



## 2026 2Q Growing in a Relationship with God Lesson 2: To Know God

by Tim Jennings (announcements last page)

### SABBATH

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Read Memory Text:

- Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. John 17:3 NIV84

This is the key to everything—to life, to health, to salvation, to everything. This is not knowing about, it is knowing, knowing God as a person, as the being He is, as our Friend. And everything centers on this issue—if we believe in God but do not actually know Him, then we remain His enemy—why?

Because our natural state of being that we inherited from Adam is the spirit of fear which causes us to seek to save and advance self. This state of being is dissonance to God, to life, to how reality functions. We are born, as Paul wrote, enmity to God, distrusting, fearful, self-centered, fighting to protect and advance ourselves.

If we believe in God, but don't actually know God, then we end up creating god-constructs, false-gods, beliefs about God that are false, that function to keep us away from God, that hide us from God and thereby hide God from us.

Theologies that teach things like God is too holy to look upon our sinfulness, if He saw how sinful we are He would lash out in righteous wrath, therefore we need a mediator to plead to Him or to pay Him, to offer Him the blood of an innocent so He will be satisfied and His sense of justice will be served and then He will grant us eternal life.

Notice the function of such theologies, they function *in our minds* to hide us from God and make us feel safe and secure, but simultaneously such theologies **hide God from us**. They create a veil of lies in our minds that prevent the light of heaven, the truth about God, from penetrating our hearts and minds and thus people remain enslaved in a false system of theology in which they believe in God, but don't trust Him and they falsely believe they need something done to Him to protect them from Him.

This is a form of godliness without power for this very theology keeps the spirit of fear alive and prevents true transformation. This is what I describe as cognitive conversion, believing certain facts—like God exists, He is Creator, Jesus is our Savior, sin is transgression of God's law, the penalty of sin is death, and only through Jesus is salvation possible but never having surrendered the heart to be reborn. Such believers are like the devils who acknowledge all of these facts and they tremble and live in fear of God. And the devils want humans to be just like them, to believe certain facts that are true

but to do so through lies and reinforce a heart of fear and selfishness that prevent us from actually knowing God, surrendering in trust and being reborn with a new heart and right spirit.

So everything hinges on the question of whether we know God, not know about Him, but actually know Him for who He is and how He has revealed Himself in Jesus. Thus Paul wrote:

- For though we live in the world, we do not **wage war** as the world does. The **weapons** we fight with are **not the weapons of the world**. On the contrary, they have **divine power** to demolish strongholds. We **demolish arguments** and every **pretension** that sets itself up against the **knowledge of God**, and we take captive every **thought** to make it obedient to Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 NIV84, emphasis mine.

The war is not a physical war, it is a war of ideas: truth versus lies, of motives: love versus selfishness, of methods: freedom versus coercion, centering upon two types of governing, rulership, or law—God’s laws which are design laws built into the operations of reality, versus the laws a creature makes up, imposed rules requiring infliction of punishment.

This is not something new in the New Testament, it is all through the Old Testament:

- **What I want** from you is plain and clear: I want your **constant love**, not your animal sacrifices. I would rather have my people **know me** than burn offerings to me. Hosea 6:5-6 GNT.

What does God want? Why does God want this? What happens when people come to actually know God—not just know about Him?

When we come to know God, that truth displaces the lies that have broken trust and incited fear and selfishness—in other words the truth of who God is wars against the lies and our inherent spirit of fear and selfishness. The truth of who God is when accepted and experienced wins us to trust and in trust we open our hearts to Him and then we receive the indwelling Holy Spirit who brings us the life of Christ—we are reborn with a new motivating, animating energy, life, the life of Christ. And in that new motivation of love and trust based upon truth we begin to grow, mature, flourish, develop, advance in truth, in God’s methods, as we choose to apply the ever advancing truth to our lives.

