

BARAH MINISTRIES PASTOR NOTES

/TODAY'S STUDY CREATOR \

/It's time to get to know the CREATOR, and if you don't already, to believe in Him.\

/1TI 2:3-4

This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, //who desires all men to be saved and to come to the (full epignosis) knowledge of the truth.

There are...

Thirteen Things Every Christian Should Know About the CREATOR

To think about these thirteen things, I'd like for you to picture a clock. The clock has twelve numbers. Each number represents a single stopping point for the clock. And at the center of a clock is a device that keeps the hands of the clock together as they whirl around the face of the clock day after day. This device keeps the clock from falling apart, really...

So it is with our study of God, the CREATOR. There are twelve stops along the way...and at the center of our study is the One who holds it all together...our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

/HEB 1:3

And He (the Lord Jesus Christ) is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds (the) all things by the word of His power.

/JOH 1:3

All things came into being through Him (the Lord Jesus Christ...He is the CREATOR), and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

As we study God in these thirteen aspects, there is much to learn about Him. But we must be aware that there is a **true picture of God** and **there is a distorted picture of God**.

Let's look at the clock...

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One O'clock

/The Truth

The CREATOR is ONE in essence\

Two O'clock

/The Truth

The CREATOR is three separate and distinct persons in Personality\

Three O'clock

/The Truth

The CREATOR is fair\

Four O'clock

/The Truth

The CREATOR is perfect\

Five O'clock

/The Truth

The CREATOR is willing\

Six O'clock

/The Truth

The CREATOR is powerful\

Seven O'clock

/The Truth

The CREATOR is present\

Eight O'clock

/The Truth

The CREATOR is knowledgeable\

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Nine O'clock

/The Truth
The CREATOR is gracious\

Ten O'clock

/The Truth
The CREATOR is faithful\

Eleven O'clock

/The Truth
The CREATOR is truthful\

Twelve O'clock

/The Truth
The CREATOR is eternal\

The Centerpiece

/The Truth
The CREATOR is the Lord Jesus Christ, the visible manifestation of the Godhead\

SO WHAT?

As we study the different stops on the clock as they relate to our knowledge of the CREATOR, it's really important, if we are to change our knowledge of the CREATOR, to ask a simple question as we learn about Him...and the question is, "So what?"

So what that God is one in essence...what does that mean in the light of the Angelic Conflict?

So what that God is three separate and distinct persons...what does that mean in the light of the Angelic Conflict?

So what that God always tells the truth.....what does that mean in the light

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of the Angelic Conflict?

We began our tour of the stops on the clock in our last lesson...let's recall what we did and finish what we started in the overview of the things we'll be learning about the CREATOR.

/The Truth

The CREATOR is ONE in essence\

Knowing that God is ONE in essence means that whenever you hear anything that indicates that God is something other than one, an instant alert must go off in your soul.

/EPH 4:4-6

There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; //one Lord, one faith, one baptism, //one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

It means that GOD is unity and everything about Him represents unity, and there is no disunity in Him at all.

/The Truth

The CREATOR is three separate and distinct persons in Personality\

The members of the Godhead do not simply have different roles, where the Father acts as the planner, and the Son acts as the executor and the Holy Spirit acts as the teacher of the Plan of God. The doctrine of the Trinity says that God is ONE in essence, and that God is three separate and distinct persons who are coequal and co-infinite and co-eternal.

/MAT 28:19

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit”

Even science makes it clear that...

/Things that manifest the same qualities are the same\

When we finish studying the Trinity, we'll do our best to make it crystal clear to you how there can be one God with separate and distinct persons.

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/The Truth

The CREATOR is fair\

When we think of God, we must think of a judge. If we go before a judge, we are going to get absolute objectivity in the matter before the court. A judge is looking to make a ruling that is absolutely fair to both sides.

/ISA 42:3

He (the Lord Jesus Christ) will faithfully bring forth justice.

/ISA 30:18c

For the LORD is a God of justice

I always chuckle when I hear about the division of assets in a divorce proceeding. Two people have decided they no longer want to be together. What is fair is that the marital assets are divided exactly as a judge in a court of law would divide them. Yet what we see time and again, is two people dead set on hurting each other on the way out of the relationship. Typically, each person is not interested in doing what is fair. Instead each person becomes set on getting an unfair share of the marital assets. No judge is going to stand for that, yet you will see people drag out a divorce forever, paying endless amounts of money to get an unfair share of the assets, and in the end, all they get for their trouble is a much bigger legal bill than they would have gotten if they had played nice. They not only don't get their unfair share, they get much less than they would have gotten otherwise.

So as we think about the CREATOR being fair, we know that He will give us a chance to have a fair hearing before Him in ALL matters. It's what the angelic creatures counted on after the fall, and it is what we count on from our state of condemnation at physical birth. Justice. We simply count on the fact that a fair God will give us a fair shot at salvation and a fair shot at advancing to spiritual maturity. Equal privilege...equal opportunity, no disadvantage.

/The Truth

The CREATOR is perfect\

How does a perfect God deal with imperfect creatures? He has to have a perfect plan for imperfect creatures. And He does. God's perfection gives us tremendous peace, because we know that when God makes a

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recommendation, it's going to work.

