

DEWITT TABERNACLE TEACHING SERIES

“THE CHARACTER OF GOD”

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It seems to me that the subject of God's character should never at any time or for any reason be questioned. But after many years of preaching the Gospel and with trusting God being the foundation of all sermons, there is a need to remind us of God's Perfection! The scriptures declare that "He is God and not man" Hosea 11 9, "-----FOR I *AM* GOD AND NOT MAN; THE HOLY ONE IN THE MIDST OF THEE-----"

Isa. 44: 8, "IS THERE A GOD BESIDE ME? YEA, *THERE IS* NO GOD; I KNOW NOT *ANY*."

Isa.43:10, "----- THAT YE MAY KNOW AND BELIEVE ME, AND UNDERSTAND THAT I *AM* HE: BEFORE ME THERE WAS NO GOD FORMED, NEITHER

SHALL THERE BE AFTER ME."

Isa. 43:11-12, "I *EVEN* I, *AM* THE LORD; AND BESIDE ME *THERE IS* NO SAVIOUR.

"-----THEREFORE YE *ARE* MY WITNESSES, SAITH THE LORD, THAT I *AM* GOD."

But far too often, with our carnal mind, we tend to judge Him by the way we ourselves think. We need to remember that His thoughts are "higher than ours as the Heavens are higher than the Earth"

I have found out from dealing with People that most of us have been "Trying to believe God." I am going to make a statement now that Seems to shock most people. There is no Promise in the Bible made to those People who are trying to believe God! All promises are made to

Those who are Believing Him! As long as our testimony is that we are still trying to Believe, we are showing that we do not yet believe Him. Then we need to stop and ask ourselves, what it is in His character that we don't trust? Have you found some flaw in His Personality? Do you know of some failures He has made in keeping His Word to Believers?

Are we able to trust another human, such as wife, husband, doctor, lawyer, banker, or a close friend, then look up and Say to The Perfect God "I'm trying to trust You." If one of my children that I raised would have been constantly worried about being safe in my care, that would have grieved me more than if she had purposely broken some of my house rules.

Matt. 6:32 says, "Your Heavenly Father knoweth that you have need of all these things." If the Lord sees and knows our needs, it is only natural for Him to Provide it. It is in His nature to be a Father. As soon as a good earthly father sees his child in need, he at once sets out to meet it; he may not even wait until the child asks for it.

Being a good Father he could not do otherwise! When God says to us "I see your need", He is telling us that He will meet our needs. He will not see what we need, then Fail to meet that need. Is He then not more able to take care of us than any human Father??? But in our ignorance we may then ask, "Why don't I then have everything I want"? Only because God sees that what we want is not what we need! In order to give us what we need, He often has to keep from us what we want. He knows what we need, we do not. It should satisfy us to know that He sees our need and deals with us accordingly.

In the horse and buggy days, a man was walking on the dusty road with a heavy sack on his back. A man driving a wagon and team stopped and picked him up. The man climbed onto the spring board Seat, but kept the heavy sack on his back. Down the road a ways the driver asked him why he didn't lay the Sack down in the wagon and rest his back. The man replied, "Oh I couldn't do that, it's enough to ask you to carry me without asking you to carry my burdens too." That sounds silly to us, but don't we do our Lord the Same way at times? We lay our burden down at the altar at church, and then on the way out we pick it up again. Are we trusting the Lord to take care of us, but still carrying the Burden on our own shoulders? Are we as silly as the man in the Story? Too many of us live doubting that God can be as good as the Bible says He is.

And so we need to Study His Word until we are totally convinced that He is Perfect in every Part of

His Nature. Though He was a man in His Flesh there is no flaw in His God Part. He is Perfect and Perfect cannot be improved!

If I know the Perfect truthfulness of a man, I do him a grave injustice to say to him "I do not believe you." It follows as a matter of Fact that I must believe him once I am Convinced that his testimony is Worthy of my belief. I have no right then to say to him, "I do not believe you or I am trying to believe you."

That is how it is between us and the Lord Jesus when I am convinced of His Perfect Character. I have no right to say to Him, "I am trying to believe you."

Do you believe Him to be true and honest and Faithful in all His ways? Then that is our Power to Believe Him. That is according to the law of just common sense. It is also according to the law that says we learn by experience.

We desperately need to stop testifying that we are trying to believe and

change it to "I am a true believer in a Perfect God!

We are admonished by the Scripture to have the right testimony. Rev. 12:11, "And they overcome the enemy by the Blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony." And so the Scripture says, "He that believeth not has made God a liar."! We would shrink from the thought of calling God a liar, but when the revelation of it comes we are struck down by the truth of the matter.

To question God's Faithfulness in Keeping His Promise is to defame His Character! Therefore, to question God's Faithfulness or His Wisdom and Love and Power is what God labels as unbelief! Now, let's check His Word and see what He has done in the way of saving us, and that will Prove what His Character is. (To know Him is to love Him and to love Him is to trust Him.) As soon as a Person believes in Jesus Christ and the life he lived, then what He Accomplished at the Cross, then his sins are

gone from him and gone forever!!! They are blotted out.

If a man owed \$1,000.00 and now he has a receipt where he paid it, he is free from that debt. There is a figure in the Bank showing where he Paid the debt in full. The debt is gone! Now let's apply this truth to our Sin debt in a spiritual sense. Though we may fail in keeping the law at times because of the law of Sin in our Flesh, yet our Sin debt was paid before we ever was on the Earth! Therefore, when we believe this, we are no longer in debt to the law of God. Because the Scripture Says God has cast our Sins into the depths of the Sea. If they are in the bottom of the Sea, they cannot be on us too.

The day that we repent and He casts our Sins away God sees us as pure in His Sight. We stand accepted in His eyes. Then He says, "As far as the East is from the West so far has He removed our Sins from us. They can't be removed and still be

here on us too. If we are believing God's Word and not just trying to believe it, then we are no longer sinners, we are accepted as though we were Perfect. We stand before God as if we had kept the whole law, because Jesus Christ Kept it for us!! His righteousness becomes ours.

(See Romans 5:17) We have broken the law, but our Sin became His Sin and He has been punished for it. We are no longer what we were. When we believe in God's Plan of Mercy, we stand as Jesus stood, even as He stood where we stood, and went to the cross in our stead. Those who do not believe this are still under the curse of the law. We who believe it are still sinners in ourselves, but we are washed in the blood of Christ. David said, "Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow."

The enemy comes and says "You are Black." We know we were Black, as Black as Hell itself, but the blood drops fall on us and we are whiter than snow. We confess that by

our self we are unworthy and unclean. Yet believing In His Plan He has given us His righteousness So completely that we are even whiter than the snow that Falls from God's treasury. We can go to our beds at night and say, "If I die in my bed I am not condemned. If we wake up in the morning we can get up and go about our business and say, "I am not condemned. When the devil starts his lying we can say to him "I am not condemned.

When we realize that

our time has come to leave we can say, "I am not condemned."

In our courts we know that a verdict of Not Guilty means the Prisoner is set Free at once. So is it in the language of the Bible, the Sentence of not Guilty means the sinner is Free from the curse of the laws he has broken. His debt was Paid by another and even in our law here a man cannot be charged with the same crime twice. Once the debt is Paid the crime is no longer held over his head. Jesus took

our Sins on Himself and Paid the debt in full. We are not Partly free and Partly Guilty. There are no black white birds and no drunk sober men and there are no guilty People who have Accepted His Pardon.

I Pray that we have caught a Fresh glimpse of God's Character and that our days of "Trying To Believe Him" are over forever. May we repent and be forgiven as we receive His Mercy.

Amen