**Knowledge of God**

**Introduction to the Knowledge of God**

1. **Foundation of Relationship: Knowing and Being Known**

A.W. Tozer, “What comes to our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.”

What you think about God shapes your whole relationship with him. In addition what you believe God thinks about you determines how close you will grow towards him. Until you know God as He is, you’ll never become all that God has called you to be.

John 17:3 (ESV), “And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.”

Philippians 3:7–8 (ESV), “But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ

2 Peter 1:3 (ESV), “His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence,”

Daniel 11:32 (NKJV), “The people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out *great exploits.”*

-Practicing the “Double Knowledge”

1. **God is not like us.**

Isaiah 40:25 (ESV), “To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One.”

Isaiah 55:8-9 (ESV), “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

1. **Left to ourselves we tend to reduce God to manageable terms.**

Romans 1:21-23 (ESV), “For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.”

1. **God can be known only as he reveals himself to us.**

**-**Nature, Word, Jesus Christ!

**D. God longs for you to see him**

John 17:24 (ESV), “Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

1. **God does all things to fulfill His purposes for His Glory and for our Good!**

Romans 8:28 (ESV), “And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.”

Genesis 50:20 (ESV), “As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.”

1. **God the Holy One** 
   1. **Definition of Holy:** 
      1. There are two biblical words that define the fullness of God (all of his attributes and character in perfect harmony, and balance in all that HE IS. The First is Holy and the Second is Glory.

Charles Spurgeon, “Shall I call Holiness an attribute? Is it not rather the glorious combination of all his attributes into one perfect whole? As all his attributes proceed from the absolute, so all again converge and meet in holiness. This therefore is rather the intense whiteness, purity, clearness, the infinite luster and splendor of his perfect nature, like a gem without flaw, and without stain.. All of his attributes are glorious, but in this we have a combinations of all into a still more glorious whole. It is for this reason that it is so frequently in Scripture associated with the Divine beauty. The poetic nature of the psalmist is exalted to ecstasy in contemplation of the “beauty of holiness” the beauty of the Lord.” Beauty is a combination of elements according to the laws of harmony; the more beautiful the parts or elements, and the more perfect the harmonious combination, the higher the beauty. How high and glorious, therefore, must be the beauty of this attribute which is the perfect combination of all his infinite perfections!”

* + 1. The Hebrew word for Holy means separateness! It refers to God’s otherness!
    2. He is set apart from all else, Isaiah 6:1-5, Rev. 4:8

-The Fullness of all that He is, SET APART

-There is none like him

* + 1. He is set apart from anything morally impure, no darkness in him at all.
  1. **We respond to the Holiness of God through the ‘fear of the Lord’ 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1**

“Since we have these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from every defilement of body and spirit, bringing holiness to completion in the fear of God.”

* 1. **Fearing God means:** 
     1. Standing in awe of Him, trembling, at times even dread (falling to our faces). It is keeping ‘in sync’ with him.

Malachi 2:5, “My covenant with him was one of life and peace, and I gave them to him. It was a covenant of fear, and he feared me. He stood in awe of my name.”

* + 1. Growing Hatred of Sin!

Proverbs 8:13 (ESV), “The fear of the Lord is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate.”

* + 1. People who are God-fearing are people who fear ‘being out of sync with God’ It is a trusting, a hiding in his awesome presence.

**Jesus Delighted in the ‘fear of the Lord,’ (Isaiah 11:2-3)**

**God delights in those who ‘Fear Him” (Malachi 3:16-17)**

**Early Church walked in the Fear of the Lord (Acts 5:11-14)**

* + 1. **Promises of the walking in the fear of the Lord**

Fear of the Lord is the ‘beginning of wisdom,’ Proverbs 1:7

Fear of the Lord gives you understanding and knowledge of God, Proverbs 2:5

Fear of the Lord prolongs your days, Proverbs 10:27

The Fear of the Lord will be rewarded, Proverbs 13:13

The Fear of the Lord brings confidence, and strength, Proverbs 13:13

Fear of the Lord brings Life, Fountain of Life, Leads to Life, and brings healing to our bones, Prov 14:27, 19:23

