

Message Notes

"The God who is just in crushing his Son"

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Introduction – "A book that has re-melted my face off this week"

Why a low view of God is very dangerous

The most important thing about you...

A look at the incredible attributes of God

- Power
- Independence
- Sovereignty
- Goodness
- Faithfulness
- Loving
- Holiness
- Justice
- Wrathful
- Merciful
- Involvement

Big Questions you should be asking:

1. How can it be possible to have all these attributes and to have them in infinite proportion?
2. Is it possible for God to just overlook sin, to say, "I forgive you" without any substitute?
- 2.1 Isn't that divine child abuse?
3. What happened at the cross?
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - 4.
 - 5.
 - 6.
 - 7.
 - 8.
4. Why is the message of Christianity so irrelevant to so many people?

Application – "How important to you is God's Cross?"

If you wonder what God thinks about his glory and your lost, sin-sick soul, look at John 3:16 and Romans 5:8

Genesis 2:16, 17

¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die."

Genesis 3:15

¹⁵And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

John 10:17, 18

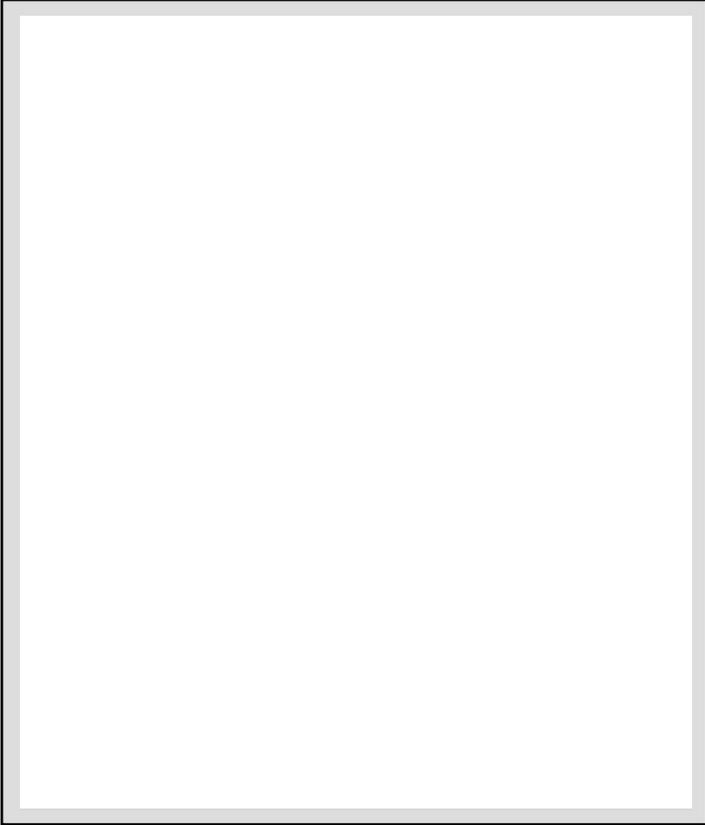
¹⁷The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life – only to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father."

Isaiah 53:1-12

¹Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? ²He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. ³He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not. ⁴Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. ⁵But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. ⁶We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all. ⁷He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. ⁸By oppression and judgment he was taken away. And who can speak of his descendants? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was stricken. ⁹He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth. ¹⁰Yet it was the LORD's will to crush him and cause him to suffer, and though the LORD makes his life a guilt offering, he will see his offspring and prolong his days, and the will of the LORD will prosper in his hand. ¹¹After the suffering of his soul, he will see the light of life and be satisfied; by his knowledge my righteous servant will justify many, and he will bear their iniquities. ¹²Therefore I will give him a portion among the great, and he will divide the spoils with the strong, because he poured out his life unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors. For he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Romans 3:19-26 ~ NASB

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, that every mouth may be closed, and all the world may become accountable to God; ²⁰because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²²even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; ²⁵whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the present time, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.



