

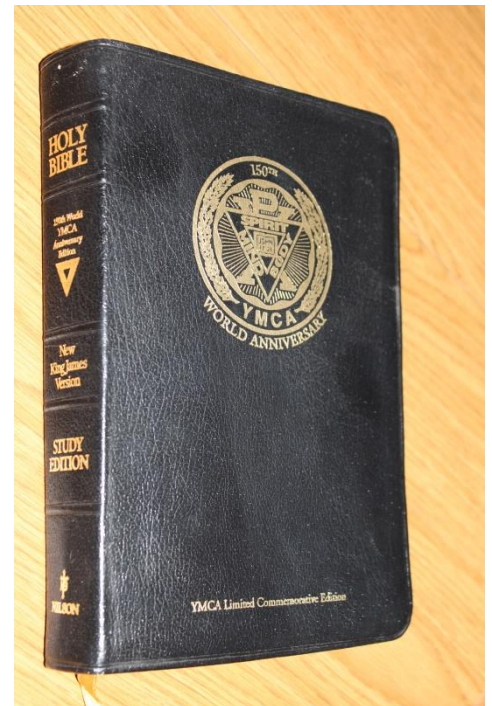
Who Is God?

You have probably heard the story about the four blindfolded people who are lead to different parts of an elephant. One feels the trunk, another feels its mammoth side, the third feels only its tail while the fourth feels its mammoth ear. Each blindfolded person describes the elephant differently, based on their own opinion. Now bring these four people together and they will argue that their opinion of the same elephant is the right one. Same elephant, but four entirely different perspectives.

So, do we know what God is like? Are we trying to make our God into what we want Him to be? The Bible reveals everything about God that we need to know. He is the creator of all the beauty of this world. He created us with the abilities of perception and reason. Through Jesus Christ He taught us to be loving people toward everyone, even our enemies. We can't see God although we can see the unmistakable evidence of His power and love. And, He did send His son, Jesus Christ, to live among us and experience what our life is like.

Because of the Bible we have an understanding of the characteristics of God. They are everything we should try to emulate. Look up these passages to see how God is described in the Holy Bible. Be careful, however, to not limit your perception to just a few of these passages – He is all of them. There was much more to the elephant than any one person could grasp. That is certainly true of our Lord and Creator.

- He is Just: Acts 17:31
- He is Loving: Ephesians 2:4-5
- He is Truthful: John 14:6
- He is Holy: 1 John 1:5
- He is Compassionate: 2 Corinthians 1:30
- He is Merciful: Romans 9:15
- He Judges Sin: Psalm 5:5
- He shows Grace: Romans 5:17
- He offers Forgiveness: Psalm 130:4
- He Knows us individually: Jeremiah 9:23-24
- He is Welcoming: Psalm 145:18
- He is Creative: Psalm 147:5 and Psalm 121:1-2
- He is Honest: Psalm 119:130 and Psalm 119:105
- He is Comfort: Zephaniah 3:17
- He is Joy: Job 8:21
- He is Strength: Psalm 46:1
- He is Love: 1 John 4:8



Knowing that God is all these things, we don't need to try and make Him into our personal servant. He isn't the newest version of Alexia, the Amazon Echo know-it and do-it-all voice, who responds to our every whim. He wants what is right, wholesome and Kingdom growing. He understands our faults and forgives us when we fall short. Even so, He wants us to seek a path of righteousness.

Remove the blindfold of your limitations and see God for all that He is. Then, as one of His creation, seek to emulate His character traits. He provided an example, Jesus Christ, for us to follow. Don't try to make Him into your servant, but instead, seek to be His servant.

Question: Give an example of each of the above characteristics of God that you have experienced.

Prayer: Heavenly Father. You are everything we need, to guide, direct and comfort us as we face the realities of this world. We look forward to a time when we can live in your presence. Amen.