Fear of the Lord brings riches, honor, and Life, Proverbs 22:4

Fear of the Lord helps us overcome sin, Proverbs 16:6

1. **God the Glorious One**

The word Glory means, weight or illumination. When the Holy One, the set apart one, is made manifest, goes forth like light or illumination, we use the word Glory. When he manifests his presence, it is weighty (authority) It is his ‘revealed excellence,’ his manifold perfections, his goodness that passes before us! God is not just wise and loving, but he is *gloriously* or surpassingly so. He is the best and greatest in every quality. He is not just important and worthy of our adoration, submission, and attention, but *gloriously* or supremely so. (He is infinitely more worthy of our adoration, submission, and attention than anyone or anything else). Every other being is *“less than nothing”* in comparison with his glory (cf. Isaiah 40:5, 15-17, 25). God’s glory is often expressed in the Scripture as blazing, blinding luminosity (Exodus 16:10), which conveys this concept of utter excellence and superlativeness. The unbearable brilliance of God also gets across the ultimate incomprehensibility of God to our finite minds. God is exceptional!

“Fire of his Glory” Exodus 3:13-15, Hebrews 12:28-29

Hebrews 12:28–29 (ESV), “Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, 29 for our God is a consuming fire.”

Exodus 3:13–15 (ESV), “Then Moses said to God, “If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” 14 God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel, ‘I am has sent me to you.’ ” 15 God also said to Moses, “Say this to the people of Israel, ‘The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.’ This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.”

Exodus 33:18–23 (ESV) , “Moses said, “Please show me your glory.” 19 And he said, “I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name ‘The Lord.’ And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. 20 But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live.” 21 And the Lord said, “Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, 22 and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. 23 Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen.”

Exodus 34:5–8 (ESV), “The Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. 6 The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, 7 keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children’s children, to the third and the fourth generation.” 8 And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped.”

His Name Yahweh (I am who I am) describes his personal name both as the Holy One and the Glorious One (Revealed Excellence). Used 6,828x in Scripture. He is all- sufficient, all- powerful, all- deserving, and all- consuming!

The Ultimate display of God’s Glory was at the cross, Piper calls the cross, the “Blazing Center of His Glory.” John called the cross, the 7x in his gospel.

“All for his Glory”

• God made the created world for his glory (Psalm 19:1ff).

• God will heal the broken world with his glory (Isaiah 35:2).

• God made us for his glory (Isaiah 43:7).

• God saved us to praise his glory (Ephesians 1:12).

• God does everything for his own glory.

• When he judges, he does so for his own glory (Exodus 14:4).

• When he shows mercy, he does so for his own glory (Isaiah 48:11).

Therefore, we must do everything we do for his glory (1 Corinthians 10:31)

“God… is infinitely the greatest and best of beings. All things else, with

regard to worthiness, importance, and excellence, are perfectly as nothing

in comparison to him… The ultimate [goal] of God’s works is… *the glory of*

*God.*”

– Jonathan Edwards

“The Biblical word ‘glory’ is (Heb) *kavod* [which] means heavy, weighty,

significant… The ‘glory of the Lord’ indicates the brilliance that is connected

with all God’s virtues and his self-revelation in nature and grace… As an

object of loving adoration it is called his [*beauty*]. As an object of our

reverent submission it is called his *majesty*. As an object of our joyous

gratitude it is called his [*worthiness*].”

– Herman Bavinck

**We respond to the Glorious one by Glorifying God!**

Obviously, to “glorify God” means to praise and adore him. The two passages ring with calls to sing his praises and declare his glory. But what does that mean? I think we can break this down into the following aspects.

1. It means to (mentally) *recognize supreme excellence* in him. It is to

acknowledge that he is the measure and standard of all things, the best and

the greatest of beings in the universe.

a) He is greater than all other gods (1 Chr 16:25); he is the source of

everything in creation (Ps 104:24).

b) There is no definition of goodness, or love, or power, or wisdom

except in God. All else is good, loving, powerful, or wise only in

relationship to him.

c) Nothing deserves our deepest respect and honor more than the Lord,

before whom we should all tremble and fear (1 Chr 16:30).

