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~ CHILDREN'S CORNER ~

What is the God of Heaven Like?

The God of heaven is different from all other gods made by people throughout the centuries of history. God is a Spirit and we cannot see Him with our natural eyes. This great desire to see their gods through the generations has caused many people who have forgotten the God of Heaven to take pieces of wood and coat them with valuable gold and silver and bow down before them. These are idols which cannot walk or talk or do anything for the people who serve them. ([Jeremiah 10:1-10](#))

The God of Heaven isn't like that. He's living and watching over all the people of the world. He is everywhere because He doesn't have a body like ours. He also knows everything about everyone. He knows what you are doing and saying to other people and even your thoughts. As well, the hairs on your head are all numbered. (Matthew 10:30) God keeps records in heaven, so we should be careful how we live. We need to be kind and merciful to our family members, our neighbours, those at school and in the shops.

Throughout the centuries since Creation, the devil or Satan (an angel who rebelled against God) has consistently attempted to corrupt the plan of God, and especially His greatest creation, the man and the woman, made in His own likeness.

When Adam and Eve were living in the Garden of Eden they disobeyed God's only rule for them. By themselves they could never get back the friendship they had previously had with God. God graciously gave them a promise that He would fix this relationship problem as He desired to have fellowship with people who loved and respected Him. But this didn't happen immediately.

As the population of the world built up over hundreds of years God chose one man called Abraham. He pleased God by his faith in God and God promised to make him the father of a great nation. In time God gave his descendants a group of rules to live by. They were called The Ten Commandments. ([Exodus 20](#)) They taught people how to love and honour God and keep good relationships between each other.

But these rules didn't restore that close relationship Adam and Eve had with God in the beginning. People who highly respected God did His orders to slaughter an animal without any defects at set times to temporarily cover over all their many sins. God had said there was no clearing away of wrongdoing and sin without the shedding of blood in the laws He had given to Moses. ([Leviticus 17:11](#); [Hebrews 9:22](#))

The God of heaven is made up with three distinct spirit beings: Father, Son and Holy Spirit which we call the Godhead or Trinity. They worked together on the creation of the universe and everything else since then. To break the distance between God and people since Adam and Eve did wrongly in the Garden, the eternal Son, the sinless Lord Jesus Christ, came to earth as a human being with the set purpose of shedding His blood to be a complete sacrifice for all human sins once for all time. ([Romans 5:8-9](#); [Hebrews 5:8-9](#))

However, only those who ask the Lord Jesus for His forgiveness of their sins will receive His pardon and be indwelt by God's Holy Spirit. Such people don't go out deliberately to do wrong things and sin again. Although genuine Christians never make idols of wood and stone, they can still hide idols in their minds: the love of money and possessions, success in the business world, becoming famous in their generation.

An idol can be anything where we seek comfort or self-worth from any source other than the living God.

When the Lord Jesus came to earth as a little baby He had laid aside His divine qualities to become a servant. Jesus was fully human as well as fully God and He was sinless. He always speaks the truth and He forgives. Jesus did many miracles by healing the sick and blind, and even brought the dead back to life. He also knew what His enemies were thinking. They wanted Him killed because He was becoming more popular than they were.

After a series of illegal trials Jesus was brought before Roman Governor Pilate because he alone could sentence a man to death. Pilate found no reason to have Jesus killed but the people in the crowd insisted. At that time of the year (Passover) the governor set free one Jewish prisoner. They asked for a thief and shouted out to crucify Jesus, a slow cruel death reserved for the worst criminals. Jesus said nothing in His defense and Pilate not wanting a riot to start, condemned Jesus to death.

After Jesus died on a cross outside Jerusalem between two thieves, His body was quickly put in the unused grave of his mother's uncle Joseph of Arimathea because it was nearly nightfall. Jesus had told His close followers that He would rise from death again in three days but this information never sunk in. When He died they were greatly distressed and fearful that the authorities would come looking for them to punish them too. So they hid themselves.

Even the chief priests had heard of this prophecy of Jesus and persuaded the Romans to seal the tomb and put a guard of soldiers around it so Jesus' followers could not take his body away in the night. Those soldiers were reluctant witnesses to an angel from heaven rolling away the stone in front of the tomb early in the morning of the third day. They were terrified and rushed off to the chief priests to say that Jesus had really risen from death. The priests paid them to keep quiet and if they were asked about it, to say that they had fallen asleep, a crime punishable by death.

During the following forty days with His full divine qualities again Jesus instructed His followers on many things. Then He arose through the air and went back to heaven. His next visit to earth will be in the air above the earth to call out all His genuine disciples and to take them back to heaven with Him. Then after seven years of trials for the people still living here, the Lord Jesus will come back to Israel to set up His one thousand reign over the whole earth.

Have you invited the Lord Jesus into your life and asked Him to forgive all your wrongdoing? He will forgive you if you mean it and send His Holy Spirit to indwell your life. Start reading the Bible, talking to Him often in pray and attend a church where the Bible is being preached. There's unspeakable joy and comfort in the hope of our never-ending heavenly citizenship.

Jesus will be the Judge of all the people of the world who have ever lived here. And each person will have to give an account of what they did while living on earth. Some people will be rewarded for their good work for Jesus and share His home in heaven. But some will unfortunately have to admit that they never bothered to worship Him or give Him the honour due to Him. These people will be punished because they never read God's book, The Bible, to find out how God wanted them to live. Each person has to decide if they will make Jesus king of their life or not. Decide today and pray, asking Him to forgive your sins and to live in your life through His Holy Spirit.