

In the beginning God ...



Gen 1:1 (NIV)

The Characteristics of God

- ▣ **The 'istics' of His Character?**

God - Elohim

▣ *Creator of all things* (Isaiah 40:28)

*Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the **Creator of the ends of the earth**. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.

and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God **who created all things, (Ephesians 3:9)**

▣ *Sustains all things* (Hebrews 1:3)

*He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and **he upholds the universe by the word of his power**

*He is before all things, and **in Him all things hold together.** (Colossians 1:17)

Incomparable

Isaiah 40:21-23

Do you not know? Do you not hear?

Has it not been told you from the beginning?

Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

It is he who sits above the circle of the earth,
and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers;
who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
and spreads them like a tent to dwell in;
who brings princes to nothing,
and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness.

Isaiah 40:25-26

To whom then will you compare me,
that I should be like him? says the Holy One.

Lift up your eyes on high and see:

who created these?

He who brings out their host by number,

calling them all by name,

by the greatness of his might,

and because he is strong in power

not one is missing.

Omnipotent, (Almighty)

Is.40:28 "The Everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable."

Rev.19:6 "Then I heard something like the voice of a great multitude and like the sound of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, saying, 'Hallelujah! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns.'"

Job 9:4-10 It is God who removes the mountains, they know not how, ... who shakes the earth out of its place, And its pillars tremble; who commands the sun not to shine, and sets a seal upon the stars; who alone stretches out the heavens and tramples down the waves of the sea; ; who does great things, unfathomable, and wondrous works without number."

Omnipresent (Everywhere)

Psalm 139:7-10: “Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend to heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the dawn, if I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, even there Your hand will lead me, and Your right hand will lay hold of me.”

Jeremiah 23:24: “Can a man hide himself in hiding places so I do not see him?” declares the Lord. “Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?” declares the Lord.

1 Kings 8:27: “But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain You, how much less this house which I have built!”

Prov. 15:3: “The eyes of the LORD are in every place,

Omniscient (All knowing)

- ▣ Psalm 147:5 “Great is our Lord, and abundant in strength; His understanding is infinite.”
- ▣ Psalm 139:1-6 “O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You understand my thought from afar. You scrutinize my path and my lying down, and are intimately acquainted with all my ways. Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O LORD, You know it all. You have enclosed me behind and before, and laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is too high, I cannot attain to it.”
- ▣ 1 Jn.3:18-20 ... God is greater than our heart and knows all things.”

God is:-

▣ Love.

Anyone who does not love does not know God, because **God is love**. In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.

▣ Holy.

Who among the gods is like you, O LORD? Who is like you - **majestic in holiness**, awesome in glory, working wonders? (Exodus 15:11)

I am the LORD your God; consecrate yourselves and be holy, because **I am holy**. (Leviticus 11:44)

▣ Full of Grace and Mercy

The LORD is **gracious and merciful**, slow to anger and **abounding in steadfast love**.

The LORD is good to all, and **his mercy is over all** that he has made.

▣ **Faithful** (2 Thessalonians 3:3)

But the **Lord is faithful**, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one. ...

▣ **For us!** (Romans 8:31)

What then shall we say to these things? If **God is for us**, who can be against us?

▣ **Our Father (Luke 12:25-31)**

And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? 26 If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith!

And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

▣ ***Our Saviour*** (Jude 1:25 1Tim 1:1, 2:3)

To the only wise **God our Saviour**, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen. ...

▣ ***Our Rock*** (2 Sam 22:47)

“The LORD lives, and **blessed be my rock**, and exalted be my God, **the rock of my salvation**,

But the LORD has become my fortress, and my **God the rock** in whom I take refuge (Psalm 94:22)

Exodus 3:13 -15

“If ... they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel, ‘I AM’ has sent me to you.””

Yahweh - I AM

- ▣ Yahweh Jireh - The Lord our provider
- ▣ Yahweh Rapha - The Lord our healer
- ▣ Yahweh Nissi - The Lord our banner
- ▣ Yahweh Shalom - The Lord our peace
- ▣ Yahweh Shaphat - The Lord our judge
- ▣ Yahweh Saboath - Lord of hosts
- ▣ Yahweh Elyon - The Lord Most High
- ▣ Yahweh Roi - The Lord my Shepherd
- ▣ Yahweh Hosenu - The Lord our Maker

- ▣ **Yahweh Gibbor – The Lord is Mighty**
- ▣ **Yahweh Tsidkenu–The Lord my righteousness**
- ▣ **Yahweh Shammah- The Lord is there, or ever-present.**

Jesus – I AM (metaphorical)

- ▣ I am the bread of life *John 6:35*
- ▣ I am the light of the world *John 8:12*
- ▣ I am the door of the sheep *John 10:7*
- ▣ I am the good shepherd *John 10:11*
- ▣ I am the resurrection and the life *John 11:25*
- ▣ I am the way, the truth and the life *John 14:6*
- ▣ I am the true vine *John 15:1*

Jesus - I AM (absolute)

▣ **John 8:58,59.**

Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, **I am.**"

So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

Jesus – I AM

John 18:5,6.

“Whom do you seek?” They answered him, “Jesus of Nazareth”. Jesus said to them, *“I am he”*
(Greek *I AM*)

When Jesus said to them *‘I AM* he,” they drew back and fell to the ground.

Jesus is God

John 1:1-3. In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and **the Word was God**. ***He was in the beginning with God.***

All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

14. ***And the Word became flesh and dwelt among*** us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Creator – Reconciler - Redeemer

Colossians 1:15

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For **by him all things were created**, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—**all things were created through him and for him**. And **he is before all things**, and **in him all things hold together**. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that **in everything he might be pre-eminent**. For **in him all the fullness of God** was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Characteristics Revealed

- ▣ **Through His word**
- ▣ **Through His acts**
- ▣ **Through His Name**
- ▣ **In the Person of Jesus Christ.**