

GOD IS NOT...

Introduction

- 1) Many people have many various ideas about God – who and what God is or is not
- 2) We recently studied that **GOD IS...**
 - a) *Spirit* (Jn. 4:24)
 - b) *Greater than our heart* (1 Jn. 3:20)
 - c) *Faithful* (1 Cor. 1:9)
 - d) *Love* (1 Jn. 4:8)
 - e) *A consuming fire* (Heb. 12:29)
 - f) *For us* (Rom. 8:31)
- 3) The Bible also teaches us that **GOD IS NOT...**

I) **A MAN (Numbers 23:19)**

- A) God is spirit, not a mortal/physical/earthly being like man
 - 1) God is an eternal, invisible Being (1 Tim. 1:17; 6:16); Lord and Creator (Acts 17:24-25)
 - 2) God created man in His image – man’s spirit is a *likeness* to his Creator (Gen. 1:26)
- B) God is not, and never will be, corrupted with sin as man is (Psa. 14:1-3; 1 Jn. 1:5)
- C) God did become flesh and dwelt among men – Jesus, Son of God (Jn. 1:14; Heb. 2:14)
 - 1) Necessary to become a sinless sacrificial offering to forgive man’s sins (Heb. 2:17)

II) **A LIAR OR UNRELIABLE (Numbers 23:19)**

- A) While men lie and deceive, God’s word is always true (Rom. 3:4)
 - 1) God cannot lie – it is contrary to His character (Titus 1:2; Heb. 6:18)
- B) God does not change from His character or His stated will (Mal. 3:6; Jas. 1:17)
 - 1) God does change His judgment of men based on their actions, but the conditions of that divine judgment are a part of God’s unchangeable will (cf. Ezek. 33:18-19)

III) **UNJUST TO FORGET (Hebrews 6:10)**

- A) We may sincerely care about something, but quickly forget it as we move on to other interests or concerns; promises made can be forgotten in the business of life
- B) God will not unjustly forget our labor in His cause – we will receive a reward (v. 11)

IV) **THE AUTHOR OF CONFUSION (1 Corinthians 14:33)**

- A) Worst example of confusion is religious division – differing churches with differing doctrines from differing creeds resulting in differing followers, yet all claim to follow God
- B) Jesus prayed for unity among His believers (Jn. 17:20-21), not division (2 Jn. 9-11)
 - 1) Truth will unite (1 Cor. 1:10), but false doctrines of men cause division (Rom. 16:17)

V) **MOCKED (Galatians 6:7)**

- A) To “mock” God is to treat His word and warnings with disdain and scorn
- B) Many convince themselves that God does not hear or know what they say and do (Psa. 10:11; 94:7), or that God will accept them even though they ignore His will – we will reap what we sow! (Gal. 6:8-9)

VI) **ASHAMED OF THE FAITHFUL (Hebrews 11:16)**

- A) God is pleased to be called the God of His faithful people (Heb. 11:6)
 - 1) Abraham and others died in faith fully assured of God’s promises (v. 13)
- B) The faithful are pleased to do God’s will, and God is well-pleased with them (Heb. 13:16)

Conclusion

These are things that God is “not.” What things are *not* characteristic of you? Perhaps you can start with the words of Paul: “*For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ...*” (Rom. 1:16)