

Everybody wants to be like God

Introduction:

Saved or lost, godly or devilish, everybody wants to be like God. This is true. However, depending on how you desire to be like God changes everything. There is a right way and a wrong way to be like God. If you choose the right way, you have peace, joy, happiness, love, righteousness, fellowship with God, etc. If you choose to the wrong way, you have misery, suffering, no peace, bitterness, sin, and enmity with God.

The Right Way to be Like God

Be like God in the sense of his character and ways

The Wrong Way to be Like God

Be like God in the sense of his power, authority, and glory

Things about the Lord that belong only to the Lord:

He is Almighty and All Powerful (Revelation 19:16, Genesis 17:1).

He is King of kings and Lord of lords, he is the boss, he is over all (Revelation 19:16, Psalm 95:3).

He gets all the glory, honor, praise, and worship (Psalm 29:2, Revelation 4:11, 5:12-14, 7:9-12).

*The Lord said he would not give his glory unto another (Isaiah 42:8, 48:8-12).

The Wrong Way to be Like God

The wrong way to be like God is to desire those things that only belong to the Lord: That would be power, authority, and glory equal to or above the Lord.

Isaiah 14:12-15

Notice in the passage Satan desires to be like the most High (Isaiah 14:14). In what sense? He wants to exalt HIS THRONE (14:13), he wants to sit down in the mount on the highest part of heaven (14:13), he wants to be like God (14:14).

Here we find what Satan desires: Power, Authority, Glory, and Worship.

Satan will give up the kingdoms of this world for worship (Luke 4:5-8). Just like the Father desires worship (John 4:23-24), so does Satan (Revelation 12:4-8, 14-15), and that's why he started all of the false religions (Isaiah 10:5-12). Any worship that goes to any other than Jehovah God, goes to the devil (Deuteronomy 32:15-18). Any worship of idols or images goes to the devil, even if they are suppose to REPRESENT the GOD of ISRAEL (1 Kings 12:28-33).

The problem with most people is they want to be like God in the sense of his power, authority, and glory. These things do not belong to us, they belong to God. He is the Head, he is the Holy One that is alone worthy of worship, He is the Almighty. Now granted, the Lord does delegate authority to his creatures but God is over all.

If your boss at work tells you to do something, and you don't do it, you get in trouble right? Even if you hold a position of authority on your job, you still have to obey the higher authorities right? God is the highest authority, and more specifically, his word is higher than his name (Psalm 138:2).

So when a man desires to do what he wants to do, regardless of what the highest authority says (God's word), he is making his authority equal to or greater than the authority of God's word. This is sin and great wickedness. This is error. Because he is making himself equal to or greater than God when he is not.

Most men are like this. They exalt their words, their minds, their thoughts, their opinions, and their preferences over and against God's word (Isaiah 55:8-9)! This gets you in big trouble! EVERY JUDGMENT IN THE BIBLE IS THE RESULT OF DISOBEYING GOD'S WORD.

You tell someone, this is what God says and they respond but I think... What they are saying is that their authority and their power is greater than or equal to God's.

These people are still running around as gods and are still deceived by the original temptation (Genesis 3:5-7). The proper relationship with God is to be a son of God, not just to be a god. A son of God is subject to God while a god may or may not be subject to God. But all of God's creation is supposed to be subject to him.

Guess what, running around acting like gods without being subject to God gives you a world of sin, death, sorrow, crying, and pain. It gives you wars, murders, lying, stealing, raping, cursing, fornication, evil communications, lusts, idolatry: a world of iniquity etc.

This is why people that are trying to be like God in the forbidden ways (power, authority, and glory) are wicked and full of sin and pride, and are miserable, griping, complaining, negative, cry babies. The sad thing is they continue in this state of trying to be like God in the wrong ways, when if they would just be like God in the right ways, they would have peace, joy, happiness, and GOD as a friend not an enemy!

Instead of having this holier than thou attitude (Isaiah 65:5) that wants nothing to do with God, why not just subject yourself to your Maker the highest authority and enjoy life here and hereafter!

It's kind of like the sin of kids telling their parents what to do. That is insane. That makes no sense. But what do all of us do? God says do this/don't do this and we say but Dad! I want to... I don't like... Your mean... You're not fair... and we miss out on a great relationship with our Heavenly Father.

I remember one time at work, a guy I work with said he had one son and three girls and his son was the only one that ever figured him out. He said his son would tell his three sisters what they needed to do in order to get along with their father and get whatever they wanted. What was that needful thing that the father required of his children? It was one simple thing: do what I say. If you do what I tell you to do, everything will be good and all I have is yours. If you don't do what I say, there is going to be problems and

good things will be withheld from you (Jeremiah 5:25). That's how God is! He expects us to obey what he says. It's so simple, even a caveman can do it!

Who are we to tell God what to do? Who are we to disobey God? Are we greater than he? Are we his equal? (Isaiah 10:15-16, Romans 9:15-21). No we are not his equal, and we are not greater than him.

Can you imagine you are forming clay into a pot and the clay says to you, what are you doing? I don't want to be a pot. I want to be a spoon. Guess what? The clay has no power and no authority to do anything about anything. He is in the hands and mercy of the potter. The potter decides what he wants to do. The potter decides what he wants to make, not vice versa.