The Knowledge of the Holy

“The church has surrendered her once lofty concept of God and has substituted for it one so low, so ignoble, as to be utterly unworthy of thinking, worshiping men. This she has done not deliberately, but little by little and without her knowledge; and her very unawareness only makes her situation all the more tragic. This low view of God entertained almost universally among Christians is the cause of a hundred lesser evils everywhere among us. A whole new philosophy of the Christian life has resulted from this one basic error in our religious thinking.

The Knowledge of the Holy

With our loss of the sense of majesty has come the further loss of religious awe and consciousness of the divine Presence. We have lost our spirit of worship and our ability to withdraw inwardly to meet God in adoring silence. Modern Christianity is simply not producing the kind of Christian who can appreciate or experience the life in the Spirit. The words, 'Be still, and know that I am God,' mean next to nothing to the self-confident, bustling worshiper in this middle period of the twentieth century.

The Knowledge of the Holy

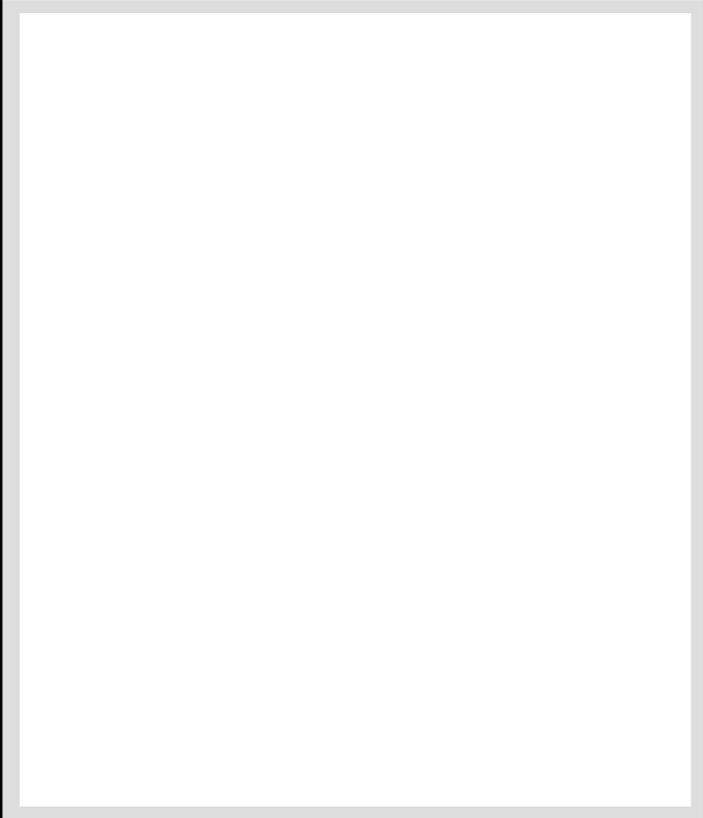
This loss of the concept of majesty has come just when the forces of religion are making dramatic gains and the churches are more prosperous than at any time within the past several hundred years. But the alarming thing is that our gains are mostly external and our losses wholly internal; and since it is the quality of our

religion that is affected by internal conditions, it may be that our supposed gains are but losses spread over a wider field.

~ (A. W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*, Preface, page 6-7)

The Knowledge of the Holy

What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us. The history of mankind will probably show that no people has ever risen above its religion, and man's spiritual history will positively demonstrate that no religion has ever been greater than its idea of God. Worship is pure or base as



the worshiper entertains high or low thoughts of God. For this reason the gravest question before the Church is always God Himself, and the most portentous fact about any man is not what he at a given time may say or do, but what he in his deep heart conceives God to be like.

