

# God's Feelings



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- John 14:8-10 - “Philip said to Him, Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us. 9 Jesus said to him, Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? 10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me?...”

# God's Feelings

- Jesus was God in the flesh.. He was a Being of great emotions; therefore, it follows that God the Father is also a Being of emotions.
  - Heb. 4:15 - “For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.”

# Emotions Specifically Attributed To God

- Grief
  - Gen. 6:6 - “And the LORD was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart.”
- What grieves God?
  - Wanton, widespread, careless, unashamed, unrestrained sin

# Emotions Specifically Attributed To God

- Anger and wrath
  - Ex. 4:14 - “So the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses...”
  - Num. 25:4 - “Then the LORD said to Moses, Take all the leaders of the people and hang the offenders before the LORD, out in the sun, that the fierce anger of the LORD may turn away from Israel.”
  - Rev. 14:10 - “He himself shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb.”

# Emotions Specifically Attributed To God

- What angers God?
  - Defiance, leading the weak and vulnerable into sin, abject rebellion against His will

# Emotions Specifically Attributed To God

- Love

- John 17:24 - “Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.”
- Eph. 2:4-5 - “But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ”
- John 3:16 - “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son...”

# Emotions Specifically Attributed To God

- Who does God love?
  - Jesus Christ and every human being

# Emotions Specifically Attributed To God

- Hate
  - Mal. 2:16 - “For the LORD God of Israel says That He hates divorce...”
  - Deut. 12:31 - “You shall not worship the LORD your God in that way; for every abomination to the LORD which He hates they have done to their gods; for they burn even their sons and daughters in the fire to their gods.”
  - Zech. 8:17 - “Let none of you think evil in your heart against your neighbor; And do not love a false oath. For all these are things that I hate,’ Says the LORD.”

# Emotions Specifically Attributed To God

- Hate

- Prov. 6:16-19 - “These six things the LORD hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: 17 A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, 18 A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, 19 A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren.”

# Emotions Specifically Attributed To God

- What does God hate?
  - Divorce, human sacrifice and idolatry, plotting harm against another person, phony promises, arrogant sneers, lying, killing the innocent, daydreaming about committing sins, rushing into trouble, perjury, stirring up hard feelings, and inciting division

# Emotions Specifically Attributed To God

- Joy
  - Neh. 8:10 - “Then he said to them, Go your way, eat the fat, drink the sweet, and send portions to those for whom nothing is prepared; for this day is holy to our LORD. Do not sorrow, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”
- What makes God happy?
  - Seeing people learn His word, respect His will, follow His instructions, and as a result, live fulfilling lives, and live with Him in heaven

# God's Feelings

- “If God is a Being with emotions and He truly loves His children, how can He consign sinners to hell?”
- Hosea 11:1-12

Hosea 11:1-7 “When Israel was a child, I loved him,  
And out of Egypt I called My son. 2 As they called  
them, So they went from them; They sacrificed to the  
Baals, And burned incense to carved images. 3 I  
taught Ephraim to walk, Taking them by their arms; But  
they did not know that I healed them. 4 I drew them  
with gentle cords, With bands of love, And I was to  
them as those who take the yoke from their neck. I  
stooped and fed them. 5 He shall not return to the land  
of Egypt; But the Assyrian shall be his king, Because  
they refused to repent. 6 And the sword shall slash in  
his cities, Devour his districts, And consume them,  
Because of their own counsels. 7 My people are bent  
on backsliding from Me. Though they call to the Most  
High, None at all exalt Him.”

Hosea 11:8-12 - “How can I give you up, Ephraim?  
How can I hand you over, Israel? How can I make you  
like Admah? How can I set you like Zeboiim? My heart  
churns within Me; My sympathy is stirred. 9 I will not  
execute the fierceness of My anger; I will not again  
destroy Ephraim. For I am God, and not man, The  
Holy One in your midst; And I will not come with terror.  
10 They shall walk after the LORD. He will roar like a  
lion. When He roars, Then His sons shall come  
trembling from the west; 11 They shall come trembling  
like a bird from Egypt, Like a dove from the land of  
Assyria. And I will let them dwell in their houses, Says  
the LORD. 12 Ephraim has encircled Me with lies, And  
the house of Israel with deceit; But Judah still walks  
with God, Even with the Holy One who is faithful.”

# Lessons From Hosea

- That God is a moral Being
- That He exercises all the affections and emotions ascribed to Him in the Bible
- That it is a great grief to Him to consign sinners to death
- That sinners compel Him to do so

# God Is A Moral Being

- Humankind was created in His image with the powers of free moral agency
- If God is not a moral being, He can have no moral character, and could be neither praise-worthy nor blame-worthy, just like the animals
- If not moral, He is not a proper object of love, worship, or obedience
- Both the moral and providential governments of God prove that the goodness of God is infinite in scope.
- The Scriptures in every case represent God as moral
- As His creation, it is foolish to judge Him by our own fallible and warped standards of fairness and morality

# God Exercises All The Affections Ascribed To Him In The Bible

- The Bible ascribes to God love, hatred, anger, repentance, grief, compassion, indignation, abhorrence, patience, long-suffering, joy, and every other affection and emotion of a moral being.
- If God does not have true emotions, the Bible represents Him as a hypocrite.
- If these are not the real feelings of God, then we have no true revelation of God.
- If these passages of scripture do not mean what they say, it is impossible for us to tell what they do mean.

# It Is A Great Grief To God To Abandon Sinners To Death

- Some object that if God really exercises anger, He is wicked.

# Sinners Compel God To Give Them Up

- Since God has created us moral agents making us responsible for right uses of the power of choice, He has no right to set aside our liberty.
- It would require Him to take away our liberty in order to protect us from the consequences of our wrong choices

# Sinners Compel God To Give Them Up

- God cannot save us against our will
  - Salvation without faith and obedience is impossible
  - Faith and obedience without free moral agency is a contradiction
- We cannot be saved by God against our will and without our cooperation.

# Sinners Compel God To Give Them Up

- If God tries to save someone against his will, He abandons His Own Divine Nature and Holiness
- All of humanity and the universe itself depends on God being God. He cannot stop being God to satisfy some misguided human's belief that a loving God will not punish willful sinners.

# Sinners Compel God To Give Them Up

- 2Peter 3:9-11 - “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. 11 Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness...?”