Understanding the Nature of God

Comprehending the nature of God is difficult because He is infinite and beyond the limits of human understanding. God is boundless—He does not conform to human reasoning or common beliefs. The purpose of this teaching is to provide a basic understanding of God's nature as revealed in Scripture.

Core Aspects of God's Nature:

- 1. God is Just.
- 2. God is Loving revealed through the Gospel. Jesus is God in the flesh.
- 3. God is All-Powerful He controls everything; even the devil must ask His permission.
- 4. God is All-Knowing/God Knows Everything (omniscience) nothing is hidden from Him. But He forgives and forgets sin when we repent.
- 5. God is Everywhere He is omnipresent.
- 6. God is Holy.
- 7. God is the Creator of all things, seen and unseen including both beauty and disaster, all for His purpose and glory.

1. God is Just

Scripture consistently teaches that God is a God of justice—perfectly righteous, fair, and impartial in all His ways. This is a central truth found throughout both the Old and New Testaments.

Let us begin by exploring this attribute: **God is Just**. There is no one higher than God. He cannot be compared to anyone—He is the ultimate authority. When God speaks, His Word must be fulfilled because He cannot contradict Himself, and there is no one above Him to override His will. If God says, "You shall surely die," it will happen. His justice is absolute.

Here are some bible verses that support and illustrate God's justice. These Scriptures provide evidence of His righteousness and fairness. While this is only a starting point, I encourage you to continue your personal journey of learning more about God's nature.

As the Bible says, "Meditate on His Word day and night." Let your life be filled with God's presence—inhale and exhale His truth in every moment. Read the bible day and night. But please ask guidance from one of your spiritual leaders like your pastors.

Deuteronomy 32:4

(New American Standard Bible)

4 The Rock! His work is perfect, For all His ways are just; A God of faithfulness and without injustice, Righteous and just is He.

Psalm 89:14

(New American Standard Bible)

14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Mercy and truth go before You.

Isaiah 30:18

(New American Standard Bible)

18 Therefore the Lord longs to be gracious to you, And therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you. For the Lord is a God of justice; How blessed are all those who long for Him

Proverbs 21:3

(New American Standard Bible)

3 To do righteousness and justice is preferred by the Lord more than sacrifice.

New Testament

Romans 2:6-11

(New American Standard Bible)

6 who will repay each person according to his deeds: 7 to those who by perseverance in doing good seek glory, honor, and immortality, *He will give* eternal life; 8 but to those who are self-serving and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, *He will give* wrath and indignation. 9 *There will be* tribulation and distress for every soul of mankind who does evil, for the Jew first and also for the Greek, 10 but glory, honor, and peace to everyone who does what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 11 For there is no partiality with God.

What Does God's Justice Mean?

- Fairness and Impartiality: God judges everyone by the same standard—His holy law—and does not show favoritism.
- Moral Rightness: He cannot overlook sin, because doing so would contradict His holy nature.
- Protection of the Vulnerable: Throughout Scripture, God's justice is especially concerned with the oppressed, the widow, the orphan, and the poor (Micah 6:8; Psalm 146:7-9).

• Accountability: Everyone is accountable to God for their actions, and justice ensures that good is ultimately rewarded and evil is punished.

Justice and the Gospel

God's justice is clearly shown in the message of the Gospel. Since sin must be punished, Jesus took the punishment for us. Because of this, God stays fair and just, while also making people right with Him when they trust in Jesus.

"God did this to show that He always does what is right... and to show that He makes people right with Himself when they have faith in Jesus."

(Romans 3:26)

Simply put, God's justice isn't harsh or distant—it's holy and fair, and always full of mercy and love.

Other Old testament Scriptures on God's Justice:

Psalm 9:7-8

(New American Standard Bible)

7 But the Lord sits *as King* forever;He has established His throne for judgment, 8 And He will judge the world in righteousness;He will execute judgment for the peoples fairly.

Isaiah 61:8

(New American Standard Bible)

8 For I, the Lord, love justice, I hate robbery in the burnt offering;

And I will faithfully give them their reward, And make an everlasting covenant with them.

Ecclesiastes 3:17

(New American Standard Bible)

17 I said to myself, "God will judge the righteous and the wicked," for a time for every matter and for every deed is there.

Micah 6:8

(New American Standard Bible)

8 He has told you, mortal one, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you. But to do justice, to love kindness, And to walk humbly with your God?