~ A. W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*, chapter one, page 9

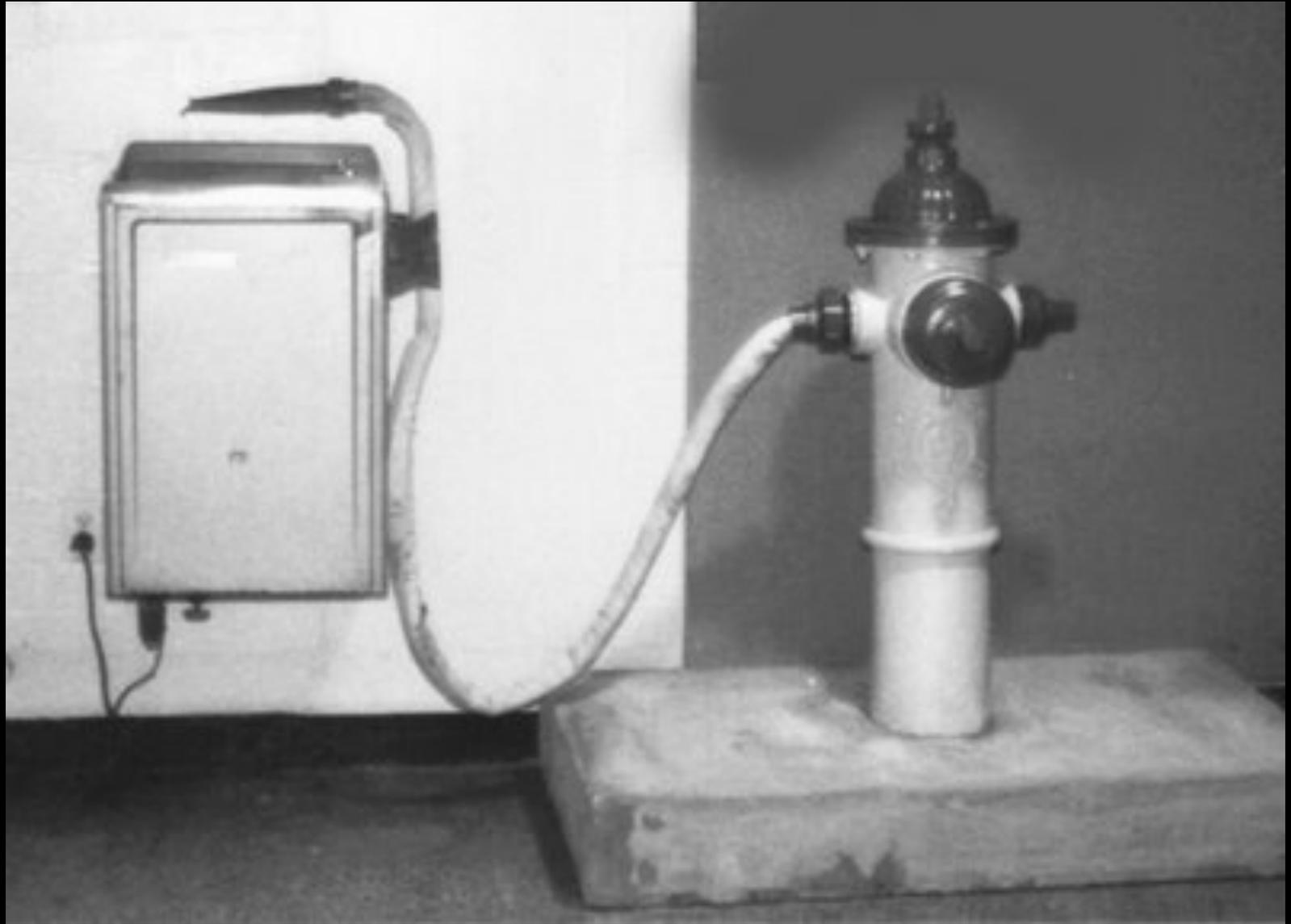
Hope CC presents:

GOD



an introduction

a 10 week study of how God progressively
reveals himself in Scripture





The God who Creates

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

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Psalm 19:1

¹The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Who is God?

Attributes of God shown:

Who is God?

Attributes of God shown:

Powerful

Who is God?

