# Jesus Was Not Nice, He Was Eternally Effective - And The Apostles Too

**Countering the false view of Jesus in the Church today.**

## A) GOD'S NATURE (ESSENCE OF GOD)

The essential being of God — who and what God is in Himself, eternally and infinitely. (Essence = the one, simple, undivided being of God.)

- **God is Spirit – immaterial, incorporal being. God the Spirit is the infinite, personal, holy Lord.**
- **God is One – perfect unity of essence.**
- **God is Light – holiness, truth, purity as essential being (holy light, not physical).**
- **God is Love – eternal self-giving communion.**
- **God is Living – source of life, self-existent.**
- **God is a Consuming Fire – holy in purity and judgment.**
- **God is Invisible – transcendent Spirit, unseen by creatures.**
- **Aseity / Self-Existence – "I AM," uncaused being.**
- **Incomprehensibility – God cannot be fully known, surpasses full human understanding.**
- **God is Blessed – God's perfect, self-sufficient joy (Beatitude).**
- **Impassibility – not subject to involuntary change or passions.**

**Direct statements that God "hates" the wicked (persons):**
**Psalm 5:5-6** — "You hate all evildoers. O the LORD **abhors** the bloodthirsty and deceitful man."
**Psalm 11:5** — "His soul **hates** the wicked and the one who loves violence."
**Hosea 9:15** — "There I **began to hate** them ... I will drive them out ... I will love them no more."
**Malachi 1:2–3, Rom 9:13** — "Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have **hated** ..."

## B) ATTRIBUTES OF GOD - Perfections

**I. Incommunicable Attributes (Essential) "Greatness of God"**

- **Eternality** – God exists endlessly, without beginning or end.
- **Self-Existence (Aseity)** – God exists by the necessity of His own being: He is uncaused.
- **Immutability** – God does not change in His nature, character, or purpose.
- **Omnipotence** – God is all-powerful and able to accomplish His perfect will.
- **Omniscience** – God knows all things—past, present, future, actual, and possible.
- **Omnipresence** – God is present everywhere, not bound by space.
- **Sovereignty** – God has supreme authority and absolute rule over all creation.
- **Simplicity (Divine Unity)** – God's attributes are perfectly one in His being.
- **Infinity** – God is limitless in being, knowledge, and power.
- **Independence** – God does not depend on anything or anyone for His existence.
- **Incomprehensibility** – God is knowable, but beyond full human understanding.

**God's holiness Focus**
God's holiness is to be the prime focus humans are to maintain in this life, where sin is present, while God's love is the primary focus in heaven will be the norm.
Or, to put it more theologically precise: Holiness is God's external nature, but in heaven His holiness is experienced primarily as love. In this life, His holiness is experienced as separation from sin.
So, a love focus in Eden and heaven, but in between, holiness is the focus during the presence of sin.

**II. Communicable Attributes (Moral/Relational) "Goodness of God"**

- **Holiness** – God is perfectly holy in His nature.
- **Righteousness** – God is morally perfect and loves what is right.
- **Justice** – God perfectly upholds justice in all His ways.
- **Jealousy** – God zealously guards His honor and covenant.
- **Wrath** – Holy opposition to sin, God righteously opposes sin and ungodliness.
- **Love** – God is eternal, self-giving love.
- **Grace** – God freely bestows unmerited favor.
- **Mercy** – God shows compassion in not giving sinners what they deserve.
- **Kindness** – God's goodness draws sinners to repentance.
- **Goodness** – God is the source and standard of all that is good.
- **Beauty** the *harmonious splendor of all perfections* (cf. Ps 29:2 "the **splendor** of holiness").
- **Compassion** – God tenderly cares for His people.
- **Faithfulness** – God is utterly trustworthy and keeps His promises.
- **Truth / Veracity** – God is truth, and His word is true.
- **Wisdom** – God is infinitely wise in His counsel. God's perfect knowledge applied to achieve His purposes.
- **Patience / Longsuffering** – God restrains His judgment, giving time for repentance. Delayed judgment.
- **Shalom** – God is the source of wholeness and peace.
- **Purity** – God is morally pure and cannot look upon evil.