Matthew 12:18

New American Bible (Revised Edition)

18 "Behold, my servant whom I have chosen, my beloved in whom I delight; I shall place my spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles.

Acts 17:31

New American Bible (Revised Edition)

31 because he has established a day on which he will 'judge the world with justice' through a man he has appointed, and he has provided confirmation for all by raising him from the dead."

2 Thessalonians 1:6

New American Bible (Revised Edition)

6 For it is surely just on God's part to repay with afflictions those who are afflicting you,

Hebrews 10:30

New American Bible (Revised Edition)

30 We know the one who said: "Vengeance is mine; I will repay," and again: "The Lord will judge his people."

Revelation 15:3

New American Bible (Revised Edition)

3 and they sang the song of Moses,[a] the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb: "Great and wonderful are your works, Lord God almighty. Just and true are your ways, O king of the nations.

These verses together present a powerful picture: God is not only a loving and merciful Father but also a righteous Judge who cannot overlook injustice. His justice ensures that evil will not prevail and that righteousness will be upheld—now and in eternity.

2. God is Loving

Yes, Scripture clearly reveals that God is a loving God. His love is one of His most defining attributes. Here are several key verses that affirm this truth:

1 John 4:8

(New American Standard Bible)

8 The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

This verse directly states that love is not just something God does — it's who He is and God's love is unconditional and sacrificial.

Romans 5:8

(New American Standard Bible)

8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

God loved us even when we were undeserving — that's grace-based love.

Jeremiah 31:3

(New American Standard Bible)

3 The Lord appeared to him long ago, saying,

"I have loved you with an everlasting love;

Therefore I have drawn you out with kindness.

God's love is everlasting, it is not temporary or dependent on our behavior

John 3:16-18

(New American Standard Bible)

16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not perish, but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but so that the world might be saved through Him. 18 The one who believes in Him is not judged; the one who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

God's love is seen in Jesus. The gift of Jesus is the ultimate proof of God's love for humanity.

Romans 8:38-39

(New American Standard Bible)

38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Nothing can separate us from God's love. God's love is secure and unbreakable.

Exodus 34:6 (ESV)

6 The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

God is compassionate and gracious. This is God describing His own character to Moses

Psalm 136:1(ESV)

136 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

God's love never fails, a declaration of His unchanging love

Zephaniah 3:17 (ESV)

17 The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; He will exult over you with loud singing.

God not only loves — He delights in His children

God's discipline is loving

Proverbs 3:11–12 (ESV)

"My son, do not despise the Lord's discipline... for the Lord reproves him whom he loves, as a father the son in whom he delights."

His correction is not harsh but comes from a place of fatherly love.

Jesus loves personally and deeply

John 15:9 (ESV)

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love."

Jesus invites us to remain in His love - a constant, active relationship.

God's love gives us identity

1 John 3:1 (NIV)

"See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!"

God's love brings us into His family.

His love casts out fear

1 John 4:18 (NIV)

"There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment."

God's love gives us peace and security.

Gospel

The Gospel, according to the Scriptures, is the "good news" of Jesus Christ—God's plan for the salvation of humanity. This message is central to the Christian faith and is presented throughout the Bible, especially in the New Testament.

Key Elements of the Gospel According to Scripture:

- 1. God's Holiness and Human Sinfulness
 Scripture begins by revealing that God is holy and just (Isaiah 6:3; 1 Peter 1:16). He created humanity in His image (Genesis 1:27), but through Adam's disobedience, sin entered the world (Romans 5:12). Because of sin, all have fallen short of God's glory and are separated from Him (Romans 3:23).
- 2. God's Love and Promise of Redemption
 Despite mankind's sin, God, in His great love, promised a Redeemer. Throughout the Old
 Testament, there are prophecies pointing to a coming Savior (Isaiah 53; Micah 5:2). This
 Redeemer would bear the punishment for sin and bring restoration.
- 3. The Life, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ Jesus Christ, the Son of God, was born of a virgin (Luke 1:26-35), lived a sinless life (Hebrews 4:15), and fulfilled all the prophecies concerning the Messiah. He willingly died on the cross as a substitute for sinners (Romans 5:8), taking upon Himself the punishment we deserved (Isaiah 53:5). On the third day, He rose from the dead (1 Corinthians 15:3-4), conquering sin and death.