Attributes of God shown:

Powerful
Independent

The God who has Mercy on the Rebellious

The Crescendo of Scripture

Genesis 50:19, 20

¹⁹But Joseph said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God? ²⁰You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.

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Attributes of God shown:

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Who is God?

Attributes of God shown:

Powerful
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Sovereign

Who is God?

Attributes of God shown:

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Good

The God who makes and keeps promises

Deuteronomy 7:9

“Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations...”

see also 1 Kings 8:23, 2 Chronicles 6:14, Nehemiah 1:5, 9:32, and Daniel 9:4

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The God who will not be mocked

Romans 1:18, 22-26

¹⁸The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness...

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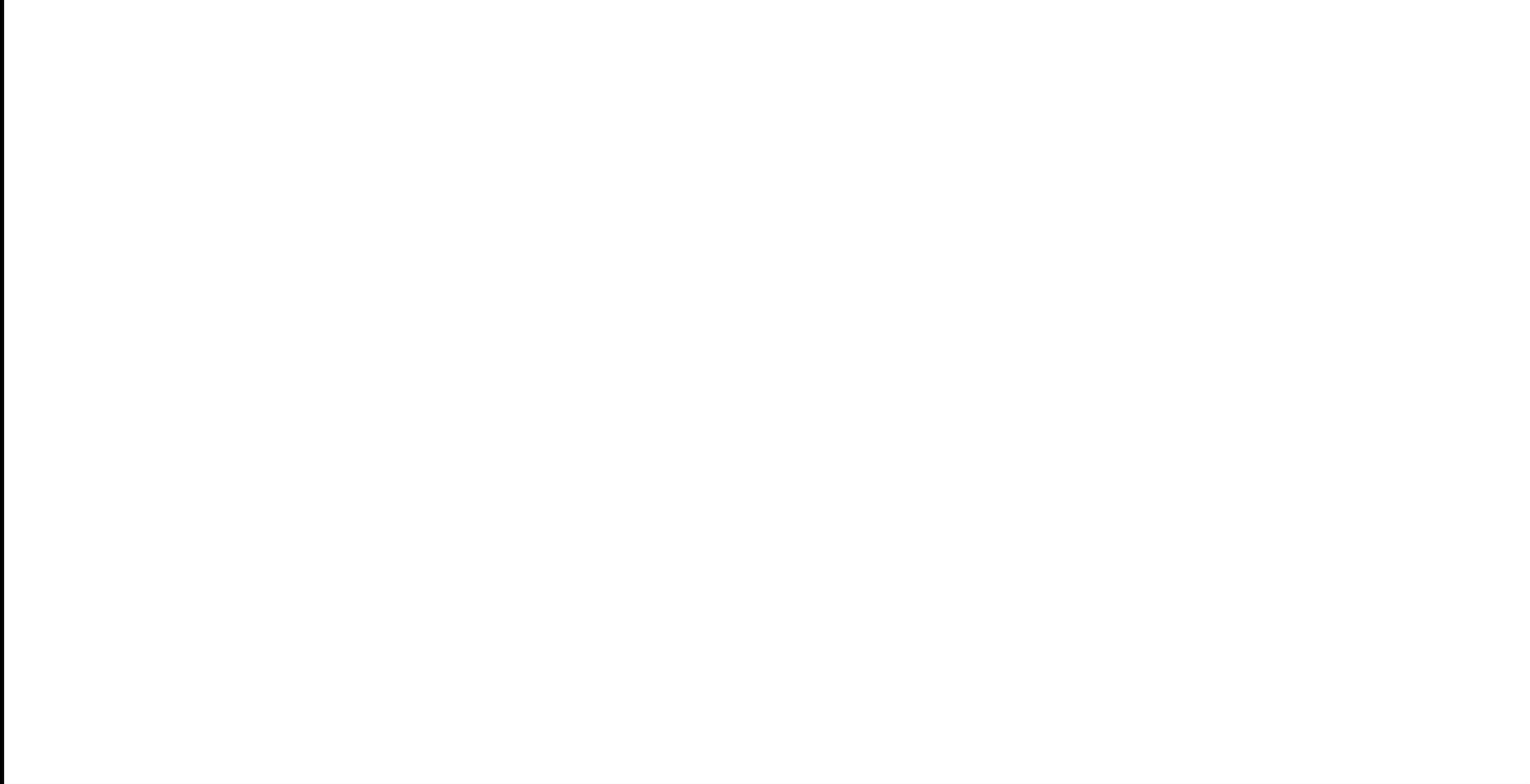
Just