## C) CHARACTER OF GOD - Moral Relational Outworking of Attributes

- **Merciful and Gracious, Abounding in Love and Faithfulness**
- **Righteous and Kind in All His Works**
- **Just and Upright, Perfect in All His Ways**
- **God is Love**
- **Beauty** is the *pleasantness* of God's dealings

**Holiness in Character** → Israel called to be holy; God disciplines
**Justice in Character** → God vindicates the oppressed, judges wicked
**Wrath in Character** → Outpoured against sin in history…
**Love in Character** → God so loved the world He gave His Son
**Faithfulness in Character** → He keeps covenant promises to…
**Mercy in Character** → Compassion shown to the weak repentant
**Wisdom in Character** → Directing history and guiding His people
**Peace in Character** → Shalom given to His people

**Jesus IS the God of the Old Testament; the God of the Old Testament is the God of the New Testament.**
**The Jesus of the New Testament is the Jesus of end times judging.**

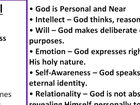
## D) PERSONHOOD OF GOD & RELATIONALITY

- God is Personal and Near
- Intellect – God thinks, reasons, and understands all things.
- Will – God makes deliberate choices according to His purposes.
- Emotion – God expresses righteous emotions, consistent with His holy nature.
- Self-Awareness – God speaks of Himself and declares His own eternal identity.
- Relationality – God is not abstract but eternally present, revealing Himself personally to His people.
- Emotions / Divine Affections – God's affections are real and covenantally consistent with His holy nature (not unstable passions).

**Why was Jesus so intense, and even harsh on many occasions?**

- Because God really is so great and so holy. God really is the centre of the universe and life itself
- Because we belong to Him we are not our own
- Because sin is so evil
- Because hell is so dangerous
- Because heaven (a life with God) is so wonderful
- Because it truly is, insanity to reject God

## E) THE GODHEAD (TRINITY)




## F) ADDITIONAL FACETS OF GOD'S REVEALED BEING (Ad Extra)

- **Will of God (Decretive, Preceptive, and Permissive).**
- **Decrees of God.**
- **Works of God (Opera Dei ad extra).** • Creation • Providence (Divine Government) • Redemption • Judgment • Glorification/Consummation
- **Providence of God.** • Preservation • Governance • Concurrence
- **Sovereignty of God.**
- **Lament & Hiddenness**
- **Glory & Beauty of God**
- **Divine Accommodation**
- **Kingdom Program (Missio Dei. Creation → Consummation)** • Creation Aim (Design) • Covenantal Backbone (Promise) • Christocentric Fulfilment (Inauguration) • Providence & Sovereignty (Execution) • Israel/Church Distinction (Integrity) • Consummation (Goal)

**Only 'Nice Christianity' is a false religion.**
Constantly today, Christians make judgments, discernment, statements, decisions and reproof of others, because they do not know truly God. **1Cor 15:34** Think carefully about what is right, and stop sinning. For **to your shame I say that some of you don't know God at all**. NLT

## G) SPECIAL REVELATORY EXPRESSIONS OF God

- **Names of God**
- **Theophanies → Christophanies**
- **Fear of the LORD**
- **God's Covenant Relationships**
- **Kingdom Program - Missio Dei**
- **Names of God** • Creatorship Names • Covenantal Names • Names of the Son • Names of the Holy Spirit
- **Covenants of God** • The Everlasting Covenant • The Edenic Covenant • The Adamic Covenant • The Noahic Covenant • The Abrahamic Covenant • The Mosaic Covenant • The Palestinian (Land) Covenant • The Davidic Covenant • The New Covenant

### Jesus' "Abrupt Weighty Pivot" Episodes Revealing His Intensity

A human response of admiration/pity/comfort/neutral curiosity met with an abrupt pivot to weighty warning, judgment, exposure, death/cross language, or hard truth. **Luke 4 Text**:

- Mat 12:46–50 // Luk 8:19–21 — Family notice → redefined kinship by obedience
  Trigger: "Your mother and your brothers…"
  Pivot: "Whoever does the will of my Father… is my brother and sister and mother."
- Mat 15:21–28 // Mar 7:27–29 — Plea for mercy → covenant priority / "dogs"
  Trigger: "Have mercy on me, O Lord…"
  Pivot: "It was sent only…" (Mat 15:24); "not right… to the dogs."
- Mat 24:1–2 // Mar 13:1–2 // Luk 21:5–6 — Admiring the temple → "not one stone… left"
  Trigger: disciples show "the buildings of the temple"
  Pivot: "There will not be left here one stone upon another…"
- Luk 7:36–50 — Polite hosting → exposure and reversal
  Trigger: a Pharisee hosts Jesus; minor pious appraise of the woman.
  Pivot: "You gave me no water… no kiss…" + forgiveness declared to the woman.
- Luk 10:17–20 — Ministry excitement → sobering re-centering
  Trigger: "even the demons are subject to us…"
  Pivot: "Do not rejoice in this… rejoice that your names are written in heaven."
- Luk 11:27–28 — "Blessed is our mother" → "Blessed rather… obedience"
  Trigger: "Blessed is the womb that bore you…"
  Pivot: "Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!"
- Luk 11:37–52 — Dinner moment → sweeping "woes"
  Trigger: a Pharisee invites Jesus to dine; surprise he didn't wash; a lawyer objects.
  Pivot: "Inside you are full of greed…" + repeated "Woe to you…"
- Luk 14:15–24 — Pious kingdom toast → exclusion sentence
  Trigger: "Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!"
  Pivot: "None of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet."
- John 4:10–18 — Curiosity about "living water" → exposure of hidden sin
  Trigger: "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with…" (John 4:11)
  Pivot: "Go, call your husband…" → "You have had five husbands…"