2. It means to (volitionally) *ascribe ultimate value* to him. It is to give him the

centrality or priority in our lives.

a) We are to give God his *“due”* (1 Chr 16:29), that is, we are to recognize his value or *‘worthiness’* (1 Chr 16:25). His value is absolute, greater than all other objects that might be worshipped (1 Chr 16:25-26).

b) In the simplest terms possible, to glorify God means to make him the

most important thing in your life.

i. It means to trust him more than anything else and to obey him

unconditionally.

ii. It means everything else is judged by whether it enhances

(or detracts) from his honor, or from your relationship to him.

c) Once we recognize his ultimate beauty, we realize that we must be

willing to pay anything to have him and to honor him. That is how

much he is “worth.”

3. It means to (emotionally) *find your ultimate joy or pleasure* in him. It is to find

him your deepest satisfaction.

a) We notice in the texts that to glorify him, to praise him, and to enjoy

him are different aspects of the same action.

i. We find joy in his glory-presence (1 Chr 16:27).

ii. The Psalmist gets joy when he meditates on the glory of God

revealed in his works of creation (Psalm 104: 34).

iii. Even more remarkably, God himself gets joy as he surveys

his own glory in the works of creation (Psalm 104:31).

b) Joyful singing also comes as we survey his glory revealed in the

works of salvation and redemption (1 Chr 16:23).

c) Thanks, joy, and adoration unite in the act of “glorying” in his praise

(1 Chr 16:35) — which seems to mean that we experience some kind

of fullness and greatness as we glorify him.

d) To acknowledge his glory is to rejoice in him jubilantly as the very

trees of the wood will do when he comes to rule them

(1 Chr 16:31-33). This aspect of glorifying God is to see God’s *beauty*. David speaks of seeing God’s beauty (Ps 27:4) and glory (Ps 63:2-5) almost synonymously.

* To find an object beautiful is to enjoy it or find it satisfying in itself.

When you sit gazing in wonder at the ocean or the mountains you don’t do so as an instrument to reach some other goal. The very sight of the ocean or the mountains is fulfilling in itself.

• The Bible, of course, says that this is because the created universe is

giving you glimpses of God’s glory. See Psalm 19.

* To glorify God is not to go to God mainly to get his help, forgiveness, guidance or strength but to get him.

• Other subordinate joys become means to the end of serving and

knowing God. In other words, we don’t obey God mainly to get health,

peace, comfort or success, but to mainly give him pleasure and honor.

• Why? Because we have put our joy and happiness *into* his joy and

happiness. Making him happy *is* what gives us joy.

For as God is infinitely the greatest Being, so he is… infinitely the most

beautiful and excellent. All the beauty to be found throughout the whole

creation is but a reflection of the diffused beams of that Being who hath an

infinite fullness of brightness and glory. God is the foundation of all being and

all beauty.

– Jonathan Edwards

We are all starved for the glory of God, not self. No one goes to the Grand

Canyon to increase self-esteem. Why do we go? Because there is greater

healing for the soul in beholding splendor than there is in beholding self… The

point is this: We were made to know and treasure the glory of God above all

things; and when we trade that treasure for images, everything is disordered.

The sun of God’s glory was made to shine at the center of the solar system of

our soul. And when it does, all the planets of our life are held in their proper

orbit. But when the sun is displaced, everything flies apart. The healing of the

soul begins by restoring the glory of God to its flaming, all-attracting place at

the center. -John Piper

**Therefore, we were created to Glorify God and Enjoy Him Forever!**

As John Piper writes, “We glorify God BY enjoying him forever!” God is most glorified in us when we are most satisfied in him! Therefore we spread a passion for the supremacy of God in all things, for the joy of all peoples.