Wrathful

The God who becomes human FINALLY!!

Galatians 4:4, 5

⁴But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, ⁵to redeem those under law, that we



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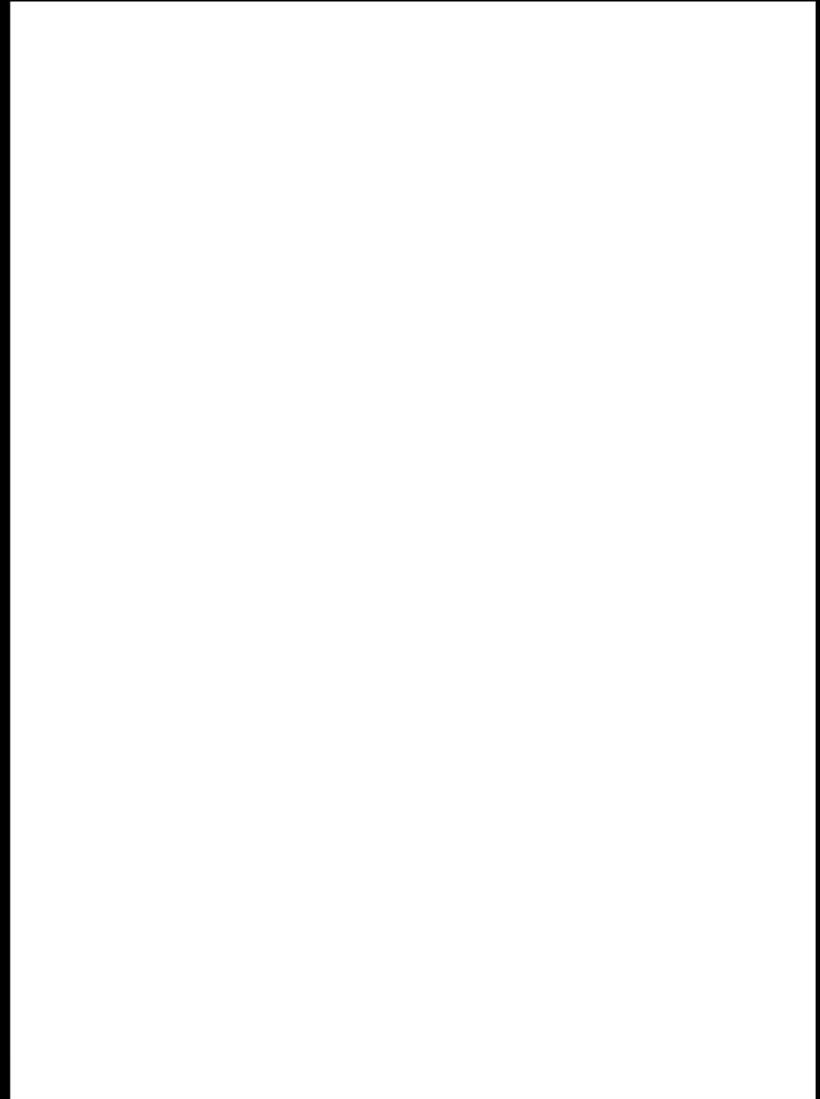
1. How can it be possible to have all these qualities, some of which are the antithesis of the other, in infinite quantity?

Big Questions you should be asking:

2. Is it possible for God to just “overlook” or forgive sin without any payment? In other words, was it absolutely necessary for Jesus to go through the cross?

