

WHO IS GOD?



WHO IS GOD ... TO US?

I. He is our Creator.

Isaiah 44:24a – This is what the LORD says, who formed you in the womb: I am the LORD, who has made all things.

A. God made us to _____ us. (Relationship)

Psalms 145:17 - The LORD is righteous in all his ways and loving towards all he has made.

B. God made us to be like _____. (Purpose)

Genesis 1:26 - Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness."

Ephesians 4:24b - Put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

II. He is our Judge.

A. God has standards for _____ He has made.

Exodus 20 - The Ten Commandments

B. God's standard is _____ because He Himself is perfect.

Matthew 5:48 - Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Habakkuk 1:13 - Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrong.

C. God will judge _____ He has made by His standards of perfection.

Genesis 18:25 - Far be it from you to do such a thing... treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?

Ecclesiastes 12:14 - For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

WHERE DO WE STAND BEFORE GOD?

I. We have fallen short of God's standards.

A. We have fallen short of God's standards and brought evil into His creation. (_____)

Romans 3:23b - for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Ecclesiastes 7:20 - There is not a righteous man on earth who does what is right and never sins.

1 John 1:8 - If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

II. God Judges.

A. God judges our _____, our _____, and even our _____.

Ecclesiastes 12:14 - God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

Matthew 12:36 - But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken.

Matthew 5:28 - But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

B. Our _____ have rejected God's place of being first in our lives. (_____)

Isaiah 53:6 - We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way...

Isaiah 30:9 - These are rebellious people, deceitful children, children unwilling to listen to the LORD's instruction.

WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIN AND REBELIION?

I. Anxiety, Pain, _____ and Emptiness

Proverbs 14:12-13 - There is a way which seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death. Even in laughter the heart may be in pain, And the end of joy may be grief.

Jeremiah 4:18 - Your own conduct and actions have brought this upon you. How bitter it is! How it pierces to the heart!

II. _____ from God

Isaiah 59:2 - But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

III. _____ by God

A. God's judgment on sin is _____.

Romans 6:23 - For the wages of sin is death; **Ezekiel 18:4** The soul who sins shall die.

B. Death ultimately means an _____ separation from God.

2 Thessalonians 1:8-9 - He will punish those who do not know God ...They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of his power.

WHAT IF WE WANT TO MAKE UP FOR WHAT WE HAVE DONE WRONG?

Job 25:4 - How can a man stand before God and claim to be righteous? Who in all the earth can boast that he is clean?

I. Our _____ Isn't Enough.

A. Listen to Jesus' words to some of the most religious people on earth:

Matthew 7:22-23 - Many will say to me on that day, "Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?" Then I will tell them plainly, "I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!"

B. The benefit of religion is that it can teach us what is right and wrong. However, God's penalty for doing wrong is not going to church, it is _____.

II. Our _____ Aren't Enough.

Isaiah 64:6 - All of us have become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous acts are like filthy rags.

Isaiah 57:12 - I will expose your righteousness and your works, and they will not benefit you.

A. Good works are certainly admirable and the world needs more of them, but the penalty of God for evil works is not doing good works. God's penalty is _____.

III. Doing Our _____ Isn't Enough.

A. No one does their best _____ the time - that's why there is sin.

B. God's _____ is based on what we do, not on what we intend.

James 2:10 - For whoever keeps the whole law & yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.

C. God's penalty for past sin is not trying harder, it's _____.

D. The only thing we can do by _____ to make up for our sin is to receive God's penalty for sin: _____.

Psalms 49:8 - The ransom for a life is costly, no payment is ever enough...