1. **The Triune God of Grace – God is Love**

Definition: God eternally exists as three persons, Father, Son, Holy Spirit, and each person is fully God, and there is One God. He is the Three-In-One God!

1. God is three persons.
2. Each person is fully God
3. There is One God.

Dr. Timothy George “What makes God, God? It is the relationship of total and mutual self-giving by which the Father gives everything to the Son,. The Son offers back all that He has to glorify the Father, with the love of each being established and sealed by the Holy Spirit, who proceeds from both. The doctrine of the Trinity tells us that relationship-personality-is at the heart of the universe.”

“At the center of the universe is a relationship,” Darrell Johnson

“The Father… Son… and Holy Spirit glorify each other… Self-giving love is

the dynamic currency of the Trinitarian life of God. The persons within God

exalt, commune with, and defer to one other… Each harbors the others at

the center of his being. In constant movement of overture and acceptance

each person envelopes and encircles the others. [So] Creation is neither a

necessity nor an accident. Instead, given God’s interior life that overflows

with regard for others, we might say creation is an act that was *fitting* for

God… In creation God graciously made room in the universe for other kinds

of beings. God’s splendor [glory] becomes clearer whenever the Son of God

powerfully spends himself in order to cause others to flourish… Jesus

Christ’s pattern of life in the world reproduces the inner life of God.”

– Cornelius Plantinga

1. **Finding the Trinity: Examining the Biblical Evidence towards a Trinitarian Framework:**

Genesis 1:26 (NIV), “Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

Isaiah 6:8 (NIV), “Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

Psalm 110:1 (NIV), “The Lord says to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.”

Matthew 28:19 (NIV), “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,”

John 10:30 (NIV), “I and the Father are one.”

John 14:9 (NIV), “Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”

John 14:16-17 (NIV), “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.

John 15:26 (NIV), “When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.

John 17:1 (NIV), “After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: “Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you.”

* Jesus only does what he sees his Father doing(John 5:19)
* Jesus does what he does in the power of the Holy Spirit(Luke 9:20)
* Jesus has come to make the Father known to his disciples(John 17:12
* Jesus has come to baptize his disciples in and with the Spirit(Mark 1:8, John 1:33)

1 Peter 1:2 (NIV), “who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.”

Titus 3:4-6 (NIV), “But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, 6 whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior,”

Romans 8:9-11 (NIV), “You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ. 10 But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. 11 And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.”

Ephesians 3:14-17 (NIV), “For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name. 16 I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, 17 so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love,”

Revelation 1:4-5 (NIV), “Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, 5 and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.”

1. **Joining the Trinity: Becoming Co-lovers of God!**

Tertullian, “God is One, but God is not alone”

Perichoresis: Relationship between each of the persons of the Trinity, decribed as an interdependence, or interpenetration, each in the other, each for the other!

I John 4:16, “God is LOVE”

Defining Love: “God’s love is his holy disposition toward all that he has created that compels him to express unconditional affection and selective correction to provide the highest quality of existence, both now and forever, for the object of his love!”(Chip Ingram, God as he longs for you to see him, pg 181)

God’s love means that God eternally gives of himself to others. It is self-giving for the benefit of others. I John 4:8-10, Romans 5:8, John 3:16, Gal. 2:20, I John 4:11,John 13:35, Rom. 13:10, Heb. 10:24, John 17:26, Rom. 5:5, Matt 5:43-48)

1. **Love is Other-centered.**

God’s Love is his commitment and dedication that is unconditional

God’s love is God’s affectionate desire and longing!

Being made in the image of God we were made as ‘relational’ beings. As Paul says, “We live and move and have our being ‘in Christ.’”

Luke 9:23 (NIV), “Then he said to them all: “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me.”

Matthew 22:37-39 (NIV), “Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

**Loving others: Love is an unconditional commitment to an imperfect person; a commitment I give myself to in order to bring the relationship to God’s intended purposes!”(Dr. Wilkins, In His Image, pg 101)**

John 17:26 (NIV), “I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

Romans 5:5 (NIV), “And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.”

