

ways, the words I use now are more thoughtful, more personal, more heartfelt, more understood.

Here are some of the words that I feel characterize the God I love and serve.

Almighty (Genesis 17:1; Psalm 89:8). Beginning (Revelation 22:13). Counselor (Isaiah 9:6). Deliverer (Psalm 18:2). Eternal (Jeremiah 10:10). Father (John 10:30). Gracious (Exodus 34:6). Holy (1 Peter 1:15-16). Immortal (1 Timothy 1:17). Just (1 John 1:9; Revelation 15:3). King (1 Timothy 6:15). Loving (Psalm 25:10). Maker (Ecclesiastes 11:5). Never-failing (Lamentations 3:22). Omega (Revelation 1:8). Powerful (Jeremiah 32:17). Righteous (Psalm 145:17; 1 John 2:1). Savior (1 Timothy 4:10). Trustworthy (2 Samuel 7:28). eVerlasting (Isaiah 40:28). Worthy (1 Chronicles 16:25). eXalted (2 Samuel 22:47).

Try this exercise, and if you can, come up with words I didn't use. Find a verse that supports each word. And when you look back over your list, thank God for those characteristics. Worship Him for the ways He makes Himself known to you.

Then, next time, put a twist on it. (This one's a little harder.) Write out the alphabet again, only this time use words for the way *God sees you*.

What if you're reading this and you don't know God in those ways or don't know how He sees you? Let me encourage you to look for Him! God's Word says that if we seek Him, we'll find Him (1 Chronicles 28:9; 2 Chronicles 15:2; Proverbs 8:17; Jeremiah 29:13).

It's not as easy as ABC, but in time you will learn to know God's characteristics through His Word.

REFLECTION

- What are some words I immediately think of that characterize God?
- What are some ways I can respond to Him in worship? How can I make worship a daily priority?

God thoughts lead to a godly walk.



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Central Mountains Baptist Church

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Information for Visitors.

* We're glad you're here. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the service. You're very welcome to join us for a cuppa after church.

* a Kid's Church and creche is normally provided, during the sermon for the **toddler to primary age bracket**. Please ask for details.

God Thoughts

I was challenged by this question: What attribute of God are you showing by your life to be the most important to you?

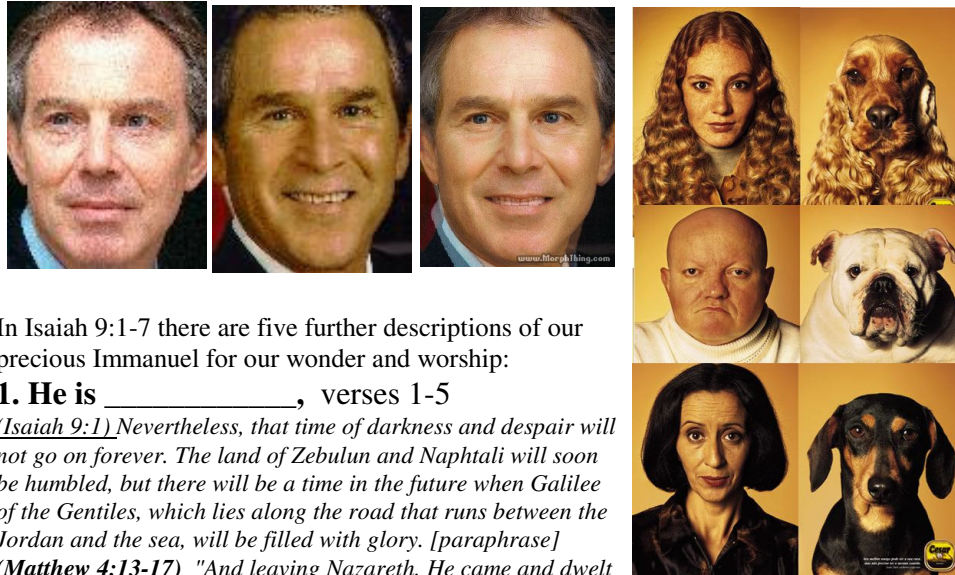
It really got me thinking about the attributes of God in general. So the next day I sat down at the computer with my Bible and typed out the alphabet.

I tried to come up with a characteristic of God that begins with each letter, and a Scripture verse that corresponds with it. This may sound simplistic, but for me it's a good exercise and something that has turned into a profound act of worship.

As I've matured in my faith over the years, so has my list. Because I have experienced God in many new



Meat Immanuel II.



In Isaiah 9:1-7 there are five further descriptions of our precious Immanuel for our wonder and worship:

1. He is _____, verses 1-5

(Isaiah 9:1) Nevertheless, that time of darkness and despair will not go on forever. The land of Zebulun and Naphtali will soon be humbled, but there will be a time in the future when Galilee of the Gentiles, which lies along the road that runs between the Jordan and the sea, will be filled with glory. [paraphrase]

(Matthew 4:13-17) "And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, {14} that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: {15}

"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, By the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: {16} The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, And upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned." {17} From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.""

(2 Corinthians 4:6) "For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."



2. He is _____, verse 6

(Jeremiah 32:18) "... the Great, the Mighty God, whose name is the LORD of hosts."

(Romans 9:5) "of whom are the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen."

(Matthew 16:17) "... Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven."

(John 20:29) "... Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who

have not seen and yet have believed.""

3. He is _____, verse 6

(Colossians 1:16-17) "For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. {17} And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist."

(2 Corinthians 3:18) "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."

4. He is _____, verses 5-7, 11:6-9

(Isaiah 2:4) "He shall judge between the nations, And rebuke many people; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war anymore."

(Isaiah 60:18) "Violence shall no longer be heard in your land, Neither wasting nor destruction within your borders; But you shall call your walls Salvation, And your gates Praise."



5. He is _____, verses 6-7

(Daniel 2:34-35) "You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. {35} "Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth."

(Mark 4:30-32) "Then He said, "To what shall we liken the kingdom of God? Or with what parable shall we picture it? {31} "It is like a mustard seed which, when it is sown on the ground, is smaller than all the seeds on earth; {32} "but when it is sown, it grows up and becomes greater than all herbs, and shoots out large branches, so that the birds of the air may nest under its shade.""



(Revelation 19:15) "Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. ..."