

*The Precious  
Personality of Our God*

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**I Thessalonians 1: 9-10** *“For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.”*

**Almost** thirteen centuries ago before the birth of Jesus the Christ, in Bethlehem’s manger, the Old Testament Prophet Balaam stood on the summit of Mount Pisgah and surveyed the encampment of Israel. Having had his eyes miraculously opened, by the LORD, to the grandeur of the destiny of the people of God, he proclaimed: *“It shall be said of Jacob and of Israel, What God hath wrought.”* (Num. 23: 23)

**Thirty** one centuries passed. In the chambers of the United States Supreme Court, in Washington, DC, Samuel Morse, an American painter who had turned inventor, tapped out a message on a new device. The message was received and recorded by those who were waiting in a room in Baltimore, Maryland. The *Telegraph*, which since that time has transmitted literally tens of thousands of messages of joy, sorrow, of birth, and death, of war and peace...first came into being on May 24, 1844. That first message, not unlike Balaam’s proclamation from Pisgah’s height...but this time shared with millions around the world...as for the first time in history a message was transported from one location to another by a land line...as Samuel Morse proclaimed and the receivers penned down...*“What God has wrought!”*

**Jehovah** God has so blessed mankind! From Morse Code over telegraph lines, to instantaneous video via satellite, from anywhere on the face of the globe. He has granted us riches beyond compare. He has blessed us with comforts that were never heard of in history past. He has given us the sacrifice of His darling Son, His precious Word, His sweet Holy Spirit, and His wonderful Church. He has allowed us to live in the greatest Country in the history of the world and even in the midst of the national calamity that currently exists...He has still so blessed America, that even as far as she has fallen, she is still the greatest Nation of all! He has done these things because He loves His people! He blesses His people! He meets the needs of His people! He has mercy on His people! He gives grace to His people! Look around at all God has done for us and say: *“Look at what God has wrought!”*

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**Look** around at all that God has done for us and Say: *“What God has wrought!”*  
Praise His holy, heavenly Name for His love, His mercy, His grace, His salvation,  
and His marvelous works among the children of men.

**Today**, we want to talk about *The Precious Personality of Our God*. I want you to rest assured by this message’s end, that there is a God in heaven, that you can have a personal, individual, and close relationship with. One who knows you and One that you can know.

**The** old poem says:

*“One there is above all others – Oh, how He loves!  
His love is beyond a brother’s – Oh, how He loves!  
Earthly friends may fail or leave us,  
One day soothe, and the next day grieve us,  
But, this friend will never leave us – Oh, how He loves!  
Joy and peace is to know Him – Oh, how He loves!  
With His precious blood He bought us,  
In the wilderness He sought us,  
To His loved ones safely brought us – Oh, how He loves!”*

I can promise you today, on the full authority of the Holy Scriptures, that God loves you and that he is making plans of blessing for your life...personal blessing...between you and Him!

*“Be not troubled with thoughts of the morrow,  
Of duties, you surely must do.  
On the Lord cast your burden of sorrow;  
It matters to Him about you.  
Be not weary when trials are given,  
But trust Him to carry you through.  
He will make all the pathway to heaven;  
It matters to Him about you.”*

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*“Then be patient until His appearing,  
‘Tis dawn almost in your view:  
For the mists of this dark age are clearing,  
In love, He is planning for you.”*

**He** wants that personal relationship with you! Let’s look at our message: ***The Precious Personality of Our God.***

**Note** this key phrase from our text: *“...the living and true God.”* Jehovah God is definitely both: The Living God...He is ever extant in the realm of the universe’s time, space, and matter. He has always been, He is, and He always will be! He is also the True God...it is not that He does not lie. It is not that He will not lie. It is that He cannot lie!

*“In hope of eternal life which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;” Tutus 1: 2.*

**Since** He is both living (alive) and true (possessing morality) we must conclude that God is a person and therefore, we must also conclude that He has a personality like every other person. He is not a thing that man can control. He is not an *it* that comes and goes. He is not a *force* that appears and disappears. He is at all times God! He does possess self – consciousness and self – determination, hence His Name in the **Tetragrammaton** *“YHWH”* (The unspeakable name of God to the Hebrew of the Old Testament) *Yahweh or Jehovah: “The self – existent God of the Universe.” Exodus 3: 14 “And God said unto Moses, I am that I am: and He said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I am hath sent me unto you.”* He is self – conscious and He possesses self – determination; He is a **Person** with a **Personality**.