- 4. Salvation by Grace Through Faith
 The Gospel proclaims that salvation is a gift of God's grace, not something earned by
 good works (Ephesians 2:8-9). Those who repent of their sins and believe in Jesus Christ
 as Lord and Savior are forgiven, justified, and given eternal life (John 3:16; Romans
 10:9-10).
- 5. The Promise of Eternal Life and a New Creation
 The Gospel doesn't end with individual salvation. Scripture promises that Jesus will
 return, judge the living and the dead, and restore all things (Revelation 21:1-5). Believers
 will dwell with God forever in a new heaven and new earth.

Summary (1 Corinthians 15:1–4)

The Apostle Paul summarizes the Gospel this way:

"Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, He was buried, and He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures."

The Gospel is not just a message to believe; it's a call to trust in Christ, turn from sin, and walk in newness of life.

The **Gospel**—literally meaning "Good News"—is the central message of Christianity. Here's a simple breakdown:

The Gospel explained simply:

- 1. **God created us** to be in perfect relationship with Him.
- 2. **Sin** entered the world through disobedience (Romans 3:23), separating us from God.
- 3. **Jesus Christ**, God's Son, came to earth, lived a sinless life, and **died on the cross** to take the punishment for our sins (Romans 5:8).
- 4. He **rose from the dead** on the third day, proving victory over sin and death (1 Corinthians 15:3–4).
- 5. Anyone who **believes in Him**, repents, and trusts Him as Lord and Savior receives **forgiveness, new life, and eternal salvation** (John 3:16, Ephesians 2:8–9).

Key Verses:

- **John 3:16** "For God so loved the world..."
- Romans 6:23 "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life..."
- 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 "... Christ died for our sins... He was buried... He was raised on the third day..."

The Gospel is the Good News that through Jesus Christ, sinners can be forgiven, restored to God, and given eternal life.

Jesus is God revealed in flesh

Here are several scriptures that support the belief that Jesus is God revealed in the flesh, a foundational doctrine in Christian theology, especially within Trinitarian belief:

John 1:1, 14 (NASB)

1 "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." 14 "And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us..."

This passage identifies Jesus (the Word) as God and explains that He became flesh.

Colossians 2:9 (NASB)

"For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form..."

Paul clearly states that the full nature of God was present in Jesus in bodily form.

1 Timothy 3:16 (KJV or NKJV)

(Note: Some translations say "He" instead of "God")

"And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up in glory."

One of the clearest declarations that God was manifested in the flesh.

John 14:9 (NASB)

"Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you for so long a time, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? The one who has seen Me has seen the Father..."

Jesus equates seeing Him with seeing God the Father.

Hebrews 1:3 (NASB)

"And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature..."

Jesus is the visible, perfect image of the invisible God.

<u>Titus 2:13 (NASB)</u>

"...looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus..."

Jesus is directly called "our great God and Savior."

Isaiah 9:6 (Prophecy about the Messiah)

"For a Child will be born to us... and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace."

Old Testament prophecy calling the coming Messiah "Mighty God."

3. God is Powerful

Yes, the Bible clearly teaches that God is all-powerful—also known as omnipotent. Here are several key scriptures that reveal God's power:

Genesis 1:1 (NASB)

- "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."
- God's power is seen in creation itself.

Jeremiah 32:17 (NASB)

- "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for You."
- Emphasizes that nothing is too hard for God.

Job 26:14 (NIV)

- "And these are but the outer fringe of his works; how faint the whisper we hear of him! Who then can understand the thunder of his power?"
- Even what we see of God's power is only a glimpse.

Psalm 147:5 (ESV)

"Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure."

Matthew 19:26 (ESV)

"With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

Romans 1:20 (NIV)

"For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen..."

Ephesians 1:19–20 (NIV)

- "...his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead..."
- God's resurrection power is available to believers.

Revelation 19:6 (NKJV)

"Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns!"

Yes, the Bible teaches that God is all-powerful (omnipotent) and sovereign—He controls everything and nothing is outside His authority. Here are several scriptures that affirm this truth:

Jeremiah 32:17 (NIV)

"Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you."

Job 42:2 (NIV)

"I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted."

Luke 1:37 (ESV)

"For nothing will be impossible with God."

God Controls All Things:

<u>Isaiah 46:9–10 (NIV)</u>

"I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. I make known the end from the beginning... My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please."

Proverbs 19:21 (NIV)

"Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."

