

GODS NATURE...

Someone I know once said, "If you're afraid of being deceived, then you don't know God." actually to know God, is to know the nature of God. Gary has often spoken of the heart of God. To me, I feel that these two are one. Let me begin here by saying that we have a big God. This God who hides from all flesh is a very big God. He's not a small God.

The nature of God outside of man is just a wee bit different than man in terms of its nature. The Absolute, the source of creation is a mystery. The very best that we can ever know or come close to knowing about the source, the Absolute, is through learning to seek him from within our consciousness. I have more and more over the years become inclined to listen for God to speak from within.

I would never attempt to say that he speaks only one way to us, I *will* say that Gods speaking for me comes by way of my intuition. My personal experience is that I know of absolutely nothing that is easier to miss than his speaking. His nature is one of never ending patience. That's the first thing that comes to mind concerning the nature of our God.

Now... whether you are a Christian, a Muslim, a Buddhist, or of any faith on earth, the God you believe in and worship is the same God that I believe in and worship because there is only one God and regardless of who or what you think he is, the fact is there is only one. Anyone who lifts their heart to their Creator, it's of no significance whatsoever what or who their idea of God is. When they call upon him in earnest, an answer will come.

Some have said that God is a person. Others will argue that God is not a person. I see both as true. The first is true on this relative plane; the second is true on another level. Here God is personified as creation, especially as he appears as man and all of what we normally think of as life forms. As creation, God appears to be limited. For example God has limited himself by becoming you and I. that is only however an appearance. I have gotten off of where I was heading so I'm returning to his nature.

When I was first converted to Christ I had somewhat of a problem with large portions of the O. T. There I read how this God often became angry even to the point of wiping out his own favorite people. Also I had somewhat of a problem with the idea that he had a pet nation to begin with. Still I bought into the God who had problems pretty much the same as I. As light came, "here a little and there a little" I eventually had problems with certain things I would read in the New Testament also.

Today I see what the problem was. I then saw just enough to be dangerous. That however is all part of the growth process. What was happening was the true nature of God was being revealed to me and it did not line up with my ego's concept of what the word was saying. This was part of the problem. At any rate, there came a time when I threw out the whole bible. In those days I would agree that God is sovereign but did not see that sovereignty at a deep enough level.

Sometime after my discarding the scriptures and asking God to open my eyes he did! Then it was like I had a whole new bible. As for reading it, I've barely read it in the past 20 years, but for many years in the past, I read it day and night for years. Because so much of it was retained in me even though I rarely go to it today, verses are brought to me frequently that will support what I'm hearing from within.

It's been my experience that life conditions me in a way that throws new light on old concepts of the word that I previously held. I base my life not on any book, but on what comes to my understanding as I wait to hear the silent inaudible speaking of the higher self from somewhere within. Someone once spoke of a book by Deepak Chopra entitled "How to Know God." I purchased it soon after I read the portion of it that was quoted. I would recommend it also.

One of the things I got out of the book was that as the Divine Life surfaces within us, we go through basically seven stages of the journey while here. At these different stages God comes to us according to our understanding of him and that will change from time to time as we see him through different eyes. After all we really do create our own reality. As I believe God to be, that's how God will deal with me and be to me. Sometimes people who learn of our understanding of God think that we are deceived.

Usually these same people believe that our "deception" will net us the sentence of being lost when we pass over. In younger years I did a lot of reflection concerning this kind of idea. Today the God I know is the Father of all life, the Creator of each of us. The God who would destroy or sentence me would be the one I used to read of in the Old Testament. That was my God for awhile, and during the time that he was, I was very critical and judgmental if you didn't see things my way.

If you ever meet someone who is deceived and knows that they are let me know. If they knew they were deceived, they wouldn't be. Deception is what we are all coming out of. Besides, that which created me has the sole responsibility of what happens to me. Because of my idea that I was lost God had to play the role of my redeemer, and he did because as the designer is responsible for the building he designs, so God was responsible for me and he made good on that.

I did not wake up one morning and say, "*I believe I'll become deceived today.*" Religion would have me believe that God would create me with a flaw and then punish me for what resulted from it. Besides, this whole idea of deception, sin, being lost, etc. has had a very wrong spin put on it. Please be advised... I'm not saying that how I see things are the way they are. I'm only saying that what I share here is the way I see things.

Since divorcing the wrathful God I've learned that how I view God will determine how I treat others. A proper idea of God leads to nobility of life. If I see God as Christianity has painted him I become one totally confused individual. I ought to know, I bought it all. I don't know a whole lot about any of the other Masters so I'm not qualified to say much concerning them. I do however know what the New Testament has revealed concerning Jesus.

Aside from things that were written there concerning him that I believe is a misrepresentation of him, I see him as the greatest one that we have record of, that truly loved God and man. He was the one who came to me many years ago and snatched me from a self destructive lifestyle. I was taught from age nine that he was the Savior. I believed this even though it seemingly did little for me until that day in 1969 when he came to me and let me know that I had had been redeemed.

This was the morning after I had gone to someone who knew him for prayer and asked the Father to give me Christ. *“If any man come unto me, I will in no wise cast him out.”* That verse became my experience the next day. That was my first experience of the resurrection. God is LOVE with a capital “L” To the degree the meaning of that comes home to me, peace will take possession of me.

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