

OUR GOD IS GOD!

Leviticus 26:11-13

Introduction: When God created man, He instilled within him intelligence, power of will, moral convictions, and the desire to seek and to know God. However, through the ages man has "tried out" many "thought-up" gods. Man has made gods of wood, stone, precious metals and jewels, of animals, the planets and just about any and everything somebody could think or dream up. Today, in our time, although we say we don't believe in that stuff anymore, there is a "god" that most "worship." That god's title is "DESIRE." *"For where your treasure is, there will be your heart also."* (Matthew 6:21). It is no secret that wherever and whatever we put first in our lives has the position of a "god." Here are thoughts to remind us that "Our God is God!"

I. SOME FACTS ABOUT THE GREATNESS OF OUR GOD

1. **1 Samuel 5:1-8:** Israel had forgotten God although He had led them through many battles with victories time after time and they thought that they didn't need to bother God anymore. So they didn't ask God's advice. They were soundly defeated and the precious Ark was taken by their enemy, the Philistines.
 - The enemy took the Ark of God and placed it in the same temple of their god, Dagon, made up as half man and half fish.
 - God threw down their god and broke it and then sent a plague of body tumors upon the people. They became so frightened that they moved the Ark to another part of their country and after enduring God's plague another several months, they sent the Ark back to the Israelites along with several gifts to appease their God.
2. When Israel had been in bondage to Egypt for hundreds of years, the presence of God brought the release of Israel after many plagues of boils, locust, frogs, dying cattle, hail, fire, darkness, then the death of all Egypt's firstborn. All the gods of Egypt couldn't stop the great God of Israel. The God of Israel is OUR God and there is no other REAL God.
3. God led Israel to the land of promise after freeing them from bondage in Egypt. God parted the sea so Israel might cross on dry land and be saved from the Egyptian soldiers. God led Israel by a pillar of cloud by day, a pillar of fire by night, He fed them bread from heaven, quail, water out of a rock, seeing that their clothing and shoes never wore out for 40 years. (**Deuteronomy 29:5**)
 - Only GOD could perform such wonders as these.
4. Throughout the pages of the Old Testament the greatness of God can be seen in such men as Moses, Joshua (the walls of Jericho, marching seven times around the walls, blowing a trumpet and down came the walls, Elijah who was caught up by God in a fiery chariot, Daniel thrown into a lion's den for certain death, but spared by God, the three men thrown into a fiery furnace to face certain death but were saved, then there was Samson who had strength that could have only come from God.
 - Only the one, true God could perform such acts and miracles and unbelievable things.

II. OUR GOD IS REAL, NOT MADE OF STONE, WOOD OR OF SOME MAN'S IMIAGINATION

1. Does our God have an image that can be seen? Jesus said: *"...if you have seen me, you have seen the Father..."* So what was Jesus like?
 - Jesus performed all sorts of miracles: healed the mentally ill, diseased, blind, raised the dead.
 - All Jesus did was for someone's good, all He did glorified God in some manner.
2. Jesus was patient and kind and even the little children flocked to Him.
3. Jesus had compassion for everyone. He went to His own kin, His countrymen but was rejected.
4. Jesus loved so much that He willingly gave His own life for all mankind. What other "god" whenever, wherever has ever done such a thing for those willing to believe?

III. OUR GOD INDWELLS THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN HIS SON JESUS

1. On the day of Pentecost after the resurrection of God's Son, Jesus, God indwelt those who believed in His Son, Jesus.
 - Those believers began to speak in unlearned languages and had boldness and wisdom as never before.
2. A man named Saul, later to become Paul, was struck down on the side of a road and became a changed man with the Spirit of God indwelling him.
3. Paul and Silas were in prison and were released by the hand of God in a mighty, frightening way.
4. Peter had been miraculously freed from jail by an angel sent by God.
5. To know the God of Israel, the God of the Christian is to walk with Him and it is the most wonderful thing in the world. Who can do this with their "god?"
 - The only hindrance of anyone knowing the one and only God is that which an individual creates by him/herself for God wants everyone to walk with Him.
6. God created mankind to have fellowship with Him but gave each human being the freedom to make the choice whether to or not.

IV. OUR GOD WILL NEVER CAST US AWAY ONCE WE BELONG TO HIM

1. Man allows things to come between him/her and God but God never casts any away.
2. God is forgiving when those who believe come to Him in sincerity about their sins/wrongs.
3. God gives eternal life to all who come to Him and gives them a place in His Home in Heaven.
4. This is the very same God who created all things, who was the God of Israel, who can be your God.

CONCLUSION:

1. So, how great is your god? Where did your god come from? What can your god do? How much does your god care about you?
2. Our God is God! Any other "god" is but an imagination of some person's thoughts. There is no god but Our God!
3. If you already know our God, isn't it wonderful to know Him?
4. If you don't know our God, you can and He is anxious for you to join our wonderful Family.