### Apostles "Abrupt Weighty Pivots" As Jesus Did

They are doing covenant-realism: stripping away sentiment, slogans, and self-deception to press the hearer into repentance, fear of God, and readiness for judgment—the same "eternally effective" pastoral urgency modeled by Jesus.
Even to the point of death:

- Acts 5:1–11 — Piety posture → "lied… to God" + death
  Trigger: implied generosity / "we sold… we gave…" (Acts 5:1–2)
  Pivot: "You have lied to the Holy Spirit… not lied to man but to God" → "fell down and breathed his last." (Acts 5:3-5)
  This concept is a normal part of sharing the gospel (Lost today):
- Acts 17:22–31 — "Very religious" compliment → repent + fixed judgment day
  Trigger: "I perceive that in every way you are very religious." (Acts 17:22)
  Pivot: "God commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day… to judge the world…" (Acts 17:30–31)
- Acts 24:24–25 — Interest in "faith" → "coming judgment" alarm
  Trigger: Felix wants to hear "about faith in Christ Jesus." (Acts 24:24)
  Pivot: Paul reasons about "righteousness, self-control and the coming judgment," and Felix is alarmed. (Acts 24:25)
- 1 Cor 11:17–32 → Worship setting → sickness/death as discipline
  Trigger: they "Come together" for the Lord's Supper, but in selfish factions. (1 Cor 11:17–22)
  Pivot: "I do not commend you…" + "many are weak and ill, and some have died… judged… disciplined…" (1 Cor 11:18, 30–32)
- Jas 4:13–16 — Confident planning → mortality/ignorance check

## B) ATTRIBUTES OF GOD - Perfections

- Gen 19:24 Then the **Lord rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire** from the Lord out of heaven. (Pre-incarnate Christ - "double-YHWH")
- Exod 23:20–23 — "my angel… my name is in him… **he will not pardon your transgression… and I blot them out…**"
- Ps 2:9–12 — "You (Son/Anointed) will **break** the nations with a rod of iron and **dash** them to pieces; those who resist will **perish** under his **wrath**."
- Isa 11:4 — "He (Davidic Branch) will **strike** the earth and **kill** the wicked with the breath/word of his lips."
- Ps 110:5–6 — "On the day of his **wrath** he will **shatter** kings, **judge** the nations, and **crush** rulers." (Enthroned Messianic lord associated with day-of-wrath judgment)
- 2 Kgs 19:35 (Isa 37:36) — "The angel of the LORD **struck down 185,000**; by morning they were all **dead**."

**Jesus' early ministry:**

- Mat 3:7; Luk 3:7 — "**You brood of vipers!** … who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?"
- Mat 3:12; Luk 3:17 — "His winnowing fork is in his hand… the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."
- Mat 8:26; Mar 4:39–40; Luk 8:25 — "Why are you afraid, O **you of little faith?**" ("Have you still no faith?", "**Where is your faith?**")
- Luk 12:46 (Mat 24:51; Luk 10:13-16 — "**Woe to you.**" It will be more tolerable… (for Tyre/Sidon) than for you." ("Whoever rejects you rejects me."
- Mat 12:25–37 — "**You brood of vipers**… you will give account for every careless word…"
- Mat 19:4–9; Mar 10:5 — "Because of **your hardness of heart**… (Moses permitted divorce)."
- Mat 21:13; Mar 11:17; Luk 19:46; Joh 2:16 — **Jesus drives them out of the temple with a whip**; "My house shall be called a house of prayer… but you make it a den of robbers." ("Stop making my Father's house a house of trade.")
- Joh 2:16 — **Jesus drives them out of the temple with a whip**; "Stop making my Father's house a house of trade."
- Mat 22:18–21; Luk 20:23; Mar 12:15-17 — "Why put me to the test, **you hypocrites?**" / "Render to Caesar… and to God…"
- Mat 22:29–32; Mar 12:24–27; Luk 20:34–38 — **"You are wrong… you know neither the Scriptures** nor the power of God."
- Mat 23:2–36 — "**Woe to you**, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites… serpents, brood of vipers… how are you to escape being sentenced to hell?" NOTE: In Mat 23, "Woe to you" is not a mild rebuke. It is a prophetic "woe-oracle" **that announces impending ruin under divine judgment and simultaneously indicts the guilty party**. (Jesus did judge contrary from popular opinion.)