**Notice** these three things:

- Jn. 20: 24-27 – Christ the Son is a Person.
- Jn. 16: 13-15 – The Holy Spirit is a Person.
- Jn. 17: 1-3 – God the Father is a Person.

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Let's look at *The Personality of Our God*:

1. Jn. 3: 16 – **God Loves.**
2. Prov. 6: 16 – **God Hates.**
3. I Pet. 5: 7 – **God Cares.**
4. Gen. 6: 6 – **God Grieves.**

It is all because of His love!

A preacher told the story that while he was speaking in Western Pennsylvania, he was staying in the home of a certain family. That family had a little four-year-old girl that he had grown close to and constantly teased. One evening she crawled onto his lap and laid her head upon his chest, to which he responded, ***“Little girl are you worth anything?”*** ***“No”*** she said. ***“Well then, why are we even keeping you?”*** He replied. With a puzzled look, she sat there for almost a minute and then exclaimed: ***“Because my Momma loves me!”*** No angel under heaven could have given a better answer. Love, real love, love alone makes us worth saving!

- **Our** God loves us – so He hates sin that destroys us.
- **Our** God cares – so He is grieved at our failures and our rejections.

**God** is a person and this person loves you! Look at what His love does for you:

- Heb. 2: 11 – He is not ashamed to call you His brother!
- Rom. 5: 5 – He is not ashamed to dwell in you!
- Heb. 11: 16 – He is not ashamed to be called your God!

***“I was sinking deep in sin,  
Far from the peaceful shore,  
Very deeply stained within,  
Sinking to rise no more,”***

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*“But the Master of the sea,  
Heard my despairing cry,  
From the waters lifted me,  
Now safe am I.*

*Love lifted me! Love lifted me!  
When nothing else could help,  
Love lifted me.”*

**Longing** to leave her poor Brazilian neighborhood, Christina wanted to see the world. Discontent with a home having only a pallet on the floor, a washbasin, and a wood burning stove, she dreamed of a better life in the city. One morning she slipped away, breaking her mother’s heart. Knowing what life would be like on the streets for her young, attractive daughter, Maria hurriedly packed to go find her. On her way, she stopped by a drug store for one last thing. Pictures. She sat in the photograph booth, closed the curtain, and spent all she could on pictures of herself. With her purse, full of small black and white pictures of herself, she boarded the next bus to Rio de Janeiro. Maria knew Christina had no way of earning money. She also knew that her daughter was too stubborn to give up. When pride meets hunger, a human will do things that before were unthinkable. Knowing this, Maria began her search. Bars, hotels, nightclubs, any place with a reputation for streetwalkers or prostitutes. She went to them all. At each place, she left her picture – taped on a bathroom mirror, tacked to a hotel bulletin board, fastened to the corner of a phone booth. On the back of each one she wrote a note. It wasn’t long before both money and pictures ran out and Maria had to come home. She wept as the bus began its long journey back to her little village.

**It** was a few weeks later that young Christina descended the hotel stairs. Her young face was tired, her brown eyes no longer danced with youth, but spoke of pain and fear. Her laughter broken, her dream had become a nightmare. A thousand times she had longed for that little pallet in her house back home, but that house and that village seemed so far away. As she rounded the stair she suddenly saw a familiar face, her mother’s picture taped to a mirror. She grabbed it, as tears filled her eyes, her Momma!

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**She** turned the picture over, and on the back of it were words that caused her heart to leap and break at the same time: *“Whatever you have done, whatever you have become, it doesn’t matter...Please come home!”*

**Halleluiah!** Can you hear the God of heaven crying out those words to you today? *“Whatever you have done, whatever you have become, it doesn’t matter...please come home!”*

**It** does not matter about your circumstances! It does not matter about how far you have fallen or low you have gone! God loves you!

**God** is a person! He has a precious personality! God has gone all in for you...won’t you come home to Him today?