



Our Powerful Compassionate God

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Love UnVeiled

Transforming Women into God's Image of Beauty

***“I don’t know which brings greater healing -
Jesus’ power or His compassion”*** (Magdalena Movie)

Discussion - What do you think about God when you read - “*Our Powerful, Compassionate God?*”

When we call on His name do we know Him as

- God of power and authority?
- God of Compassion and Comfort?

***Be still **and KNOW** that I am GOD
Psalm 46:10***

***Now this is eternal life: that they **Know You**, the only true God,
and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. John 17:3***

Do you show contempt for the riches of His
kindness, forbearance, and patience, not realizing that
God’s kindness is intended to lead you to repentance.
Romans 2:4 (NIV)

For **His divine power** has bestowed on us [absolutely] everything
necessary for [a dynamic spiritual] life and godliness, through
true **and personal knowledge of Him** who called us by His own glory
and excellence **2 Peter 1:3 (AMP)**

- There is no “secret knowledge” or “better way” or alternative belief
system which God has revealed to some unique group or teacher. The
truth is available to everyone. (AMP Commentary)

KNOW - LOVE – TRUST – FREEDOM - To Love and Serve others

“Trauma is perhaps the greatest mission field of the 21st century” Christian Counselor Diane Lanberg.

“It is the love and compassion of the church which is opening the doors for the gospel.” Moldova team caring for Ukraine refugee women and children.

1. DO I KNOW GOD IN HIS POWER AND COMPASSION?

- **Power** - the ability to act or have influence over others.
- **Authority** - the power or right to give orders, make decisions, and enforce obedience.
- **Compassion** - sensitive to the emotional suffering of others. Motivates people to go out of their way to relieve physical, mental, and emotional pains of others and themselves.

Psalm 96:4-6: For the LORD *is* great and greatly to be praised; He *is* to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples *are* idols, But the LORD made the heavens. Honor and majesty *are* before Him; Strength and beauty *are* in His sanctuary.

Psalm 115:1-8 Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, But to Your name give glory, Because of Your mercy, Because of Your truth. Why should the Gentiles (nations) say, *“So where is their God?”* **But our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases. Their idols are silver and gold, The work of men’s hands.** They have mouths, but they do not speak; Eyes they have, but they do not see; They have ears, but they do not hear; Noses they have, but they do not smell; They have hands, but they do not handle; Feet they have, but they do not walk; Nor do they mutter through their throat. Those who make them are like them; *So is* everyone who trusts in them. (Read also **Psalm 135:4-18**)

Isaiah 51:12-16 *“I, even I, am He Who comforts you. Who are you that you should be afraid of a man who will die, and of the son of a man who will be made like grass? And you forget the Lord your Maker, Who stretched out the heavens And laid the foundations of the earth; You have feared continually every day because of the fury of the oppressor, when he has prepared to destroy. And where is the fury of the oppressor? The captive exile hastens, that he may be loosed, that he should not die in the pit, and that his bread*

should not fail. But I am the Lord your God, Who divided the sea whose waves roared— The Lord of hosts is His name. And I have put My words in your mouth; I have covered you with the shadow of My hand, That I may plant the heavens, Lay the foundations of the earth, and say to Zion, 'You are My people.'

- **God Proclaims His Character and Glory**

Read Exodus 33:12-23

- **Exodus 33:19 NIV** And the LORD said, *"I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and **I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.**"*
- **Exodus 34:6-7 NIV** And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, *"The LORD, the LORD, **the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness,**⁷**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."*

God's Character: Goodness - His Name, Lord - Mercy - Compassionate - Gracious - Patient - Abounding in Love and faithfulness - Forgiving - Just.

Jeremiah 9:23-24 NIV *"Let not the wise boast of their wisdom or the strong boast of their strength or the rich boast of their riches but let the one who boasts boast about this: **that they have the understanding to KNOW Me,** that **I am the LORD,** who **exercises (loving) kindness, justice and righteousness** on earth, **for in these I delight,**" declares the LORD.*

- **God's Compassion for His people**

2 Chronicles 36:15: And the LORD God of their fathers sent *warnings* to them by His messengers, rising up early and sending *them*, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place.

Psalms 86:15 But You, O Lord, *are* a God full of compassion, and gracious, Longsuffering, and abundant in mercy and truth.

Read Psalm 103:1-15. v4 Who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion (NIV)

Psalm 145:8-9 The LORD *is* gracious and full of compassion, Slow to anger and great in mercy. ⁹The LORD *is* good to all, And His **tender mercies are over all His works.**

- **Isaiah Portrays God's Power and Compassion**

- Chapters 1-39 - God as sovereign, powerful sitting on the throne, His law, His burden, His judgement.
- Chapters 40-66 - the Lord as Savior, the powerful love of God, the blessing and joy of the Lord

Isaiah 40

1 ***"Comfort, yes, comfort My people!"*** Says your God.