But Satan works against the knowledge of God by working to set various fact-truths in the setting of imposed law that require imposed punishments so that even when people study the Bible and discover a fact truth, as long as it is set in the imposed law structure they continue to believe lies about God that undermine their ability to trust Him—they become legalistic, or Pharisaical, or discouraged, or create various other theologies that function to protect them from God.

We have an example of this in the New Testament where Jesus Himself applied Hosea 6:6 that we just read:

- At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry and began to pick some heads of grain and eat them. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to him, **“Look! Your disciples are doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath.”** He answered, “Haven’t you read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? He entered the house of God, and he and his companions ate the consecrated bread—which was not lawful for them to do, but only for the priests. Or haven’t you read in the Law that on the Sabbath the priests in the temple desecrate the day and yet are innocent? I tell you that one greater than the temple is here. If you had known what these words mean, **‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice,’ you would not have condemned the innocent.** For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.” Matthew 12:1-8 NIV84, emphasis mine.

What do you understand is happening here?

Are the Jews, who are complaining about the disciples breaking the Sabbath law, themselves keeping the Sabbath? Or are the Jews who are so protective of the Sabbath, by their practices of Sabbath observance breaking the Sabbath?

Jesus said that His disciples are innocent of Sabbath breaking, but the religious leaders say what they are doing is unlawful—who is right?

How does Hosea 6:6, that Jesus quoted, fit into this question of Sabbath keeping?

Is this an argument about which day is the Sabbath?

There is no argument which day is the Sabbath.

Is it an argument about whether the Sabbath is still binding?

What is the problem here and how does Hosea 6:6 fit?

The Jews have the right day of the week, but they have the wrong law structure. They have bought into the lie that God’s laws are imposed, that sin is a legal problem, it is behavioral, what we do and don’t do. They do not understand that God’s laws are the design protocols for life that govern the operations of heart and mind—truth, love, and freedom.

They are driven by a spirit of fear and selfishness, and they fear being wrong, being judged, rejected, losing their position and power, and they watch for anything that undermines their views, system, power base, structure--and what the disciples were doing, from their false worldview, if not chastised would result in greater liberties, people moving away from a fear-based religion to a love trust base religion and they would lose control.

What does Jesus do? He points to other places where the rules were violated but no sin occurs, why? Because sin is not legal, it is motivational, truth and love based actions of the heart. As Paul wrote, whatever is not of faith or trust is sin Romans 14:23. When design law realities require a different

action than the rule coded for, then that is what is to be done. He points to motive of heart that advances truth and love supersedes rule-keeping.

He is not diminishing or doing away with the Sabbath, for the Sabbath was built into time by God before humanity sinned. He is destroying the lie that God's law functions like human law, imposed rules that are enforced through a penal legal system and resetting the Sabbath into design law—it is a gift built into time for the uplifting and advancement of humanity—how?

The Sabbath was set apart from the other six days when God rested, when God ceased using power, when God finished creating, giving evidence that God's laws are not the laws that creatures make up—they are protocols reality is built upon—built into time—we cannot do that. And what set it apart—God rested, so it is evidence that God does not use might and power to enforce His laws, that is what creatures do.

And it was made for man because God, in His foreknowledge, knew we would need this reminder built into time, so we would remember not only God as powerful Creator—but that as Creator His laws are the laws reality functions upon and reject the imposed law lies that misrepresent Him as an enforcer and punisher.

Further, we are to keep it holy not primarily behaviorally—the Jews criticizing the apostles were behaviorally keeping the law, no we keep it holy only when we experience the New Covenant in which God writes His living law upon our hearts and minds, when we are reborn with the Spirit of Christ. Then, we live God's law, we present truth, in love, and always leave others free to decide for themselves.

And the weekly Sabbath was a gift from God to help us remember—remember God's laws are not imposed, God is not the source of death, sin is not a legal problem, We have real freedom with God and can trust him; but Satan has worked to cause us to forget—first with the Jews by resetting the right day in the wrong law construct and second by replacing the day in which God doesn't use power with a day in which God did use power, a day which was set apart not by creation, but by legislation.