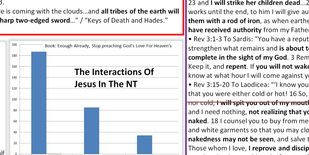
"It is significant that Jesus spoke much more about hell than He did about heaven. (The ratio of references is about 5 to 1.)"
Chuck Missler

- Mat 3:23–29 — "Whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, **but is guilty of an eternal sin.**"
- Mar 7:6–13 — "This people honors me with their lips… you leave the commandment of God… **making void the word of God.**"
- Luk 11:39–44, 46–52 — **"Woe to you Pharisees**… (and) woe to you lawyers… you have taken away the key of knowledge; you shut the kingdom."
- Luk 12:1–12 — "Beware… (of hypocrisy)… Fear him who…has authority to cast into hell."
- Luk 12:14–21 — **"Fool!** This night your soul is required of you…"
- Luk 12:54–59 — **"You hypocrites!** … you do not know how to interpret the present time… settle quickly… on the way."
- Luk 13:2–5 — "Unless you repent, **you will all likewise perish.**"
- Luk 13:25–30 — "**Cut it down**. Why should it use up the ground?"
- Luk 13:15–16 — **"You hypocrites!** … ought not this woman… be loosed…?"
- Luk 13:24–30 — "Strive to enter… "**I do not know where you come from'…** weeping and gnashing of teeth…"
- Luk 13:32–33 — **"Go and tell that fox**…"
- Luk 14:34 — "Salt is good, but… **it is of no use… It is thrown away**."
- Luk 16:19–31 — "You are those who **justify yourselves before men**, but God knows your hearts. For **what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God.**"
- Luk 18:18–21 — "**You hypocrites!** …The kingdom of God is like… a mustard seed / leaven…"
- Luk 19:3, 5–21 — "Unless one is born again/from above… he cannot… (enter/see)." / **"Condemned already… loved the darkness.**"
- Joh 4:16–18, 21–24, 26 — "You have had five husbands…" **Exposing sin.**
- Joh 6:26–66 — "Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe."
- Joh 7:16–24 — **"Do not judge by appearances**, but judge with right judgment."
- Joh 7:28–29 — "He who sent me is true… **you do not know him; I know him.**"
- Joh 8:46–59 — **"Go, and from now on sin no more.**" - Forceful.
- Joh 8:21 — **"You will die in your sin.**"
- Joh 8:23–29 — **"You are from below**… unless you believe… **you will die in your sins.**"
- Joh 8:31–58 — **"Slaves of sin… you are of your father the devil…**" / "Before Abraham was, I am."
- Joh 12:37–50 — "If I do not wash you, **you have no share with me**." - Demanding.
- Joh 19:11 — "No authority… unless… given… from above."

## B) ATTRIBUTES OF GOD - Perfections

**The Father, the Risen Jesus and the Holy Spirit:**

- Rom 1:18-32 (esp. 1:24, 1:26, 1:28) - **God's wrath is revealed** as God gives people up to chosen impurity, passions, and a debased mind. (Key phrase: **God gave them up**)
- Rom 9:17-18 - God is free to show mercy and to **harden** within His redemptive purposes. (Key phrase: mercy on whom he wills; **hardens whom he wills**)
- 2 Thes 2:11-12 - **God sends a strong delusion** so truth-rejecters believe what is false and are condemned.
- Rev 1:7-8, 14-18 — **"Behold, he is coming with the clouds…and all tribes of the earth will wail**" / "Eyes… flame… **sharp two-edged sword**…" / "Keys of Death and Hades."




