

God Is! (IV)

In last week's article, we began to examine some of the attributes of the God of the Bible. We noticed that He is all-powerful, within His will and in keeping with His nature. We noticed that He is present everywhere and at all times. His presence is in the world, but He transcends the world. We also noticed that God is all-knowing (Hebrews 4:13).

The teaching that some men have done regarding this next attribute has been so incorrect at times that many, if not most, do not understand what the clear biblical teaching is. Some state, "God is a loving God. He therefore cannot punish anyone or do anything that is harsh (as the person defines this term)". There is no doubt that the God of the Bible is all-loving (I John 4:16). Generally, though, the former statement is made to try and prove that God is not a God of wrath and justice. Many have a warped view of what love is and how God is the epitome of love. Their view states that love is equated with being permissive and that there is a lack of rigidity on God's part. But, it must be remembered that if a person stresses one attribute of Deity to the exclusion of another, this forms a false view of God. The Holy Spirit states that the Godhead is multi-faceted in its attributes (Romans 11:22). "Behold the goodness (God's love and benevolence) and severity (God's wrath and justice) of God". God is infinite in His love for mankind. This fact in no way negates God's justice and wrath. God can and will punish the wicked and disobedient and at the same time be all-loving (II Thessalonians 1:5-9). God is infinite in all of His attributes or He is not God.

It is God that is the Creator and the One who sustains the universe and everything in it (Exodus 20:11; Hebrews 3:4; Psalm 24:1-2; I Corinthians 10:26-28; Colossians 1:15-17) God is sovereign. The fact is, God exists! The question that you and I need to answer is, "Am I obeying the God of the Bible?" (John 8:24; Luke 13:3; Romans 10:9-10; Mark 16:16).

Next week we will take up another topic from God's Word. Remember what Peter states, "If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God" (I Peter 4:11). Keep yourselves in His Word and obey what you learn and He will bless you.