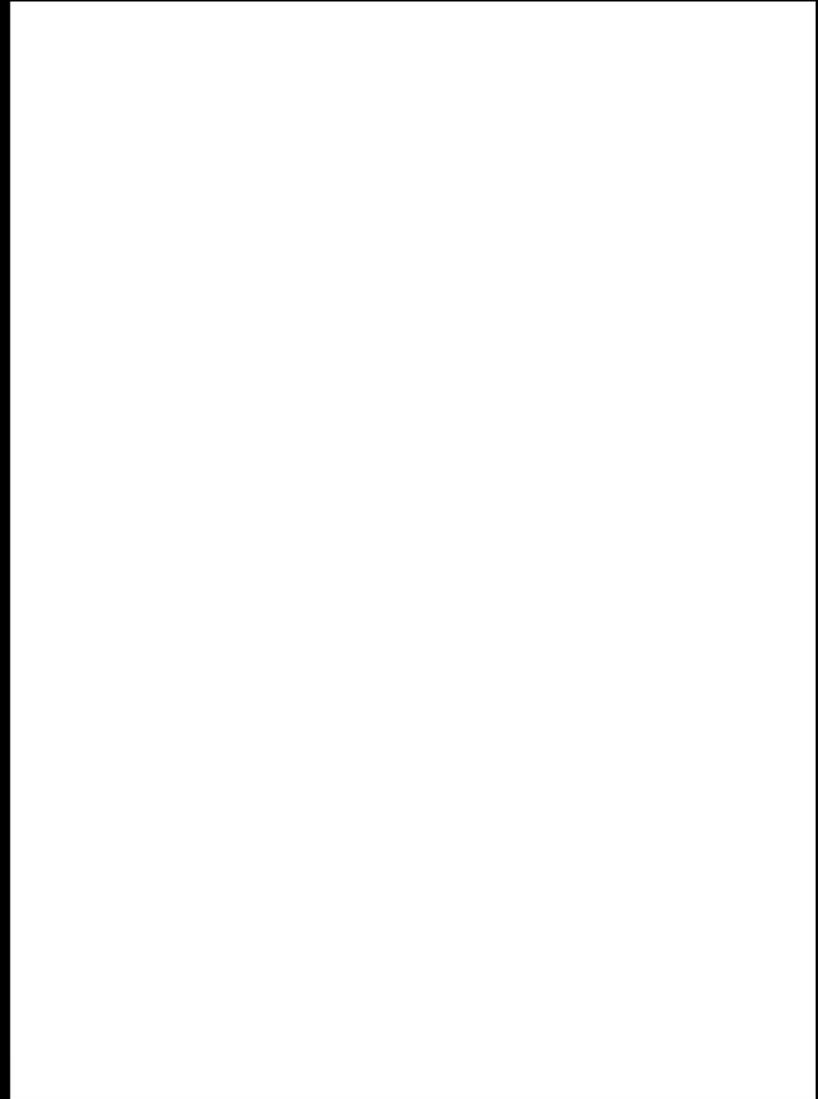
Big Questions you should be asking:

3. What actually happened at the
Cross?



Big Questions you should be asking:

4. If the gospel message is so sweet, why is it so irrelevant to so many people?



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*I will sing of your
love and justice;
To you, O Lord,
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Psalm 101:1

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Matthew 26:39

³⁹Going a little farther, he fell with his face to the ground and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, may this cup be taken from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”

BQ #2.1

2.1 Isn't that kinda divine child abuse?



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John 10:17, 18

¹⁷“The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

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4. The Son voluntarily signs up for this duty

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Romans 3:19-26 ~ NASB

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 6. God is a GENIUS!! He is know JUST and JUSTIFYER
 7. All of the attributes of God COLLIDE at the cross, infinitude!
 8. Without the Cross, God COULD NOT have all of his attributes in infinite form. With the cross, he can!

