

## THE GOD WHO WEEPS

### I. SUMMUM BONUM - highest good

- a. No greater endeavor: Jeremiah 9:23,24; Philippians 3:7,8; John 17:1-3
- b. Incommunicable attributes - unshared with His creatures (**on board: Self-existent, Omnipresent ["The carnal mind sees God in nothing, not even in spiritual things. The spiritual mind sees Him in everything, even in natural things." - Robert Leighton], Omniscient, Omnipotent, Infinite - [Psalm 145:3; 147:4,5], Eternal, Sovereign ["God is the cause of causes," Christopher Nesse], Incomprehensible: ["You may know God, but not comprehend Him." - R. Baxter] - finite beings cannot comprehend the infinite, either in this world or the next- and that's a good thing! "Men freely admit they don't know more than God, but they fearlessly admit that they know better than God." - D. Skinner), Immutable, Invisible,**
- c. Communicable attributes - shared (**on board: Holiness, Wisdom, Love, Goodness, Truthfulness, Mercy, Faithfulness, Patience, Justice, Righteousness, Wrath, Jealousy, Grace**)

### II. AMOR PATRIS - a loving Father - Existential, relational tension between the **Incommunicable and Communicable** - overarching attribute of Love

- a. Intimate relationship: I John 3:1 (**The name Jehovah carries majesty in it: the name Father carries mercy in it - T. Watson -**) (Underlying theme **throughout the Scriptures**)
- b. Anthropomorphism in Genesis: 1:26,27; 1:1, 2, 3, 4, 17, 22; 2:8; 3:8; 8:21; 21:17; Covenant in chapter 17; (**anthropos - morphe on board**) (**Owen -**

“Men are afraid to have good thoughts of God. They think it is boldness to eye God as good, gracious, tender, kind and loving.”)

- c. Anthropomorphism in Exodus: 6:6; 24:10, 11; 4:4 (lit. ‘the nose of the LORD burned.’) (**Don’t Greek and Roman gods and goddesses share the same ‘humanness’? But sinful.**)
- d. Can we take anthropomorphism literally? **No and yes. John 1:1ff. Phil. 2:5-8.**
- e. Compare false religions: Hinduism (**worship of one true god - Brahman, but there are many others**), Buddhism (**no concept of creator God - the end of suffering is paramount**), Islam (**Allah is merciful and forgiving, but impersonal - there is no Grace in Islam**)

### III. DEUS AFFECTIONEM - **the God of emotion, feeling, passion, affection, sentiment**

- a. Joyful (**just scratching the surface**)
  - i. In Creation - Genesis 1:31 with Job 38:1-7 and Psalm 104:31; (**Beauty, music, taste, relationships, youth and all things sinlessly enjoyed are created and given by their author, the Author of Joy - I Tim. 6:17: Note: Why didn’t Paul use the word, Love? Where in scripture does it say we are to love the things of this world? We are to only love the God of things and those made in His image**)
  - ii. In and with His people - Deut. 30:9; Nehemiah 8:10; Isaiah 62:1-5; John 15:11; 17:13; I Thes. 1:6; Hebrews 11:6;
  - iii. When one repents - Luke 15:20-32; (**vs. 10: What does this say about angels? Echoing the joy of the Lord**)

iv. In Glory - Hebrews 12:2;

b. Angry

- i. In the wilderness: Deut. 9:13, 14, 18-20; **(Is your anger always a righteous anger?)**
- ii. In the Promised Land: Nahum 1:1-3, 6; **(Do you think God is too angry? Last sermon you heard on the Wrath of God?)**
- iii. In the person of Christ: Mark 3:5; John 2:13-17; Rev. 6:16, 17; **(What does Paul say about anger? “Be angry and sin not. Let not the sun go down on your wrath” Eph. 4:26, 31)**

c. Humble

- i. Old Testament: Genesis 3:8; Psalm 113:4-6 **(Rare in O.T.)**
- ii. New Testament: Philippians 2:5-8; Matt. 11:29; 2 Cor. 10:1; **(What is the best way to imitate Christ’s meekness and humility? “We were earth, we are flesh, and we shall soon be worm’s meat.” Henry Smith) and cultivate a biblically based perspective of the pit of sin God lifted you from - we are all Chief of Sinners).**

d. Patient **(“Longsuffering”)**

- i. Exodus 34:6; Psalm 86:15; Romans 2:4; I Peter 3:20;
- ii. When was the last time you showed loving patience? Galatians 5:22, 23. **(“To lengthen my patience is the best way to shorten my troubles. - Geo. Swinnock”**

e. Grieved

- i. In the Old Testament: Genesis 6:5,6; Psalm 78:40; 95:10;

ii. In the New Testament: Ephesians 4:30; Mark 3:5; Luke 19:41; Isaiah 53:3; John 11:35 - Why?