Ultimately, hear me clearly now, Satan's goal is not about which day you worship upon, but whether you are worshiping him in place of Jesus and the Father. And the Jews, according to Jesus in John 8:44 were worshiping Satan while they kept the right Bible Sabbath. Why and how? Because they worshiped a god whose laws are imposed and who enforces his law through inflicted punishments. And all Christians who worship such a god are also trapped in a false system, they may be sincere, but they are sincerely trapped and God at this time in history is calling people out of that false system—not out of denominations, but out of the false imposed legal view of God back to worshiping Him as Creator—so they actually know Him, He is love, He is truth, and He has built freedom into the operations of reality, thus He never uses power to coerce, and the punishment for sin does not come from God, it comes from sin, from deviating from His designs for life.

Read first paragraph,

- Having a clear understanding of God’s character is foundational to having a strong relationship with Him. That is why, this week, we will look carefully at what the Bible says about the character of God, keeping in mind that it “is the darkness of misapprehension of God that is enshrouding the world. Men are losing their knowledge of His character. It has been misunderstood and misinterpreted. At this time a message from God is to be proclaimed, a message illuminating in its influence and saving in its power. His character is to be made known. Into the darkness of the world is to be shed the light of His glory, the light of His goodness, mercy, and truth. . . . The last message of mercy to be given to the world, is a revelation of His character of love.”—Ellen G. White, *Christ’s Object Lessons*, p. 415. *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 14.

Do you agree with this?

Why is the final message of mercy to the world the truth about God’s character of love? Why is that message what is needed?

What did the war start over in heaven? What did Adam and Eve fall over? Is not the entire Great Controversy a war over God’s character, whether we can trust Him or not?

Satan is the father of lies, and his lies are all focused on breaking beings away from love and trust in God. What wins people to love and trust in God? The truth about who He is in reality.

And the central truth that needs to be presented is the truth over God’s law—that God’s laws are design laws, truth, love, freedom.

Whenever people accept the lie that God’s laws are made up rules they always accept the lie that God is the source of death and then create false theologies to protect us from that false god—and the very religion they promote actively undermines their ability to trust God.

And the final message because the final deception is Satan’s final grand counterfeit of God. Satan’s impersonation of Christ, when the beastly system rises and Satan pretends to be Jesus returned—and how will this false Messiah lead? Will he come with horns and a pitchfork? No! He will speak kindly, gently, advocate love, healing, but what will he do for those who refuse him? He will remind them of his love and sacrifice, but also that he is just and while he doesn’t want to punish, justice requires punishment, so if they refuse he will be required to imprison, restrict buying and selling, and eventually, execute, for the wages of sin is death and if we won’t accept him, the law and justice require that he execute the persistently rebellious.

Do you know how appealing this will be to most Christians?

Questions about this?

## SUNDAY

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Read first paragraph,

- The Bible gives the truest, clearest, and most consistent picture of God. The entire Bible seeks to peel back the unseen veil between our visible world and the invisible; to show us where we've come from and where we're going; and, ultimately, to show us who is in control and what God is like. *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 15.

Do you agree? I agree the Bible gives a true and clear picture of God that is consistent—then why is it that we have so many different views about God among Christians, among people who claim the Bible as their basis of faith?

Because people come to the Bible with assumptions, premises, preconceived ideas, things taught them in childhood and read what they have already been taught.

Because people study the Bible separated from nature/science and life experiences.

Because many Bible translations have artificially but innocently brought in legal language by the translators who accept the imposed law false orthodoxy.

Because there is a supernatural enemy constantly working to misrepresent God and our natural fear-driven spirits prefer the lies to the truth.

other reason?

Can people study the Bible and then use it to promote lies about God, all the while claiming they are teaching the truth about God?

Jesus said to the religious leaders in His day,

- You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me, yet you refuse to come to me to have life. John 5:39-40, NIV84.

Did they have the wrong Scriptures?