Colossians 1:16–17 (NIV)

"All things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

Romans 8:28 (ESV)

"And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

God's Power Over Creation

Isaiah 40:26 (ESV)

"Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name, by the greatness of his might, and because he is strong in power not one is missing."

Psalm 33:6 (NIV)

"By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth."

Nahum 1:5 (NIV)

"The mountains quake before him and the hills melt away. The earth trembles at his presence, the world and all who live in it."

God's Power Over Nations and Kings

Proverbs 21:1 (ESV)

"The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord; he turns it wherever he will."

Daniel 2:21 (ESV)

"He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings..."

Isaiah 40:23 (NIV)

"He brings princes to naught and reduces the rulers of this world to nothing."

God's Power to Save and Deliver

Exodus 15:6 (NIV)

"Your right hand, Lord, was majestic in power. Your right hand, Lord, shattered the enemy."

Zephaniah 3:17 (NIV)

"The Lord your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves."

2 Chronicles 20:6 (NIV)

"Power and might are in your hand, and no one can withstand you."

God's Power Over Life and Death

Deuteronomy 32:39 (ESV)

"See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god beside me; I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal..."

John 10:18 (ESV) — Jesus speaking

"No one takes [my life] from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again."

Romans 6:9 (NIV)

"For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him."

God's Power in Believers

2 Timothy 1:7 (KJV)

"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind."

Philippians 4:13 (NKJV)

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

Colossians 1:11 (NIV)

"Being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might..."

4. God is All-Knowing/God Knows Everything

These verses below affirm that God's knowledge is complete—past, present, and future. Nothing escapes His notice, and no one can hide from His understanding. Yes, God knows everything—this is a central truth in Scripture and is part of His divine nature. The term for this is omniscience, meaning God possesses perfect and complete knowledge of all things: past, present, future, visible, and invisible. Yes, according to Scripture, God is all-knowing—this attribute is called omniscience. The Bible consistently teaches that nothing is hidden from Him.

<u>Hebrews 4:13 (ESV)</u>

"And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

Psalm 147:5 (ESV)

"Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure."

Psalm 139:1-4 (ESV)

"O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether."

Proverbs 15:3 (ESV)

"The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good."

1 John 3:20 (ESV)

"For whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything."

Isaiah 46:9–10 (ESV)

"For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things not yet done..."

Psalm 139:1-4 (ESV)

"O Lord, you have searched me and known me! You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar...

Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether."

Job 37:16 (ESV)

"Do you know the balancings of the clouds, the wondrous works of him who is perfect in knowledge?"

1 John 3:20 (ESV)

"God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything."

Matthew 10:29–30 (ESV)

"Not one [sparrow] will fall to the ground apart from your Father... even the hairs of your head are all numbered."

God's knowledge is total and infinite. He doesn't discover or learn; He already knows all things perfectly — including every thought, action, motive, and outcome. Nothing surprises Him.

Yes, according to Scripture, God forgives and chooses to forget our sins — not in the sense that He literally loses knowledge, but that He no longer holds them against us. This is a profound expression of His mercy and grace through the covenant of forgiveness.

Hebrews 8:12 (ESV)

"For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more." (Quoting Jeremiah 31:34 — a prophecy of the New Covenant)

Psalm 103:12 (ESV)

"As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us."

Isaiah 43:25 (ESV)

"I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins."

Micah 7:18-19 (ESV)

"He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea."

God Knows everything but the only thing He purposely forgets are our sin when we are with Yeshua/Jesus the Christ and we acknowledge and repent from our sins

Jeremiah 31:34 (ESV)

"...For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

God's "forgetting" is not a loss of memory but a deliberate act of grace — He chooses not to recall our sins against us once they are forgiven. Through Christ, believers stand justified, no longer condemned by their past.

5. God is everywhere:

God is everywhere. Yes, the belief that God is everywhere is known as omnipresence—a key attribute of God in Christian theology. Scripture supports this idea in many places. Here are a few examples:

God's omnipresence means He is not limited by space or time. He is present in all places at once —watching, sustaining, and involved in His creation. For believers, this is a source of comfort and assurance that God is always near.

Psalm 139:7–10 (ESV)

"Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence?

If I ascend to heaven, you are there!

If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me."

Jeremiah 23:24 (NIV)

"Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them?" declares the Lord.

"Do not I fill heaven and earth?" declares the Lord.