## C) Character of God (Moral-Relational Outworking)

**Jesus' earthly ministry:** nil

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**The Father, the risen Jesus and the Holy Spirit:**

- Luke 1:19-20 - **Zechariah is struck mute** as a corrective sign after unbelief in revealed promise.
- Acts 5:1-11 - **Ananias and Sapphira executed**, after lying to the Holy Spirit; **fear seizes the church**.
- 1 Cor 5:4-5 - The **offender is delivered to Satan for destruction of the flesh** so that the spirit may be saved.
- 1 Tim 1:19-20 - **Hymeneaus and Alexander are handed over to Satan** to be taught not to blaspheme.
- 1 Cor 11:27-32 - Abuse of the Lord's Supper brings the Lord's judgment: **weakness, illness, and some deaths**, for correction.

**NOTE: This belief is not End Times it is during the Church Age - Now:**

- Rev 2:5-5 To Ephesus: "I know your works, your toil and your patient endurance, and how you cannot bear with those who are evil, but have tested those who call themselves apostles and are not, and found them to be false. I know you are enduring patiently and bearing up for my name's sake, and you have not grown weary. **But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first**. Remember therefore from where you have fallen, repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and **remove your lampstand** from its place, unless you repent.
- Rev 2:6 **You hate the works** of the Nicolaitans (Hate is commended)
- Joh 12:37-50 - "Nevertheless, even among the rulers many believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they did not confess Him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue of God."
- Rev 2:10 "**Be faithful unto death**, and I will give you the crown of life."
- Rev 2:14-15 To Pergamum: **You hold** Balaam and Nicolaitan teaching
- Rev 2:16 **Repent, or I will war with the sword of my mouth**
- Rev 2:19-27 To Thyatira: "I know your works, your love and faith and service and patient endurance, and that your latter works exceed the first. **But I have this against you, that you tolerate that woman Jezebel**, who calls herself a prophetess and is teaching and seducing my servants to practice sexual immorality and to eat food sacrificed to idols. I gave her time to repent, but she refuses to repent of her sexual immorality. 22 **Behold, I will throw her onto a sicked, and those who commit adultery with her I will throw into great tribulation**, unless they repent of her works, 23 and **I will strike her children dead**. 26 The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations, 27and **he will rule them with a rod of iron**, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even **as I myself have received authority** from my Father."
- Rev 3:1-3 To Sardis: "You have a reputation of life, **but are dead**" 2 **Wake up**, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for **I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God**. 3 Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and **repent**. **If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief**, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.
- Rev 3:15-20 To Laodicea: "I know your works: **you are neither cold nor hot**. Would that you were either cold or hot! 16 So, **because you are lukewarm**, and neither hot nor cold, **I will spit you out of my mouth**! 17 For you say, I am rich, I have prospered, and I need nothing, **not realizing that you are wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked.** 18 I counsel you to buy from me gold refined by fire, so that you may be rich, and white garments so that you may clothe yourself and **the shame of your nakedness may not be seen**, and salve to anoint your eyes, **so that you may see**. 19 Those whom I love, I **reprove and discipline**, so be zealous and **repent**. 20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. **If anyone hears my voice** and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

## D) Personhood of God and Relationality

**Jesus' earthly ministry:** nil

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**The Father, the risen Jesus and the Holy Spirit:**

- Acts 9:3-9; Acts 22:6-11; Acts 26:12-18 - **Saul is struck blind and thrown off is horse** in the direct encounter with the risen Jesus and is redirected into mission.
- Acts 9:15-16 Paul- **A chosen instrument; he must suffer** for my name

"If Jesus came back today, He would not cleanse the temple, He would cleanse the pulpit"
Leonard Ravenhill

