

God Is...

*Why having the right understanding of God is so crucial
July 22, 2007*

Why God hates idol worship...

- **God said, “These things you have done and I kept silent; you thought I was altogether like you.” Psalm 50 verse 21 (NIV)**
 - The heart of idol worship is to believe thoughts about God that He is unworthy of
 - Idol worship always begins in my mind, then always shows up in my life
 - ***My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts, says the Lord. And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so My ways are higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts.***
Isaiah chapter 55 verses 8 & 9 (560)
- ✓ “thoughts” = plans, “ways” = course of action
- To me, God becomes the God that I worship

God

When the people heard the thunder...and when they saw the flashes of lightning and the smoke billowing from the mountain, they stood at a distance, trembling with fear. And they said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen. But don’t let God speak directly to us, or we will die!” Exodus chapter 20 verses 18 & 19 (60)

God is...incomprehensible, unfathomable, deep, profound, vast, beyond us & our ability to understand or grasp

What is God like?

- God is not like anything
- God is not like anything we know or could know
- Our ability to grasp who God is and understand God is limited by our own thinking & our language

What we will & will not do in this study

- We will not simplify God, reduce Him to our level or try to explain away the mystery (contradictions?!) around Him
- We will not “put God in a box” in an effort to make Him easy to understand, deal with, control
- We will not give “pat answers” or simplistic answers to the challenging & difficult questions we all have about God
- We will not dissect God in an effort to break him down to understand what makes Him God...because this is not possible
- We will seek to study God as He is, as he presents himself to us in the Bible
- We will do it in a way that allows God to be God in all of his mystery

Next Sunday: God is 3-in-1