What is going on here? If the Scriptures give the true and clear picture of God how could these people who studied them reject the Messiah of whom they pointed?

Because they read the Scriptures with a false premise, as a rule book of deeds to do and not do. They did not read it as a book of evidence or historical reality in which design laws are manifest through action.

And that is what the Bible is: a record of reality, God's inspired record of truth, of reality, being revealed and acted out in the setting of living beings, history, the outworking of the two antagonistic principles.

We see what happens when God's truth and love are accepted and applied, and we see what happens when they are rejected and replaced with falsehood, fear, selfishness.

Everything depends on the lens through which one understands, views, interprets Scripture.

If one goes to Scripture motivated by fear and selfishness, looking for the secrets to save self—then one finds all kinds of fantastical, fictional, mythical, magical ideas—from salvation by law keeping, to salvation by legal loophole law keeping, to salvation by ritual, sacraments, works, to numerology, genealogy, spiritism, signs and wonders, mindless surrender to authority and thoughtless obedience, deal making—paying tithe to get blessed, saying a certain pray every day for 30 days to get your power extended, and so many more fantastical and fictional things.

When one reads Scripture from a spirit of fear and selfishness, thinking that in the Scriptures are the secrets for them to find eternal life, the secrets to save self—they will always end up with some distortion, fantasy, fiction, myth—like the penal legal theologies.

But when we search Scripture to find the truth about God, with hearts that long to know Him, humbly surrendered to the Spirit of truth, hearts willing to give up our preconceived ideas and embrace and follow truth where it leads, and ultimately surrender our lives in trust to Jesus and be reborn—then we find truth. And what do we discover revealed in Scripture?

- God is love and God is truth
- Love cannot exist without freedom and thus we see God grants real freedom, and this is why sin actually exists, not because God wants it, designed sin, but because He gives real freedom to rebel.
- We discover God's laws are the laws reality is built upon
- And deviations introduce discord, chaos, decay, and death
- And God has been working through history to restrain and hold at bay the forces of decay, chaos, destruction, and restore into humanity perfect love and trust built upon truth.
- We discover that God would rather let His creatures kill Him that take away our freedom, than to force us to comply.
- We discover God never uses power to destroy, only to restrain, protect, and heal.

What else do we discover about God from Scripture? What questions do you have?

Read the second paragraph,

- From Genesis to Revelation, we read about the one true God, who makes Himself known to us through the Bible and through Jesus Christ, God incarnate. We can read about God's

omnipotence (Job 1:12), His omniscience, His all-knowing nature (Isa. 46:9, 10), His justice (Isa. 30:18), His mercy (Deut. 7:9), His loving-kindness and patience with us (Rom. 2:4), His wisdom (1 Cor. 2:7), His grace (2 Cor. 12:9), His forgiveness (Matt. 6:14), His will for our lives (Jer. 29:11), His power to defeat death (John 11:25), His kingship (Ps. 47:8), His eternal nature (Deut. 33:27), and many other characteristics that give us abundant reasons to love and have an abiding relationship with Him. The more we know about God and what He is like, the more we will love Him and desire a close and abiding relationship with Him. *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 15.

Let's consider the attributes of God highlighted here:

- Omnipotence (Job 1:12)
  - which is what? All powerful—what is the problem with being all powerful when it comes to relationships?
  - Does God want our love, trust, loyalty, friendship, devotion?
  - Could being all powerful present a potential problem with intimate love and trust? How and why?
  - What has God done to prove to us that despite being all powerful, we are perfectly safe with Him—that He will never use His power against us?
  - Sabbath—after creation God rests and ceases the use of power leaving all free to think and consider for themselves
  - Cross of Christ, John 13 all power was given to Jesus and He washed feet, but more than this, when the most unjust action in history took place and He was fraudulently tried and falsely convicted and executed—Jesus refused to use power to stop His creatures from killing Him. Worthy, Worthy, Worthy is the Lamb who was slain—God is safe with all power because He has proven He will never use it to harm us.
  - And do you know how hard Satan has worked to undermine this revelation? Almost all of Christianity teaches the lie that God will use his mighty power to torture and kill all those who refuse to love Him. It is diabolical, perverse, corrupt, false and sadly those who held this ugly view of God were the ones who were in leadership in God's church 2000 years ago and we have people in leadership in the church today who also hold and actively promote this diabolical lie about God.
- Omniscience, all-knowing nature (Isa. 46:9, 10)
  - What is the danger in human relationships of God possessing this power?
  - The fear that we are not free, that He knows what will happen before it happens so He is constantly manipulating to take away our freedom, and without freedom there is no love. But Scripture and history disprove this—for the rebellion couldn't have happened if we are not free. And all through Scripture we see God offering salvation to everyone and leaving people free to decide—even though He knows what they will do.
    - God knew Pharaoh would harden his heart, yet God still sent messages of truth to try and win him.
    - God knew only 8 people would get on the ark but He still sent messages to the world inviting all to get on.



- Every action through history, from veiling His life-giving glory the moment Adam and Eve sinned, creating an artificial bubble of reality that separates this world from the rest of God’s sinless universe while the plan of salvation is being carried out, to the artificial state of suspended animation known as first death or sleep death, again for the purpose of the plan of salvation being worked out, to the incarnation and substitutionary sacrifice of Christ to heal this creation, and so much more.
- His forgiveness (Matt. 6:14)
  - without which there is no hope, if God were unforgiving, we are all lost, but God forgives and then provides what is needed to heal and restore.
- His will for our lives (Jer. 29:11)
  - which is salvation and then mission to share His kingdom with others no matter or vocation
- His power to defeat death (John 11:25)
  - What power defeats death? Satan holds the power of death and Christ took upon himself human flesh that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—what is that power and how does Christ destroy it?
  - Satan is the father of lies, lies believed break love and trust and introduce fear and selfishness—this is disorder, decay, corruption, and without intervention results in disintegration and death.
  - Christ is the truth and love restored into humanity and the truth destroys lies and love destroys fear and selfishness restoring perfect trust, which Jesus lived out as a human. Thus Jesus purged the spirit of fear and selfishness and restored a sinless spirit of love and trust built upon truth into humanity. And we can receive His victory, His life, when we trust Him and are reborn.
- His kingship (Ps. 47:8)
  - Which is king of everything and how does He govern? Truth, love, and freedom!
- His eternal nature (Deut. 33:27)
  - He is fully God and fully human.

Read the last paragraph,

- Ultimately, Satan’s message to Eve was this: God is keeping secrets from you. God does not want what is best for you. You can’t trust Him. Ellen White expands on this when she says, “From the opening of the great controversy it has been Satan’s purpose to misrepresent God’s character and to excite rebellion against His law.”—Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 338. *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 15.

This is the key—rebellion against God’s law—by introducing the lie that God’s laws are just made up rules enforced through punishment. That idea is the foundation of Satan’s rebellion. Wherever it is believed it corrupts the truth about God ultimately leading to distrust and fear of God. That is why our message at this time in history is a call to return to worshipping God as Creator—and the Creator’s laws are the laws only the Creator can create, the laws of physics, gravity, health, and the moral laws of truth, love, and trust.

Why do you think so many in church leadership cling so desperately to the lie that God's law functions like human law and that God is the source of death inflicted as punishment for sin?

## MONDAY

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The lesson is about God's holiness—what do you understand holiness to be?

Read third paragraph,

- When the Bible describes God as the epitome of holiness, it means that He is completely void of and completely separated from evil and sin. God is 100 percent good from beginning to end. In this sense, God's holiness is central to all His other attributes. *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 16.

What is holiness? Wholeness—perfection in all aspects of reality. God has no corruption, no fear, no selfishness, no darkness, He is truth, He is love, He is righteousness, He is goodness, He is wholeness of life, health, and reality. All things were Created by Him and in Him all things hold together.