## F) Facets of God's Revealed Being (Ad Extra)

**Jesus' earthly ministry:**

- Mat 8:10-12 Many from east/west; **sons cast out with weeping and gnashing of teeth.**
- Mat 8:22, Luke 9:60 - **"Let the dead bury their own dead"**
- Mat 9:4-5 Why think evil? Your sins are forgiven **(Would upset)**
- Mat 14:29-31 **"O you of little faith**, why did you doubt"
- Mat 15:3-9 You nullify God's Word for **your tradition**
- Mat 15:24, Mark 7:27 he answered, "It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the **dogs**."
- Mat 16:6, 8-12 Beware the **leaven of the Pharisees (false teaching)**
- Mat 17:14-18, Mark 9:19 "**O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you?**
- Mat 21:18-22; Mark 11:12-14, 20-21 - **Jesus curses the fig tree** and it withers as a sign-act of judgment and warning.
- Mat 20:21-23 My cup you will drink; not mine to grant seats (imagine saying that to a brother)
- Mat 21:24-32, Mark 11:33 Neither will I tell you by what authority (Not conservative)
- Mat 21:33-44, Mark 12:1-11 "the tenants took his servants and **beat one, killed another, and stoned another**. 36 Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. 37 Finally he sent his son…38 But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. **Come, let us kill him** and have his inheritance.' 39 And they took him and **threw him out of the vineyard and killed him**. (Speaking of the Jews)
- Mat 22:4-14 "…Come to the wedding feast." 5 But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, 6 while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. 7 The **King was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city**. 8 Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, but **those invited were not worthy**. 9 Go to the main roads…
- Mat 22:11 "But when the king…saw there a man who had no wedding garment… **Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth**." (No garment /salvation supplied by king. **Harsh justice**).
- Mark 1:41-44 And Jesus **sternly charged him**…"See that you say nothing to anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest.
- Mark 3:4-5 **Is it lawful to do good or to do harm** 5 And **he looked around at them with anger**, grieved at their hardness of heart.
- Mark 5:39 The child is not dead but sleeping, And **he strictly charged them** that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.
- Mark 8:15, 17 And Jesus…said to them, "Why are you discussing…no bread? Do you not yet perceive or understand? **Are your hearts hardened?** 18 **Having eyes do you not see**, and **having ears do you not hear?** And do you not remember?
- Mark 9:31-32 The Son of Man will be delivered and killed 32 But they did not understand the saying, **and were afraid to ask him**.
- Mark 12:35-40, Luke 20:46-47 **"Beware of the scribes**, who like to walk around in long robes and like greetings in the marketplaces 39 and have the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, 40 who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers. **They will receive the greater condemnation.**"
- Luke 7:31-35 To what shall I compare this generation…like children…you did not dance; you did not weep.' (Spiritually cold and undiscerning)
- Luke 9:55-56 To James and John: But he turned and **rebuked** them. "Not know what spirit you are of
- Luke 9:62 "Jesus said to him, "No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is **fit for the kingdom of God**."
- Luke 10:41-42 Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things.
- Luke 11:19 "Your sons do they cast them out? Therefore they shall be your **judges**."
- Luke 11:28-32 he began to say, "**This generation is an evil generation.** It seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah. 30 For as Jonah became a sign to the people of Ninneveh, so will the Son of Man be to this generation. 31 The Queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with **the men of this generation and condemn them.**…32 The men of Ninneveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation **and condemn it,**
- Luke 17:1 And he said to his disciples, "Stumbling blocks/Temptations to sin are sure to come, but **woe to the one through whom they come! 2 It would be better for him if a millstone were hanged around his neck and he were cast into the sea** than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. 3 Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, **rebuke him**…
- Luke 17:7 "Will any one of you who has a servant/bondservant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, 'Come at once and recline at table'? 8 **Will he not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink'?** 9 Does he thank the servant because he did **what was commanded?** 10 So you also, **when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants/bondservants; we have only done what was our duty.'** This is **difficult for most modern Christians to hear**. It seems incompatible with Scripture, because we have been so conditioned to the idea that God loves us so much. Why do we feel so special, when we have these kinds of things spoken by Jesus?
- Luke 19:20 Then another came, saying, 'Lord, here is your mina, which I kept laid away in a handkerchief, 21 for **I was afraid of you, because you are a severe man**. You take what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow.' 22 He said to him, 'I his servant, I will condemn you with your words, you wicked servant! **You knew that I was a severe man**, taking what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow? 23 Why then did you not put my money in the bank, and at my coming I might have collected it with interest?' 24 And he said to those who stood by, '**Take the mina from him, and give it to the one who has the ten minas**.' 25 And they said to him, 'Lord, he has ten minas!' 26 'I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given; **but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away**. (We must keep on seeking God, or what we had will be taken away.) 27 But as for these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, **bring them here and slaughter them before me**.'"
  (Jesus likes God but is frustrated with God because He knows humans find it hard to understand God doings in their life.)
- John 5:17 But Jesus answered them, "**My Father** is working until now, and I am working." 18 This was why the **Jews were seeking all the more to kill him**…24 Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into **judgment**, but has passed from death to life. **(As Jesus, Divinity then speaking, we usually say, "when an unbeliever is upset by the truth?)** Or, in Mat 19:20 The young man said to him, "All these I have kept. What do I still lack?" 21 Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." 22 When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. (Jesus did not run after him or soften the demands as we do.)