Proverbs 15:3 (ESV)

"The eyes of the Lord are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good."

Acts 17:27–28 (NIV)

"God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us.

'For in him we live and move and have our being."

1 Kings 8:27 (NIV)

"But will God really dwell on earth? The heavens, even the highest heaven, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built!"

➤ Even the vast heavens cannot contain God's presence.

Job 34:21-22 (NIV)

"His eyes are on the ways of mortals; he sees their every step. There is no deep shadow, no utter darkness, where evildoers can hide."

Nothing is hidden from God; His presence penetrates even the darkest places.

Amos 9:2-3 (ESV)

"If they dig into Sheol, from there shall my hand take them;

if they climb up to heaven, from there I will bring them down.

If they hide themselves on the top of Carmel, from there I will search them out and take them."

➤ God is inescapable—present in the depths and heights.

Matthew 28:20 (Jesus speaking)

- "...And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."
- ➤ Jesus promises His continual presence with believers.

Hebrews 4:13 (NIV)

"Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account."

➤ God's presence brings total awareness—He sees all.

Colossians 1:17 (NIV)

"He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

➤ Christ's sustaining presence fills creation.

Revelation 1:8 (NIV)

"I am the Alpha and the Omega,' says the Lord God, 'who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

➤ God is present in all time and space—past, present, and future.

6. God is Holy

The bible repeatedly declares that God is holy — meaning He is completely pure, set apart from sin, and morally perfect. Here are key scriptures that affirm God's holiness

Isaiah 6:3 (ESV)

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!"

This triple declaration emphasizes God's absolute holiness.

Leviticus 11:44 (ESV)

"For I am the Lord your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy."

Psalm 99:9 (ESV)

"Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the Lord our God is holy!"

Revelation 4:8 (ESV)

- "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"
- Echoing Isaiah, this passage reveals heavenly worship of God's holiness.

1 Peter 1:15–16 (ESV)

"But as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy."

Luke 1:49 (ESV)

"For he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name."

Mary's praise of God in the Magnificat.

Exodus 15:11 (ESV)

"Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?"

1 Samuel 2:2 (ESV)

"There is none holy like the Lord: for there is none besides you; there is no rock like our God."

Leviticus 19:2 (ESV)

"Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them, You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy."

Isaiah 57:15 (ESV)

"For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: 'I dwell in the high and holy place..."

Habakkuk 1:13 (ESV)

- "You who are of purer eyes than to see evil and cannot look at wrong..."
- Describing God's intolerance of sin.

John 17:11 (ESV)

- "Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me..."
- Jesus addresses God as "Holy Father."

Hebrews 12:10 (ESV)

"...but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness."

Revelation 15:4 (ESV)

"Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify your name? For you alone are holy."

1 Thessalonians 4:7 (ESV)

"For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness."

Let me know if you'd like these grouped in a devotional outline, sermon notes, or a children's lesson format.

Certainly. Here are more scriptures that affirm God's creation of all things—both seen and unseen—as well as His control over both beauty and disaster:

7. God is the Creator of all things, seen and unseen

Disasters and beauty included for his purpose and glory. <u>Isaiah 45:6-7</u> (NASB) 6 That men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun. That there is no one besides Me.I am the LORD, and there is no other,7 The One forming light and creating darkness, Causing well-being and creating calamity;I am the LORD who does all these.

Nehemiah 9:6 (ESV)

"You are the Lord, you alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you."

Psalm 33:6,9 (ESV)

"By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host...

For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm."

Revelation 4:11 (ESV)

"Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.

<u>Hebrews 1:2-3 (ESV)</u>

"...through whom also he created the world... he upholds the universe by the word of his power."

God's Sovereignty Over Nature, Beauty, and Disaster

<u>Isaiah 40:26 (ESV)</u>

"Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name..."

Lamentations 3:37-38 (ESV)

"Who has spoken and it came to pass, unless the Lord has commanded it? Is it not from the mouth of the Most High that good and bad come?"

Psalm 104:32 (ESV)

"Who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke!"

Nahum 1:3,5-6 (ESV)

"The Lord is slow to anger and great in power... The mountains quake before him; the hills melt; the earth heaves before him..."

God's Purpose Even in Calamity

Isaiah 55:8–9 (ESV)

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways..."

Proverbs 16:4 (ESV)

"The Lord has made everything for its purpose, even the wicked for the day of trouble."

Romans 11:36 (ESV)

"For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen."