

to punish them," folks say as they close the box.

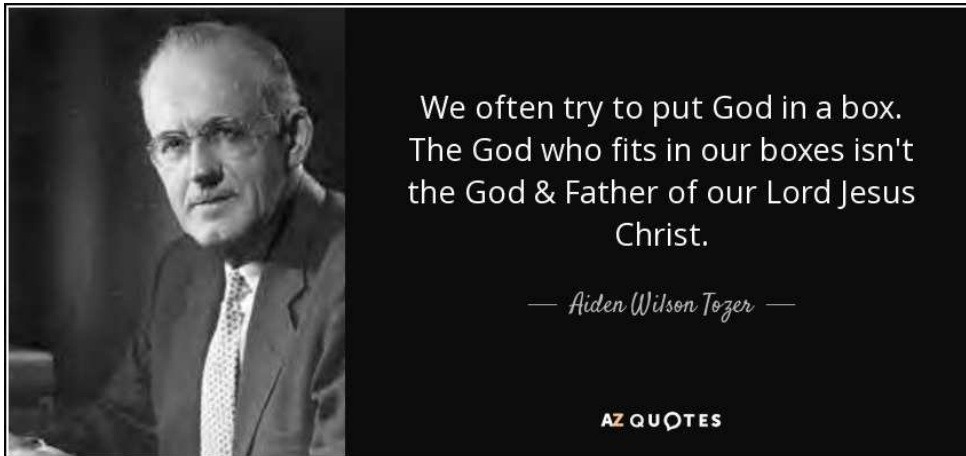
There is no box big enough to put God in. His characteristics are so wide-ranging that we cannot begin to fathom the totality of His being. Sure, He is a God of love, but as Isaiah 2 points out, He is also a God of terror: "The day of the Lord of hosts shall come upon everything proud and lofty, . . . and it shall be brought low" (v.12). That's not the action of a tolerant, anything-goes God.

Our job as God-followers is to know Him as completely as we can. We need to investigate His seemingly opposite characteristics and bow before Him--our glorious, almighty, and complex Lord. --JDB

FOR FURTHER STUDY:

*God is holy (Ex. 3:3-6), yet merciful (Ps. 108:4);
just (Acts 17:30-31), yet loving (Jn. 3:16-17);
unsearchable (Ps. 145:3), yet knowable (Jn. 14:6-9).*

**To strengthen your faith in God,
seek the face of God.**



Central Mountains Baptist Church

DECEMBER 26, 2021

Not A Simple God

Enter into the rock, and hide in the dust, from the terror of the Lord and the glory of His majesty. --Isaiah 2:10

People love to put God in a box. To satisfy their own thinking or to support their side of an argument, they build a box, label it, put God in it, and shrinkwrap it.

One popular box is the "love" box. It's the one people use when they want to think of God as a benevolent grandpa-type character who loves everybody so much He couldn't possibly punish them. No matter what the sin they get involved in, these individuals suggest that God just smiles a big sunshiny smile and looks the other way. "My God loves people too much





ISAIAH'S INSIGHTS SPOTLIGHT ON US

In Isaiah 2-5 we need to observe the two responses of God to our present evil world:

1. What _____ God,
◆ False _____, 2:6,



Romans 12:2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Colossians 3:10 ... put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,



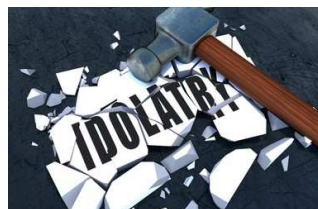
- ◆ M _____, G _____, C _____,
2:7, 3:14-15, 5:8, 5:18

1 Timothy 6:6-10 Now godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. 9 But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.



- ◆ I _____, 2:8-9
◆ R _____, 3:8

John 15:18-20— 18 "If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. 19 If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. 20 Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also.



- ◆ P _____, 3:9, 16-17, 18-23, 5:1-4



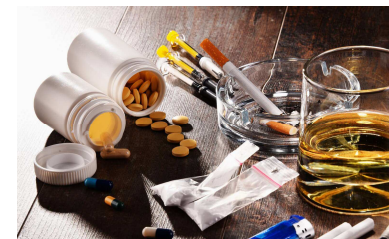
1 Timothy 2:8-9 I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting; 9 in like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing,

1 Peter 3:3-5 Do not let your adornment be merely outward—arranging the hair, wearing gold, or putting on fine apparel—4

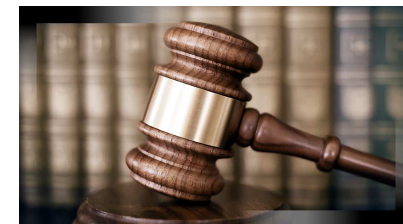


rather let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the incorruptible beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is very precious in the sight of God. 5 For in this manner, in former times, the holy women who trusted in God also adorned themselves, being submissive to their own husbands, **Galatians 5:22-23** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. ...

- ◆ _____ abuse, 5:11, 22



- ◆ Worldly _____, 5:12-13
◆ Political _____, 5:20
◆ I _____, 5:23



Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Acts 1:8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

John 14:1-3 "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. 2 In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

2. What God _____, [Next time] DV