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GETTING GOD'S PERSPECTIVE

In Book Five you will investigate these five areas:

- Who Is God?
- The Authority of God's Word
- The Holy Spirit
- Spiritual Warfare
- The Return of Christ

As you understand biblical truth on these subjects, you can begin seeing things more from God's point of view.

The psalmist said, "Great peace have they who love your law, and nothing can make them stumble" (Psalm 119:165). Knowing these truths will enable you not to stumble, and you will experience peace of heart by digging deeply into God's word and ordering your life by its instructions.

Approach the Scriptures with an open mind and be ready to obey whatever God shows you. Beware of harboring sin, pride, or unbelief which will prevent God from teaching and blessing you as he desires. Pray that God will change your life as you study his word.

CHAPTER ONE

WHO IS GOD?

By himself man can never bridge the unknown to discover God. We could never know him unless God revealed himself. Has God revealed himself? The Bible says yes! From cover to cover, the Scriptures abound with insights into his character.

WHAT IS GOD LIKE?

1. What are some of God's names recorded in Scripture?

Genesis 17:1 _____

Psalms 95:6 _____

Luke 11:2 _____

I Timothy 6:15 _____

2. Read Isaiah 45:18-24. List several truths about God that can be discovered from this passage.

3. What else can you discover about God?

Isaiah 40:28 _____

John 4:24 _____

4. From the references below, select one for each of the following attributes of God. Briefly summarize each verse in the space provided.

*Psalms 90:2; Jeremiah 23:24; Jeremiah 32:17;
James 1:17; 1 John 3:20*

a. God is all-powerful (omnipotent)

b. God is all-knowing (omniscient)

c. God is everywhere (omnipresent)

d. God is eternal

e. God never changes (immutable)

5. What facts about God are mentioned in David's prayer in 1 Chronicles 29:10-13?

Rewrite these verses in your own words as a personal prayer, using it to praise God for who he is and what he is like.

"Without doubt the mightiest thought the mind can entertain is the thought of God."

—A. W. TOZER*

6. Man's character should reflect the fact that he was created in the image of God. For each of the following verses, list one aspect of God's nature and tell how this should be reflected in your life.

WHAT ASPECT OF GOD'S NATURE IS REVEALED?	HOW SHOULD YOUR LIFE REFLECT THIS ATTRIBUTE?
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Deuteronomy 7:9 _____

Psalms 119:137 _____

Psalms 130:3-4 _____

1 Peter 1:15-16 _____

1 John 1:5 _____

1 John 4:16 _____

*From *The Knowledge of the Holy* (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1961), page 10.

7. Every problem we have is related to a wrong concept of God. Failure to understand what God is like leads to many conflicts. For example, if you don't believe God is forgiving, you may be continually weighed down with guilt. Choose several truths about God listed in question 6 and explain what problems might occur if you are unaware of these aspects of God's nature.

8. One of the most comforting truths in Scripture is the sovereignty of God—he is in control of everything. How do the following verses affirm the sovereignty of God?

Proverbs 21:1 _____

Isaiah 14:27 _____

Acts 4:26-28 _____

“The Bible states that God is not only a Spirit and a Person, but God is a Holy and Righteous Being. From Genesis to Revelation, God reveals himself as a Holy . . . and a Perfect God. . . . It is in God’s holiness that we find the reason for the death of Christ. His holiness demanded the most exacting penalty for sin, and his love provided Jesus Christ to pay this penalty and provide man with salvation.”

—BILLY GRAHAM*

*From *Peace with God* (New York: Doubleday, 1953), pages 39-40.

WHAT DOES GOD DO?

9. What are some of the things God is doing in the world today?

2 Chronicles 16:9 _____

Psalms 75:6-7 _____

Acts 14:17 _____

10. Each of the following verses outlines a different way in which God has revealed himself to men. Match the verses with the correct statement.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| ___ Through the prophets | a. <i>Psalms 40:7</i> |
| ___ In Christ | b. <i>Romans 1:19-20</i> |
| ___ In creation | c. <i>Romans 2:15</i> |
| ___ In man's conscience | d. <i>Hebrews 1:1</i> |
| ___ In the Bible | e. <i>Hebrews 1:2</i> |

11. Examine Jeremiah 31:3, Ephesians 3:19, and John 3:16.

a. Summarize what these verses teach about God's love.

b. Why do you think it is important to know and experience God's love?

12. Read Psalm 46:1

a. How is the Lord described?

b. Give a personal example of how you have experienced this aspect of God in your life.

**WHAT DOES
GOD EXPECT
FROM YOU?**

“The most important thought I ever had was that of my individual responsibility to God.”

—DANIEL WEBSTER

13. What does Psalm 46:10 teach about knowing God?

14. What does God desire? *Psalm 51:16-17*

15. How should you respond to God? *Psalm 95:6*

16. Using the following references, write a short paragraph explaining some of the essentials in knowing God.
Deuteronomy 10:12; Psalm 100:4; Hebrews 11:6

In all his dealings with us God is at work for our good: In prosperity he tests our gratitude; in mediocrity, our contentment; in misfortune, our submission; in darkness, and at all times, our obedience and trust in him.

17. What was David’s counsel to his son? *1 Chronicles 28:9*

18. a. From your study of this chapter, write a brief definition of worship.

b. Why do you think the worship of God is vital for Christian living?

c. In what practical ways can you improve your worship of God?

Remember These Points:

Review the chapter subtopics and use them as an outline to write your own summary of the chapter on the next page.