“Holiness is the test of true personhood, of life poured out sacrificially for the sake of divine love. Without the third person of the Trinity, we would not experience the love between Father and Son, nor would we be recipients of the personal life of God….It is the person of the Holy Spirit that reveals the mystery of the Trinity to us, and by participation in the Spirit enables us to make true confession with Athanasius: ‘Apart from the Spirit we are strange and distant from God, and by participation of the Spirit we are knit into the Godhead; so that our being in the Father is not ours, but is the Spirit’s which is in us and abides in us, while by the true confession we preserve it in us.”

1. **Summary**

* Becoming Co-lovers with God of God.
* Becoming Co-lovers with God of one another
* Becoming Co-lovers with God of the world

Therefore practically…

* Receive, Respond and Display the Love of God.

God’s thoughts, intentions, desires, and plans are always for your good and never for your harm (Jer. 29:11).

God is kind, open, approachable, frank, and eager to be your friend (John 13:12-15) God emotionally identifies with your pain, joy, hopes, and dreams, and has chosen to allow your happiness to affect his own (John 11:33-36)

He takes pleasure in you just for who you are completely apart from your performance and/or accomplishments (Psalm 139, Rom. 5:8)

God is actively and creatively orchestrating people, circumstances, and events to express his affection and selective correction to provide for your highest good!

1. **Beauty Realm – Throne Room**
2. **Divine Invitation, spirit of revelation**

-Throne room focus in worship and intercession, **Revelation 4-5**

1. **Glory of God’s Fire, Dan. 7:9-10**

-Deuteronomy 4:24 (ESV), “For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.”

1. **Train of His Robe, Isaiah 6:1-8, Ezekiel 1**
2. Whirlwind of Glory, Cloud of Glory, Brightness all around, Fire flashing forth (gleaming metal), 4 living creatures (cherubim), Sea of glass (sapphire pavement), sapphire throne
3. ‘One like a Son of Man’ full of fire
4. Revelation 1:12-18
5. **Jasper, Carnelian, Rainbow(Emerald), Rev. 4**

Jasper-Righteousness

Carnelian/Sardius/Ruby(Ot)-Justice

Emerald Rainbow-Covenant Mercy

The presence of a Holy God who burns with Fiery Justice, requires mercy in his dealings with humanity!

1. **24 Elders-heavenly council of Dan. 7 representing the redeemed of OT/NT**
2. **Flashes of Lightning, Thunder, and Noises, Rev. 4:5**

Lightning and Thunder speak of God’s spoken Word, including the emotions and longings as he speaks.

Noises: songs, music, declarations

Worship and Intercession, **Rev. 8:1-5**

1. **Seven Lamps of Fire,** 7-fold description of the person of the Holy Spirit

Isaiah 11:1-2 (ESV), “There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. 2 And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.”

Revelation 1:4, “Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,”

Revelation 4:5b, “and before the throne were burning seven spirits (torches, lamps) of God”

Revelation 5:6 (ESV), “And between the throne and the four living creatures and among the elders I saw a Lamb standing, as though it had been slain, with seven horns and with seven eyes, which are the seven spirits of God sent out into all the earth.”

John 16:14 (ESV), “He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

1. **Sea of Glass like crystal, sapphire pavement**-Floor of heaven, ceiling of created universe

Eze. 1:22, an expanse in appearance like sapphire, shining like awe-inspiring crystal

Exo 24:9, pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness

Rev. 4:6, sea of glass, like crystal

Rev. 15:2, sea of glass mingled with flaming fire

1. **4 Living Creatures, Seraphim, Burning Ones, ‘eyes all around’**

Lion-Judah-Matthew-Jesus the King

Ox-Ephraim-Mark-Jesus the Servant

Man-Reuben-Luke-Jesus the Human King (Son of Man)

Eagle-Dan-John-Jesus the Word/Prophet of God

1. **Song of Majesty, Rev. 4:8, Isaiah 6:3**

“And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”

1. **Smiling, Joyful God!**

Zephaniah 3:17, “The Lord Your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with His love, he will rejoice over you with Singing!”