## F) Facets of God's Revealed Being (Ad Extra)

**The Father, the risen Jesus and the Holy Spirit:**

- Mark 16:14 Afterward he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at table, and **he rebuked them** for their unbelief and **hardness of heart**, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen.
- Acts 12:20-23 - **Herod Agrippa is struck down by an angel and dies** after accepting divine honor.
- Acts 13:8-11 - Elymas opposes the gospel and **is struck with temporary blindness** (Key phrase: …take that burns)
- 2 Corinthians 12:7 …a thorn was given me in the flesh, a **messenger of Satan to harass me**, to keep me from becoming conceited. 8 **Three times** I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. 9 **But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness."**
- Revelation 6:1-17 - The Lamb opens the seals **bringing conquest, war, famine, death, and terror; people flee the Lamb's wrath**.
- Revelation 8:1 - The seventh seal opens, introducing **further judgments** with solemnity and silence. • Revelation 8:7-13 - **Judgments strike earth, sea, waters, and heavens** in measured fractions, intensifying warning.
- Revelation 9:1-21 - **Demonic torment and large-scale death occur**; many persist in idolatry and violence. (Key phrase: tormented…did not repent. God's love is displayed in the Tribulation to bring people to repentance, and save them from hell.)
- Revelation 11:5-6, 11-13 - **Witnesses strike**; then are raised; an **earthquake follows with many deaths, producing fear**.
- Rev 14:14-20 - **Reaping and winepress imagery depict decisive judgment** against the rebellious.
- Rev 16:15 I am coming **like a thief**; blessed is the one who stays awake
- Rev 16:1-21 - **Bowls of wrath** – the seven last plagues – **boils, blood, heat, darkness, Armageddon, e earthquake, hail**.
- Rev 17:1-18; 18:1-24 - **Babylon is judged and destroyed** as the embodiment of idolatrous corruption and persecution.
- Rev 20:9-15 - **Fire devours rebels**; final judgment occurs; death and Hades are thrown into the lake of fire.
- Rev 21:8 - The sexually immoral, idolaters, and liars are the destiny of the persistently unrepentant. (Fear motivation…lake that burns)
- Rev 22:12 "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my **recompense** with me, to **repay each one for what he has done**.
- Rev 22:18 I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, **God will add to him the plagues described in this book**, 19 and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, **God will take away his share in the tree of life** and in the holy city, which are described in this book.
- Mat 24:29-31; Matthew 25:31-46 The Son of Man comes in glory, gathers the elect, and separates the nations with **punitive outcomes**.
- 2 Thes 1:6-10 - The Lord Jesus is revealed in flaming fire, **repaying affliction** and granting relief to the faithful.

Strangely, when we read the Bible: OT or NT, we identify with the righteous ones, or on God's side. We do not identify with the ones in the wrong. Yet we are quick to embrace wrong beliefs and traditions of men, and be the ones in the wrong, just as every generation has since the beginning.

## G) Special Revelatory Expressions of God

**Jesus' earthly ministry:**

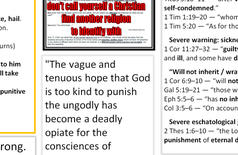
- Mat 12:39-45 **An evil** generation seeks a sign.
- Mat 16:2-4 **You cannot** interpret the signs of the times.
- Mark 8:12 No sign will be given to this generation (Nothing like the parting of the sea.)
- John 6:26-58 I am the bread of life; **eat my flesh and drink my blood**.

## G) Special Revelatory Expressions of God

Rom 11:7-10, 25 - **A partial hardening** until the full number of Israel within God's unfolding plan, without canceling covenant promises.

## H) THE GREATNESS OF GOD (Doxological Summit)

- Rev 19:11-21 - The Rider **strikes** the nations; he will rule; under the kingdom's victory is publicly enforced.




"The vague and tenuous hope that God is too kind to punish the ungodly has become a deadly opiate for the consciences of millions." A.W. Tozer

### The Apostles Were Hard At Times In Obedience To The Command Of Christ

**Some foolish people will say "Yes, but that was Jesus—you are not Jesus." But we find that the apostles did the same. They obeyed what Jesus commanded them:**

**John the Baptist — hard rebuke / warning / confrontation**
Matthew 3:7-12 — "You **brood of vipers**… Who warned you to **flee**… the **wrath to come**… the **axe** is laid to the root… **burn** the chaff with **unquenchable fire**."
Luke 3:7-18 — "You **brood of vipers**… even now… **cut down**… **burn** the chaff with **unquenchable fire**."
Mat 14:3-4; Mark 6:17-18 — "It is **not lawful** for you to have your brother's wife."
Luke 3:19-20 — John reproves Herod; Herod "**shut up** John in **prison**" (a hard rebuke provoking crucifixion).

