



## Understanding The God We Love (How God Thinks), Part 1

**Date: June 6, 2021**

**Series Summary:** We are heading into a three-month series about the God we love. I will be teaching twelve sermons that will seek to help you understand the God we love. The study will have three main parts to it.

### **Book for The Season: Knowing God by Tony Evans**

- Moses made a very instructive statement when he said, “Let me know Your ways that I may know You” (Exodus 33:13). To know God’s ways is to know God. To know His ways is to be synced up with what He is doing, to be aligned with His will and rule. It is to be on the same page with God. (Tony Evan)

### **Four Goals In This Series**

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

### **Note: Disclaimer from Our Book of The Season**

- No study of God can be said to be comprehensive for three reasons. The first has to do with the sheer limitation of the **human mind**. A finite mind cannot fully grasp an infinite being. Second is the **moral problem**. The presence of sin, even in our converted state, has limited our capacity for understanding spiritual truth. Third, we have a **resource problem**. God has simply not told us everything about Himself. What He has told us we can know, but He has not revealed everything. (Dr. Tony Evans)

### **Series Text: 2 Timothy 2:15**

- 5 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. (NIV)

### **Defining Our Terms:**

- The word Theology comes from two words, theos (God) and logos (discourse or reason). Combined theology means to have a discourse about God. Two favorite instructors of mine Duffield and Van Cleave describe three categories of theology.

**A. Natural Theology**—The study of God as revealed in the universe and nature (**Romans 1:18-21**)

**B. Biblical Theology**—The study of God as He has revealed Himself to us in the Scriptures

**C. Systematic Theology**—The study of God from nature, from philosophical reasoning and from Scripture put in an organized system.

**Note:** The Impact of your personal theology

- Your theology will impact how you see God in everyday life
- Your theology will impact how you define godly living
- Your theology will impact how you treat others
- Your theology will impact what you expect from yourself

## I. God's Thinking

**Text:** Genesis 1:27-31

### 1. God's Thinking from The Beginning

**A. God wanted mankind to be independent and made in his image** (both male and female)

- 27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God **he created them**; male and female **he created them**.

**B. God wanted mankind to be fruitful rulers that were productive**

- 28 God blessed them and said to them, "**Be fruitful and increase in number**; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground."

**C. God wanted mankind to have an abundant supply of resources**

- 29 Then God said, "**I give you every seed-bearing plant** on the face of the whole earth and **every tree that has fruit** with seed in it. They will be yours for food. 30 And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds in the sky and all the creatures that move along the ground—**everything** that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

**D. God wanted mankind to live in a good environment that was kept up by them**

- 31 **God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.** And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.

**Note:** They had to **till the garden** and keep it up (Genesis 2:15)

- The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it."

### 2. God's Response To Man's Thinking

**A. Man decided to rebel and chose his own path** (Genesis 3:6)

- Genesis 3:6 When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, **she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.** (NIV)

**B. God decided to remove man from a place of blessing that could harm him** (Genesis 3:22-24)

- Genesis 3:22–24 And the Lord God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever." 23 So the Lord God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he



had been taken. 24 After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden cherubim and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

**Note:** Man was no longer **bless-able** in the garden.

**Conclusion:** What did we learn about the God we love?

1. There are boundaries and limits
2. There are consequences and judgments

**Two Closing Questions:**

1. Are you currently living within God's ordained boundaries?
2. Are you living in **consequences and judgments** because you out of alignment?

**Next Time**

- **Online:** How to Understand the God You Love (Part 2)
- **Drive-In Service:** What are you afraid of?