/DEU 32:4

“The Rock! His work is perfect, For all His ways are just; A God of faithfulness and without injustice, Righteous and upright is He.”

We know that the CREATOR created us, and He absolutely knows how to handle us, and He took care of the imperfection problem of His believers by imputing to us His own righteousness.

/2CO 5:21

He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him

For believers in Christ, our imperfection is no longer an issue because He made us perfect at the moment of salvation by crediting His own perfection to us. And now we can relax in our position of perfection because the perfect God made our imperfection perfect.

/The Truth

The CREATOR is willing\

Nothing happens in this world without God's permission.

God has directive will. His mandates make our paths straight with the truth.

God has permissive will. He allows us to use our free will to choose for Him or against Him, both in the matter of salvation and in the matter of intake of the truth.

God has overruling will. He keeps us from hurting ourselves.

/1TH 4:3

For this is the will of God, your sanctification

God IS willing for us to succeed, and He provided everything that would allow us to choose success long before He created us. God NEVER thinks about our failure.

/The Truth

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The CREATOR is powerful\

Our God is an awesome God, or so the song says.

When we learn about God's power, divine omnipotence, and start tuning in to the fact that God is on our side we will be much more willing to wait on his timing and His provision in everything.

/REV 3:8

Behold, I have put before you an open door which no one can shut

The open doors God places before us are custom made for us.

/The Truth

The CREATOR is present\

You may be lonely, but you are never alone. Our God is not bound by time or by space restrictions. He is intimately involved in the affairs of all mankind and He is personally involved in your business.

/JER 23:23

"Am I a God who is near," declares the Lord, "And not a God far off?"

/HEB 13:5b

...for He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU..."

When you know God you know without question that He is with you through the challenges. More importantly, He will surround you with people you can trust who will be a manifestation of Him.

God knows people...he knows the invisible is not motivating for long...

BREAK

/The Truth

The CREATOR is knowledgeable\

A mentor is a trusted advisor. He is someone we go to because He has traveled the road we are on before and He can warn us concerning the bumps and bruises of the road along the way. He knows what works. He

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knows what doesn't work. We can trust His knowledge. God is wisdom.

/ISA 11:2

The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord

Our God is the source of wisdom and He shares it with us every time we ask. He is a fountain of knowledge who drenches us with the wisdom to navigate our lives.

/The Truth

The CREATOR is gracious\

Paul is the trophy of God's grace. So when you hear him write...

/2PE 1:2

Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God (the Father) and of Jesus (Christ) our Lord

...you know what he means...and you know he knows what he is talking about. By his own admission, Paul is the worst believer ever...his favorite pre-salvation sport was persecuting Christians...

/ACT 26:9-11

So then, I (Paul) thought to myself that I had to do many things hostile to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.//And this is just what I did in Jerusalem; not only did I lock up many of the saints in prisons, having received authority from the chief priests, but also when they were being put to death I cast my vote against them.//And as I punished them often in all the synagogues, I tried to force them to blaspheme; and being furiously enraged at them, I kept pursuing (dioko) them even to foreign cities.

What does it mean to us that God is gracious? It means He is loving. It means that He does not hold our mistakes against us. In light of the Angelic Conflict, I know some angels who are pretty grateful concerning that...

He took Paul, the least of all the saints, and turned him into the best believer of all time. The key? Paul was willing to let the Lord do this...

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<POINT OF CONTACT>

/The Truth

The CREATOR is faithful\

One of my favorite birthday cards of all time came from a friend. A monkey was using chalk to write numbers on an elephant. The inside of the card said...It's nice to have someone to count on...so it is with our God...we can count on Him.

/LAM 3:22

The Lord's lovingkindnesses indeed never cease, For His compassions never fail.

/1CO 1:9

God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

While we will need to make many changes over our lifetime, a perfect God will never change and thus is someone we can ALWAYS count on.

/The Truth

The CREATOR is truthful\

There is no lying with God. There is no guile. There is nothing for us to be suspicious of. There is nothing for us to be worried about. We simply need to trust Him.

/JOH 1:14

And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw (beheld) His glory, glory as of the only begotten (uniquely born one) from the Father, full of grace and truth.

I think more than anything else, getting to know God puts us in a position to trust Him for everything, which is exactly what He wants from us.

/The Truth

The CREATOR is eternal\

Praise to the Lord for He is good...all nations...join me now in the love of

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the Lord...forevermore.

God is forevermore! Our relationship with Him is forevermore. How exciting!

/1JO 5:11

And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.

How long will we be getting to know the CREATOR?

Forevermore.

He gives us the same life He has at the moment of salvation...not everlasting life which has a beginning and no ending and which we come to earth with, but the eternal life...the same life He has...which qualifies us to live with Him

/The Truth

The CREATOR is the Lord Jesus Christ, the visible manifestation of the Godhead\

/JOH 10:30

"I and the Father are one."\

God gives us things we can see. His attributes are clearly seen. The Lord Jesus Christ is the clearly seen one who prototypes everything that He expects us to live. Getting to know Him is the capstone to our clock watch, because in Him we will see the One that holds everything together.

He knows all about you. And He IS all about you. As we learn about God we will come to see His reflection in the God-man.