**Apostolic circle — "not nice" speech (even when corrected)**
Luke 9:54-55 — "Lord, do you want us to tell **fire** to come down from heaven and **consume** them?" (Jesus "turned and **rebuked** them.")

**Peter (Acts) — severe rebuke + judgment episodes**
Acts 5:1-11 — "Why has **Satan** filled your heart to **lie** to the Holy Spirit…? You have not lied to man but to God." (Outcome both: **"fell down"** and **died.**)
Acts 8:20-23 — "May your silver **perish** with you… you have neither **part nor lot**… your heart is **not right**… you are in the **gall of bitterness** and in the **bond of iniquity**."

**Stephen — covenant-lawsuit style condemnation**
Acts 7:51-53 — "You **stiff-necked people, uncircumcised** in heart and ears… you always **resist** the Holy Spirit… you **betrayed** and **murdered**… you did **not** keep the law."

**Paul (Acts) — judicial pronouncements / hard words**
Acts 13:8-11 — "You **son of the devil**, you **enemy of all righteousness**… will you not stop making **crooked** the straight paths…? … you will be **blind**…"
Acts 23:3-5 — "God is going to **strike** you, you **whitewashed wall!**" (then the corrective context).

**Paul (Epistles) — anathemas, denunciations, discipline, wrath warnings**
**Anathema / curse**
Gal 1:8-9 — "If anyone is preaching… a gospel **contrary**… let him be accursed."
2 Cor 16:22 — "If anyone has **no love** for the Lord, let him be **accursed**."

**Cutting denunciations / abrasive labels**
Gal 3:1-3 — "O **foolish** Galatians…"
Gal 4:16-21 — "Have I then become your **enemy** by telling you the **truth**?"
Gal 5:12 — "I wish those who **unsettle** you would… **emasculate** themselves!"
Phil 3:2 — "Look out for the **dogs**… look out for the **evildoers**…"
2 Cor 11:13-15 — "**false apostles, deceitful** workmen… even **Satan** disguises himself… their end will correspond to their deeds."

**Formal discipline / exclusion / "handing over"**
1 Cor 5:1-13 — "Purge out the old **leaven**… **deliver** this man to **Satan** for the **destruction** of the flesh… **cleanse out** the old leaven… **purge** the evil person… **not even to eat** with such a one…"
2 Thes 3:6, 14b-15 — "**keep away**… take note… have **nothing to do** with him… do not regard him as an enemy, but **warn** him as a brother."
Titus 3:10-11 — "after **warning** him once and then twice, have **nothing more to do** with him… **warped** and **sinful**… self-condemned."
1 Tim 1:19-20 — "whom I have **handed over to Satan** that they may **learn not to blaspheme**."
1 Tim 5:20 — "As for those who **persist in sin, rebuke** them in the presence of all…"

**Severe warning: sickness/death as chastening (in-church)**
1 Cor 11:27-32 — "**guilty** concerning the body and blood… eats and drinks **judgment**… that is why many are **weak** and **ill**, and some have **died**… when we are **judged**… we are **disciplined** by the Lord…"

**"Will not inherit / wrath / vengeance" warnings**
1 Cor 6:9-10 — "will **not inherit** the kingdom of God."
Gal 5:19-21 — "those who do such things will **not inherit** the kingdom of God."
Eph 5:6 — "has **no inheritance**… the **wrath** of God comes upon the sons of disobedience."
Col 3:5-6 — "On account of these the **wrath** of God is coming."

**Severe eschatological judgment / hard providence language**
2 Thes 1:6-10 — "**Tribulation** and **distress**… revealed from heaven… **flaming fire**… inflicting **vengeance**… will suffer the **punishment** of **eternal destruction**… away from the presence of the Lord…"
2 Thes 2:10–12 — "God sends **them** a **strong delusion**… so that they may **believe what is false**… in order that all may be **condemned**…"
Rom 1:18–32 — "the **wrath of God** is revealed… God **gave them up**… God **gave them up**… God **gave them up**…"
Rom 2:5–11 — "you are **storing up wrath**… he will **render** to each one according to his works… **wrath** and **fury**…"
Rom 8:13 — "if you live according to the flesh you will **die**…"
Rom 11:20–22 — "they were **broken off**… you stand fast through faith… otherwise you too will be **cut off**