What Is God Really Like?

"God's a big meanie who'll send you to hell if you don't do everything that He wants you to do." That's what a lot of people think about God. And they couldn't be more wrong. Isaiah sets the record straight about what God is really like. Let's see what he has a to say.

When it comes to God, I believe that…

1. He is God and there is _____.

16 Half of the wood he burns in the fire; over it he prepares his meal, he roasts his meat and eats his fill. He also warms himself and says, "Ah! I am warm; I see the fire." 17 From the rest he makes a god, his idol; he bows down to it and worships. (Isaiah 44:16,17)

- He is not a God of my _____.

1) The God of reality is the God who _____.

I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.' (Isaiah 46:10)

Isaiah 41:21-24

2) The God of reality is the God who _____.

Turn to me and be saved, all you ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is no other. (Isaiah 45:22)

Even though someone cries out to [their idol], it cannot answer; it cannot save them from their troubles. (Isaiah 46:7)

3) The God of reality is the God who _____.

Bel bows down, Nebo stoops low; their idols are borne by beasts of burden. The images that are carried about are burdensome, a burden for the weary…. 3 "Listen to me, you descendants of Jacob, all the remnant of the people of Israel, you whom I have upheld since your birth, and have carried since you were born. 4 Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you. (Isaiah 46:1,3,4)

2. He doesn't suspend reality for the _____.

1) God calls for _____.

18 "Come now, let us settle the matter," says the Lord. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. 19 If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land; 20 but if you resist and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword." For the mouth of the Lord has spoken. (Isaiah 1:18-19)

2) God warns about _____.

but if you resist and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword." For the mouth of the Lord has spoken. (Isaiah 1:20)

6 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. 7 Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. (Isaiah 55:6,7)

3. He is _____ me and truly _____ me.

1) God has not _____ me.

15 "Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! 16 See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me. (Isaiah 49:15,16)

2) God holds me _____.

He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young. (Isaiah 40:11)

3) God is my _____.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. (Isaiah 43:2)

4) I am His _____ and _____.

3 You will be a crown of splendor in the Lord's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God. 4 No longer will they call you Deserted, or name your land Desolate. But you will be called Hephzibah, and your land Beulah; for the Lord will take delight in you, and your land will be married. 5 As a young man marries a young woman, so will your Builder marry you; as a bridegroom rejoices over his bride, so will your God rejoice over you. (Isaiah 62:3–5)

- Hephzibah= My _____ is in her

The God of reality has always been an incredibly loving and gracious God who deeply desires a relationship with me. And I want a relationship with Him, too. I want to know Him for the heart that He has and not be bound by my confused or inadequate understanding of Him. Praise His glorious name!