

# The Personality of God

## I. Introduction

Definition—Webster, 1828

PERSONAL'ITY, n. That which constitutes an individual a distinct person, or that which constitutes individuality.

The personality of an intelligent being extends itself beyond present existence to what is past, only by consciousness--

1. Direct application or applicability to a person; as the personality of a remark.

Is God a person like us?

No, we are a person like Him, being created in His image. Of course, that image has become deeply marred by sin!

## II. The Relative Natures of God and Man.

1. **God** is a pure, underived, self-conscience, self-determining, self-dependent, self-manifesting, holy, living being, and is thus **PERSONAL**
2. **Man** has a derived, limited personal existence, being self-conscious, self-regulating, self-manifesting, and alive, in the image of God—but he has become unholy through his disbelief and disobedience (sin). No attempt should ever be made to place the personality of man on God; rather, man was made in the image of God.  
*Gen 1:26, 27*
3. God is perfectly **self-conscious** or **self-aware**, declaring to Moses, “I am.”  
*Exo 3:13, 14*
4. Through His active **self-expression** or **self-manifestation** God reveals His personality. As the scripture reveals the emotions of God, the names of God, and the glory of God, the **attributes** and **essential existence** of God are revealed.
5. **Man** was created to have **personal fellowship** with God and a godly personality. The corruption of man’s person and personality caused a breach in the personal fellowship between God and man. The holy God cannot enjoy fellowship with an unholy man. The man must be reconciled back into the fellowship of God (God did not change, will not change, and cannot change). The man must be born again, made anew, in the likeness of the last Adam. That new soul is made holy, kept holy by the Holy spirit, but to enjoy the sweetness of a personal relationship with God, man has to be completely changed. Man’s corrupted **intellect**, **will** and **emotions** can find correction and stability in the intellect, will, and emotions of the holy God.

**6. An Important Fact Regarding Converted Man:**

Redemption does not merely restore a sinner to the image of the first Adam but to the full image of the last Adam, Jesus Christ who is the **express image of God**.

*Rom 8:29; Rom 5:17-21*

**III. A personal relationship with God has many facets. He can be found to be:**

**1. The truest Friend.**

*Exo 33:11*

**2. A merciful Helper.**

*Heb 13:6*

**3. A steadfast Sovereign.**

*Isa 46:10; Psa 33:11*

**4. The kindest Father.**

*Mat 7:11;*

*Rom 8:15, 16*

**IV. The Emotions of God.**

Definition—Webster, 1828

EMO'TION, n. [L. emotio; emoveo, to move from.]

1. Literally, a moving of the mind or soul; hence, any agitation of mind or excitement of sensibility.

2. In a philosophical sense, an internal motion or agitation of the mind which passes away without desire; when desire follows, the motion or agitation is called a passion.

3. Passion is the sensible effect, the feeling to which the mind is subjected, when an object of importance suddenly and imperiously demands its attention. The state of absolute passiveness, in consequence of any sudden percussive of mind, is of short duration. The strong impression, or vivid sensation, immediately produces a reaction correspondent to its nature, either to appropriate and enjoy, or avoid and repel the exciting cause. This reaction is very properly distinguished by the term emotion.

Emotions therefore, according to the genuine signification of the word, are principally and primarily applicable to the sensible changes and visible effects, which particular passions produce on the frame, in consequence of this reaction, or particular agitation of mind.

**The Bible records the expressions of emotions and feelings of the Triune God:**

**1. God the Father:**

**a. Joy, delight, gladness, laughter.**

*Psa 2:4; Psa 104:31; Isa 65:19*

**b. Compassion, pity, concern, mercy.**

*Psa 78:38; Eze 36:21*

**c. Zeal.**

*Isa 9:7*

d. **Sorrow, grief, fury, indignation, jealousy.**

*Psa 119:158, 163; 95:10; Isa 43:24*

e. **Anger, wrath.**

*Zep 2:1, 2; Num 11:1*

**2. God the Son.**

a. **Joy, gladness, wonder, astonishment.**

*Mat 8:10; Mar 6:6*

b. **Compassion, pity, mercy, sympathy.**

*Mat 9:36; Heb 2:17*

c. **Sorrow, anguish, grief, woe.**

*Isa 53:3 Mat 26:37, 38; Joh 13:21*

d. **Tears, sighs, groaning.**

*Joh 11:33, 35,38; Mar 7:34; Mar 8:12; Heb 5:7*

e. **Rebuke, warning, condemnation.**

*Mar 8:33; Mat 17:18*

f. **Anger, indignation, sternness, irritation.**

*Mar 3:5; Joh 2:17; Rev 6:16; Rev 6:17*

**3. God the Holy Spirit.**

a. **Grief.**

*Isa 63:10; Eph 4:30*

b. **Sympathetic groaning.**

*Rom 8:26*

**V. The God of Emotion and Feeling Communicates with Man.**

1. The personal emotional God created a man that is an emotional being—so man can fellowship more fully with God. But it must be noted that God is an **infinite**, perfect, emotional spirit while man is a **finite**, emotional, carnal creature.

2. God's basic requirement of man includes an emotional response:

*Deu 6:4, 5*

3. God communicates a full range of personality trait from which human personality is derived, however, human personality is regulated by either an **unholy** or a **holy** state of the heart. The unregenerate person will be "shapen" after the image of Satan, and the regenerate person by the Holy Spirit.

*Psa 51:5; Gal 5:22-25*

**VI. Personality Traits of God.**

**God is:**

1. **Knowable.**

*Joh 10:14-16*

2. **Welcoming.**

*Mat 11:28; Rev 3:20, 21*

3. **Creative.**  
*Gen 1:1*  
**Is God still creative?**  
*2Co 5:17; Joh 14:1-3*

4. **Forgiving.**  
*Act 13:38*

5. **Honest.**  
*Psa 119:105; Deu 32:4*

#### **Additional Personality Traits of God**

**God is:**

6. **Gentle.**  
*Mat 11:28-30; 2Co 10:1*

7. **Loving.**  
*Joh 3:16; Psa 100:5*

8. **Kind.**  
*Gen 32:10*

9. **Compassionate.**  
*Deu 30:1-3*

10. **Faithful, True, Loyal, and Trustworthy.**  
*Psa 100:4,*

11. **Merciful.**  
*Deu 4:31*  
*Lev 11:44,*

13. **Perfect.** (def.-- Finished; complete; consummate; not defective; having all that is requisite to its nature and kind; as a perfect statue; a perfect likeness; a perfect work; a perfect system)  
*Deu 32:*

14. **Just and Impartial.**  
*2Ch 19:7*

15. **Jealous.**  
*Exo 20:4-6*

16. **Anger and Wrath.**  
*Ezr 5:12; Deu 29:26-*

#### **VII. Conclusion.**

**Learning about the Personality of God is a Progression:**

1. Hearing about Him in the Gospel.  
*Rom 10:14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?*
2. Having a personal experience with Him through repentance and grace by the work of the Holy Spirit.

3. Walking with Him daily after regeneration.  
*Joh 15:14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.*
4. Reading about Him in the Word and being instructed by the Holy Ghost.  
*Joh 16:14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.*