

**January 26th, 2020**  
**Series: God Has A Name**  
**Part 2: Most Importantly**

What are some things you remember from last Sunday's message?

Was there anything that resonated with you?

Was there anything you wrestled with?

Is there anything about God that is a little unsettling to you, or is difficult for you to embrace?

How does your view of God impact your life?

How does your view of God affect...

- ... the way you view yourself?
- ... the way you see others?
- ... the way you see the world?
- ... the decisions you make?

A.W. Tozer once wrote: *"A low view of God is the cause of a hundred lesser evils. A high view of God is the solution to 10,000 temporal problems."* What do you think he meant by that?

READ: Exodus 34:5-7 (NIV)

*"Yahweh, Yahweh, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation."*

What is your favorite God-characteristic on this list? *Why?*

What is your least favorite? *Why?*

According to Hebrew writing, what are God's dominant characteristics in the list?

How do you know?

What on the list might be considered of lesser importance?

READ: Psalm 51: 1-2 (Including the introductory)

*For the director of music. A psalm of David. When the prophet Nathan came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.*

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

The introductory says that David committed adultery. What else did he do?

Do you think God forgave David?

Did God punish David? How so?

READ: 2 Samuel 12:7-14

“The Lord, the God of Israel, says: I anointed you king of Israel and saved you from the power of Saul. I gave you your master’s house and his wives and the kingdoms of Israel and Judah. And if that had not been enough, I would have given you much, much more. Why, then, have you despised the word of the Lord and done this horrible deed? For you have murdered Uriah the Hittite with the sword of the Ammonites and stolen his wife. From this time on, your family will live by the sword because you have despised me by taking Uriah’s wife to be your own. “This is what the Lord says: Because of what you have done, I will cause your own household to rebel against you. I will give your wives to another man before your very eyes, and he will go to bed with them in public view. You did it secretly, but I will make this happen to you openly in the sight of all Israel.” Then David confessed to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.” Nathan replied, “Yes, but the Lord has forgiven you, and you won’t die for this sin. Nevertheless, because you have shown utter contempt for the word of the Lord by doing this, your child will die.” 2 Samuel 12:7–14 (NLT)

Christians believe (and the Bible seems to indicate) that Jesus took the punishment of our sins upon himself when he was crucified on the cross. Does that mean that God no longer punishes people for their sin?

Some say “sin is its own punishment.” Do you agree or disagree?

Does God ever change his mind? What might be an example from the Bible?

Have you ever figuratively jumped out a 44th floor window? How did that go for you?