:1, Ruth 1:20-21
YAHWEH-JIREH	"The Lord Provides"	Genesis 22:14
YAHWEH-NISSI	"The Lord is my Banner"	Exodus 17:15
YAHWEH-SHALOM	"The Lord is Peace"	Judges 6:24
YAHWEH-SABBAOTH	"The Lord of Hosts"	1 Samuel 1:3
YAHWEH-MACCADDESHCEM	"The Lord thy Sanctifier"	Exodus 31:13
YAHWEH-ROI	"The Lord my Shepherd"	Psalm 23:1
YAHWEH-TSIDKENU	"The Lord our Righteousness"	Jeremiah 23:6
YAHWEH SHAMMAH	"The Lord is there"	Ezekiel 48:35

GOD'S RULE

As you read these passages determine the extent of rulership God deserves in your life!

Genesis 1:1,2,26,27
Job 1-2, 38-42
Psalm 90
John 1,8,9
Colossians 1:15-20
Matthew 28:16-20
Revelation 1, 19:11-16

"When Jesus had finished these words, the crowds were amazed at His teaching; for His teaching was filled with authority, and not like their religious leaders." Matthew 7:28,29