Unholiness or sinfulness is un-wholeness, deviation or corruption of truth, so lies, deviation or corruption of love, it is the introduction of discord, chaos, fracture, fear, selfishness, pride, etc.

So, are we to be holy? How do we become holy?

Through restored trust in Christ based upon truth and then we receive a pure life, a holy life, not in a legal book in heaven, but as the animating, motivating power within us. We are set right, justified, put right in heart, shifting from distrust, fear, selfishness and warring against God to love and trust and working with God.

Our holiness is also wholeness, being reborn through trust with the Spirit of love and trust so we have wholeness as God designed, completely dedicated to God as our foundation, source, priority before anything, trusting Him through any hardship, loving God with our entire being, and moving forward in harmony with His design laws for life.

## TUESDAY

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Read first paragraph,

- Love is perhaps the most common word used by Christians to describe God's character. This could be because of the identity statement about God in 1 John 4:8, which says, "God is love."

John doesn't say, "God is loving," but rather, "God is love." Love is His character, the very essence of who He is. *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 17.

This is well said, God is love, not loving—we can be loving, but we are not love. And this is one of the areas that the penal legal theologies typically undermine the character of God. Not only do they promote the false law, the falsehood that God is the source of inflicted death as punishment for sin, but they typically say, "God is not only loving, He is also just."

No, God is love, not loving. And love functions in a certain way—and one of those ways is giving real freedom, love never coerces or uses force to advance its way because what God wants, our love, trust, loyalty, friendship cannot be achieved in any other way, only through love and truth can we be won to trust. The moment threats are added then love and trust are destroyed.

What insights have you cherished about God being love?

Read last paragraph,

- Ultimately, the greatest expression of God's love is revealed through the gift of His Son to this earth (John 3:16) who died for sinners (Rom. 5:8). God could have withheld this from humanity, yet because of His magnanimous, radical, supremely altruistic love, God sent Jesus to earth so that we might freely choose to respond to His love, revealed in His substitutionary death on our behalf. Not only did Jesus bridge the separation that sin has brought between us and God (Isa. 59:1, 2), He lived to show us God's perfect character of love (John 14:9, Heb. 1:3) and to draw all people to Himself (John 12:32). *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 17.

This is well said, Jesus did reveal God's love and when we understand God's character of love that wins us to trust—but did Jesus need to do anything more than reveal God's character of love in order to save humanity from sin? What more was required and why?

This is a point of debate from the penal legal folks, they would argue only revealing God's character of love is moral influence theory—it is required to win us to trust, but they would argue that does not take care of the objective, or legal, forensic elements the issues related to God's broken law. And thus, they always add the need for our legal payment to be made through God killing Jesus in our place.

They are not wrong about revealing truth not being enough to save humanity from sin. They are not wrong that there is an objective element that needed to be accomplished. They are wrong on God's law and what that objective element is. Having accepted the lie that God's law functions like human law they have created a false objective element of law enforcement, legal payment, legal justification, etc.

If they would return to design law they would realize that what was needed in addition to the revelation of truth to win us to trust is a new breath of life, a sinless breath of life lived out in a humanity that is directly connected and related to Adam that would simultaneously purge and remove

the spirit of fear which corrupts this species and replace it with a sinless pure life of love and trust. Then when we are won to trust we receive a new life, the life of Christ. This is objective reality.

In order for a sinner to be saved do they have to understand any of this or do they only have to be won to trust and genuinely invite Jesus into their heart and they will receive all He accomplished? So, the presentation of God's character of love is the central and most important truth to be shared.

## WEDNESDAY

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Read first paragraph,

- You probably know from memory the first words in the Bible: “In the beginning God.” In Hebrew, the word for God here is Elohim. Although this word can be used when talking about false “gods,” when it refers to the one true God, it describes an almighty, all-powerful Creator in connection with the whole of creation; the transcendent God who is beyond our understanding but in control of everything. He is so powerful that when He speaks, something is created just from His voice. *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 18.