BQ #4

4. If the gospel message is so sweet, why is it so irrelevant to so many people?



The Knowledge of the Holy

A right conception of God is basic not only to systematic theology but to practical Christian living as well. It is to worship what the foundation is to the temple; where it is inadequate or out of plumb the whole structure must sooner or later collapse. I believe there is scarcely an error in doctrine or a failure in applying

Christian ethics that cannot be traced finally to imperfect and ignoble thoughts about God.

The Knowledge of the Holy

It is my opinion that the Christian conception of God current in these middle years of the twentieth century is so decadent as to be utterly beneath the dignity of the Most High God and actually to constitute for professed believers something amounting to a moral calamity. All the problems of heaven and earth, though

they were to confront us together and at once, would be nothing compared with the overwhelming problem of God: That He is; what He is like; and what we as moral beings must do about Him.

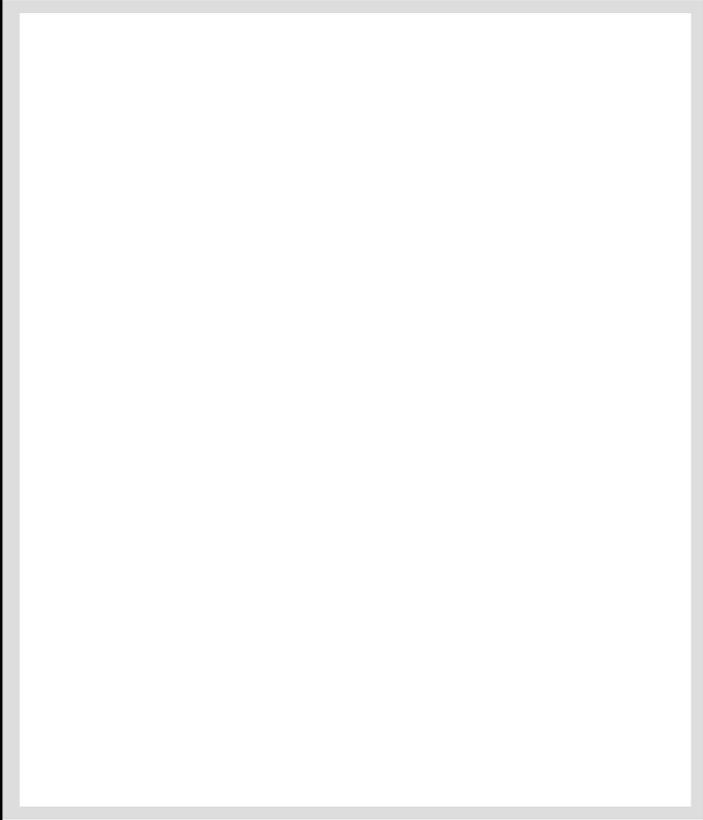
The Knowledge of the Holy

The man who comes to a right belief about God is relieved of ten thousand temporal problems, for he sees at once that these have to do with matters which at the most cannot concern him for very long; but even if the multiple burdens of time may be lifted from him, the one mighty single burden of eternity begins to press down upon him with a weight more crushing than all the woes of the world piled one upon another.



The Knowledge of the Holy

That mighty burden is his obligation to God. It includes an instant and lifelong duty to love God with every power of mind and soul, to obey Him perfectly, and to worship Him acceptably. And when the man's laboring conscience tells him that he has done none of these things, but has from childhood been guilty of



foul revolt against the Majesty in the heavens, the inner pressure of self-accusation may become too heavy to bear.

The Knowledge of the Holy

The gospel can lift this destroying burden from the mind, give beauty for ashes, and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. But unless the weight of the burden is felt the gospel can mean nothing to the man; and until he sees a vision of God high and lifted up, there will be no woe and no burden. Low views of God destroy the gospel for all who hold them.

~ A. W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*, chapter one, pages 10-11

How important to
you is God's
Cross?



How important to
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But God demonstrates his own love for us in this:
While we were still sinners,
Christ died for us.

~ Romans 5:8

