

Understanding The God We Love (Part 2) (Rightly Dividing What God Said)

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Four Goals in This Series

1. We will look at how God thinks (Isaiah.55:8-9)

8 "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. 9 "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

- 2. We will look at how to rightly divide what scripture says about God
- 3. We will look at Understanding Why God Made Fathers (Father's Day)
- 4. We will look at common assumptions people get wrong about God

I. How to Rightly Divide What Scripture Says About God

1. Let the scripture speak for itself (2 Peter 1:19–21, NIV)

• 20 Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. 21 For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

2. Avoid cultural, <u>classism</u>, or <u>preferentially</u> based interpretations of scripture (Matt.15:7–9, NIV)

• 7 You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you: 8' " These people honor me with

their lips, but their hearts are far from me. 9 They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules."

II. How to Determine if the Big Three Have Infiltrated Your Thinking (Culture, Classism, or Preference)

- 1. When we make God sound like an American
- 2. When we make God sound like our gender with no concern for the other
- 3. When we demand people embrace our form and style of worship preference
- 4. When we prophetically imply that everyone can and should be in our economic class
- 5. When we sound like we do not love the sinner and determine their value by their failures

Next Time: Common Assumptions People Get Wrong About God

Introduction: Three Things People Get Wrong About God

- 1. His Grace (How far will he go? Romans 6)
- 2. His Temperament (What makes Him Angry; Deuteronomy 28)
- **3.** His **Will** (1 John 5:14-15)

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