What does this mean, “the transcendent God who is beyond our understanding but in control of everything?”

Are there any limits to this statement? If God is in control of everything—are we referring only to things? It doesn't say God is in control of everyone, so if we say this is true do we limit it to things? And does that mean God is in control of the bullet shot from a gun of a murderer since the bullet is a thing? Is God in control of the branch that breaks off a tree and hits a car causing it to wreck?

Is God in control of everything and everyone?

Was God in control of Lucifer when he rebelled, or Adam and Eve?

Is God in control of the rapist and murderer when they commit crimes?

I personally do not like this way of stating God's power and control because it too easily can be misunderstood to teach things about God that undermine trust.

So my statement, and see if you agree, is: **God is in control of what God controls.** And God controls Himself and the laws upon which He built reality to operate, including the law of liberty which He built into the fabric of reality. Thus when people abuse their freedom God is not in control of their choices, but He is in control of the laws that govern the operations of life and their freedom to make those choices.

## THURSDAY

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The lesson focuses on Jesus, God with us, God who became incarnate, that in Jesus we see the Father.

What do we learn from Jesus about the Father?

Did anyone have to protect the disciples from Jesus? Did Judas need an intercessor between him and Jesus when Jesus washed his feet?

Do we need someone to plead the Father for us?

What did Jesus do when they crucified Him? He forgave them—do we see the Father forgiving them?

One of the reasons the Jews hated Jesus is because they thought He was denying the truth about God. They might accuse:

- God told us to stone an adulteress but you said not to
- God told us we could divorce but you said not to
- God told us in many places to kill our enemies and you tell us to love them
- God told us not to work on the Sabbath and you and your disciples work on the Sabbath
- God gave us a system with High Priestly intercession and you said that there is no need to have someone pray the Father for us because He loves us Himself.

Can you see some of the reasons why they hated Him? Jesus came not with a different Bible, sanctuary, tithe system, diet, dress code, commandments, Sabbath, but with a different God—the true picture of God and they hated it.

Sadly, this is the problem in much of the church today—people who have a god who is the source of death inflicted as so called justice upon law breakers.

We have the truth and are calling people back to worship God as Creator exactly as Jesus revealed Him to be!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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**The God of Reality: Separating Truth from Fiction Seminar:** August 13-16 2026 Orlando, Florida—More information coming soon. First 500 get five free meals.

**Potluck in April will be the Third Sabbath: April 18**

**REMEDY APP:** Updated, many new features including the ability to listen to the audio right from the app!

**AFRICA:**

**Pray for Our Team in South Africa:**



**Healing a Broken Heart** is now available in South Africa in both English and Afrikaans. You can access the Afrikaans version on our website under the Languages menu, or if you are in South Africa and would like print copies, email Jacques Van de Heever at [southafrica@comeandreason.com](mailto:southafrica@comeandreason.com).

Wycliffe has been passionately sharing this end-time message about God with great success and Jacques van den Heever, our Come and Reason Ministries Director in South Africa has been able to

produce and get him these resources. It is through the support of you our friends that he has been able to do this. If you are in Kenya or know someone there who would like this book, email [kenya@comeandreason.com](mailto:kenya@comeandreason.com)

Thomas Wansara, in Ethiopia, has been translating blogs and some of our printed and online publications into Amharic and is creating a new Facebook group, Come And Reason Ministries - Ethiopia. Reach him at [ethiopia@comeandreason.com](mailto:ethiopia@comeandreason.com).

If you want to access these translated resources on our website, just click the Languages menu.

**AUSTRALIA:** Simon and Maani Harrison Direct Come and Reason in Australia and New Zealand and have a Facebook group in Australia and Come and Reason resources available there: You can email Simon at [australia@comeandreason.com](mailto:australia@comeandreason.com)

**ENGLAND:** If you are interested in connecting with our team in England you can contact Michael Dragoyvich and his wife Billie Jordan at [uk@comeandreason.com](mailto:uk@comeandreason.com)