People are like that. They cry and gripe and complain about God, why he does and doesn't do what they think he should do and shouldn't do and at the end of the day, it don't matter: God is going to do what pleases him!

God I don't think you should do this to me. God is going to do what he wants to do. God I don't think this is fair. God is going to do what he wants to do. God I don't think Jesus is the only way. God is going to do what he wants to do. God I don't think it's right to punish people for all eternity because of sin. God is going to do what he wants to do. Hey listen, **GOD IS GOING TO DO WHAT HE WANTS TO DO!**

It's kind of like working with a PC computer. You click on the start menu and it doesn't open. You click again and it still doesn't open. You click again and then the start menu opens and closes two times and then opens up a program you are not interested in using. You get ticked off right? You say, come on stupid computer why don't you do what I want you to do? When I click on the start menu, the start menu is supposed to open. You are not doing what you were created to do! What is your problem!

The Lord looks down from heaven upon the sons of men and says you foolish people you are not doing what you were created to do! I created you for my glory and pleasure, I created you to have fellowship with me, I created you to walk in my ways and obey my voice because it is well with you to do so, **AND YE WOULD NOT!**

That's why you are miserable, that's why you are sad, that's why you are full of sin. That's why there is death, sorrowing, crying, and pain: **YOU ARE NOT DOING WHAT YOU WERE CREATED TO DO!** You are not fulfilling your purpose! That's why things are the way they are. This is the result of not doing what I say!

God said if you would just obey my words you would have peace (Isaiah 48:16-19).

What's the problem?

Man is trying to be like God in the wrong ways and that's what causes all of his problems and sorrows. This is true for the saved and lost.

The Right Way to be Like God

One day praise God we will be just like God (Romans 8:29-30, Psalm 17:15, Colossians 3:10, 1 John 3:2). Not in the sense of his power, authority, and glory, but in the sense of being fully conformed to his character and ways. It is God's desire for you to start being like him now, not waiting until you get your new body. If our end is to be conformed to the likeness of Christ, let's start working towards that now (Romans 12:1-2, Philippians 3:8-16)

God requires us to be like God in the sense of his character and ways. He wants us to be holy because he is holy; he wants us to be just because he is just; he wants us to love one another because he loves all; he wants us to be faithful because he is faithful, he wants us to be merciful and forgiving because he is those things.

Love God with all your being (Deuteronomy 6:4-5)

Love God and walk in his ways (Deuteronomy 10:12-13, John 14:21-24)

What is the purpose of life?

1. Seek the LORD and find him (Acts 17:23-27)

2. Walk in his ways that you might have fellowship with him (Genesis 3:8-9, 1 Corinthians 1:9, 1 John 1:3-10) and get to know him (John 17:3) – this pleases God (Revelation 4:11)

***If you have sought the LORD and found him and are now walking in his ways, YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO THERE IS NO GREATER JOY OR HAPPINESS IN LIFE THAT KNOWING GOD AND FELLOWSHIPPING WITH HIM!**

Someone says you don't drink anymore, why not? I still drink but I don't drink what I use to drink. I drink of that one Spirit by which I was born again. I drink LIVING WATER that proceeds from God! It does have an intoxicating affect, but not the way you are thinking of: this is far better! This is the best wine I ever had (Song of Solomon 1:2, 8:7, 5:9-16)!

Someone says you don't curse anymore? Why would I do that with my tongue when I can give thanks and praise to my lovely Saviour? Why use my tongue for evil when I can use it for good?

So you're saying you don't live according to the lusts of your flesh and mind anymore like we do (1 Peter 4:1-5)? That's right I don't. Because living like that kept me far from my Maker. Living like that brought confusion, strife, wickedness, idolatry, lying, gossiping, cursing, evil communications, and no peace. Sure every now and then it brought pleasure in sin for a season. BUT God forbid that I should take pleasure in sin: that is evil. Why would I want sinful pleasures when I can have holy pleasure that far exceeds sinful pleasure?

Well I think you are crazy and a nut job and I can no longer like you and be friends. That's how they usually respond isn't it? Listen, you didn't curse them, you didn't rob them, you didn't do any evil to them (you were like that towards them before you got saved), but now they want nothing to do with you now because Jesus. Isn't that a strange thing?

John 13:13-17

What is Jesus saying here? He is Lord over all. And if he being the Lord over all, washes your feet, you should do the same towards others. You wouldn't think the highest authority would leave his big office in Manhattan and come down to clean toilets in a store over which he is the head right? But that's what Jesus did. He left the 3rd heaven where he was praised and worshipped and adored and loved by an innumerable company of angels and heavenly creatures to try and win back the hearts of man whom he created with his love.

We are not the Lord of all. We don't have power and authority equal to or greater than God. We don't deserve the glory, honor, worship, and praise: that belongs to God. And if the Almighty God that possesses these things, humbled himself in such a way to serve others, how much more should we humble ourselves and no longer live for self but live for God (2 Corinthians 5:14-15, Galatians 2:19-20)? The fact of the matter is this: you will get more satisfaction, peace, joy, and happiness out of life when you live for God than if you live for yourself. If you live for yourself it is not as rewarding and fulfilling as if you live for Jesus.

Jesus said happy are ye if ye do them. Who doesn't want to be happy? If do what Christ did, humbling yourself and serving others, you will be happy.

So let's be like God in the right ways, let's not be like God in the wrong ways.