

Who Is This God We Serve?

I Am the LORD...

3/8/20

Review

- Examining the foundation for our faith: “Who is this God we serve?”
- Many different opinions among world’s religions and Christians
- God wants us to know who He is more than we want to know Him
- He has chosen to reveal what He wants us to know about Him through the Word
- Last week - the story of God revealing to Israel what He wanted them to know
- Ex 19 - God comes down on Mt Sinai to reveal Himself to Israel

Ex. 19 God speaks to Moses the foundation for what God wants them to know about Him

- He had told them that He would bless them if they would keep His covenant
- Their answer was that they would obey Him (Ex. 19:7-8)
- He had told them that He was showing Himself in this form so they would reverence Him and keep His commandments (Ex. 19:9).
- God knew that they needed a revelation of who He is before they would obey Him
- **Ex 20:18-21** Their response was to run away from His presence and tell Moses that they would do what God said.
- They ended up disobeying God often because they trusted in their own intentions instead of the revelation of who God is

Ex 20:1-3 the foundation for understanding everything about God

I am the LORD

- **I am** - the one who is speaking with them is right then at that time who He is
- **The LORD** (all uppercase =YHWH - Jehovah) - the covenant name God gave Moses Ex 3
- The self-existent one who owes His existence to no one or no thing
- He has always existed - no beginning and no end
- All existence comes from Him
- There is no higher authority than He and all authority comes from Him (Rom 13:1)
- This revelation is the foundation for all of our relationship with Him
 - Our life, every minute comes from Him
 - We are not equals who can debate with Him what we think -

Examples:

Job as an example

- **Job 9:32-33** Under extreme pressure, He argued that it was not fair that he could not bring God before a judge to hear his complaints
- God’s answer was to remind Job, who God is - Job 39-41
- **Job 38:1-12**
- **Job 40:1-9**
- This is another example of God bringing correction by reminding Job who He is

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Jonah - the prophet was angry that God might give the evil Ninevites a chance to repent

In his view, they deserved to be destroyed

God had to use the scorching sun and a feeble plant to teach him

Paul - Rom 9 - explains how God chose Israel to be special, how he chose Pharaoh to make an example of God's power

Paul answers the complaint that God is not fair in these dealings

Rom 9:14-24 -

Who has the right to tell God how to distribute His mercy?

Mercy by definition is not getting what we deserve

If we want God to deal justly, we are all doomed