2 ***"Speak comfort to (to the heart of) Jerusalem, and cry out to her, that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned; for she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins."*** (Sin debt is paid by Jesus).

9 O Zion, you who bring good tidings, get up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, you who bring good tidings, lift up your voice with strength, Lift it up, be not afraid; Say to the cities of Judah, - ***"Behold your God!"***

His Power:

¹⁰**Behold, the Lord God shall come (in strength) with a strong hand,** And His arm shall rule for Him; Behold, His reward *is* with Him, And His (recompense) work before Him.

His Compassion:

¹¹**He will feed His flock like a shepherd;** He will gather the lambs with His arm, and carry *them* in His bosom, *and* gently lead those who are with young.

¹² Who has measured the waters (of the sea) in the hollow of His hand, measured heaven with a span (a hands width) And calculated the dust of the earth in a measure? weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?

Reflection: God is both Powerful Creator and Gentle Shepherd:

Isaiah 40 v 18-26 God Declares His Power

18 To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare to Him? ¹⁹ The workman molds an image, The goldsmith overspreads it with gold, And the silversmith casts silver chains. ²⁰ Whoever *is* too impoverished for *such* a contribution (offering) chooses a tree *that* will not rot; He seeks for himself a skillful workman to prepare a carved image *that* will not totter.

²¹ Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²² *It is* He who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.

²³ He (reduces) brings the princes to nothing; He makes the judges of the earth useless.

²⁵ "To whom then will you liken Me, or to whom shall I be equal?" says the Holy One. ²⁶ "Lift up your eyes on high, and see who has created these things, who brings their host by number, He calls them all by name, **By the greatness of His might and the strength of His power, not one is missing.**"

- Who do you compare God to? Who or what do you put in a higher place than God and make that your trust?

Isaiah 40:27-31 God declares His Compassion for the weak

²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel: “My way is hidden from the LORD, and my just claim is passed over by my God”? ²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, The Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹ He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength. ³⁰ Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall name, utterly fall, ³¹ But those who wait (wait upon, trust, hope) on the LORD shall renew *their* strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Reflection

- *“The Israelites of this day, didn’t dispute God’s greatness as much as they questioned His care.”*
- Do you believe God cares about you and about your needs with compassion, or do you question His care for you? Why?

Isaiah 41

8 You Israel are My servant;...9...***I have chosen you and have not cast you away.*** ¹⁰***Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.***'

Isaiah 43

1 But now, thus says the LORD, ***who created you, O Jacob, And He who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by your name; you are Mine.***

10 You are My witnesses," says the LORD, "And My servant whom I have chosen, ***that you may know and believe Me, and understand that I am He. Before Me there was no God formed, nor shall there be after Me. I, even I, am the LORD, and besides Me there is no savior.***

Isaiah 43:25 NIV "I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more."

Isaiah 46:3-4 ... ***who have been upheld by Me from birth, who have been carried from the womb: 4 Even to your old age, I am He, and even to gray hairs I will carry you!*** I have made, and I will bear; Even I will carry, and will deliver you."

Isaiah 49:10, 13-16 NIV Shout for joy, you heavens; rejoice, you earth; burst into song, you mountains! ***For the Lord comforts His people and will have compassion on his afflicted ones. But Zion said,*** "The Lord has forsaken me, the Lord has forgotten me." "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! ***See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands...***

Isaiah 50

2 ... ***Is My hand shortened at all that it cannot redeem? Or have I no power to deliver?...***

4 "The Lord GOD has given Me The tongue of the learned, ***That I should know how to speak A word in season to him who is weary. He awakens Me morning by morning; He awakens My ear to hear as the learned.***

- **Good News from our powerful compassionate God**

Isaiah 61:1-4 “The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon Me,
Because the LORD has anointed Me
To preach good tidings to the poor;
He has sent Me to ^[a]heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives,
And the opening of the prison to *those who are* bound;
²To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD,
And the day of vengeance of our God;
To comfort all who mourn,
³To ^[b]console those who mourn in Zion,
To give them beauty for ashes,
The oil of joy for mourning,
The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;
That they may be called trees of righteousness,
The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.”

Reflection

Reflect on the verses from Session 1. Which verse/s have impacted you about God’s power and compassion? Why?

What more is God revealing to you about Himself?

How does this impact your relationship with Him?

2. GOD'S POWER AND COMPASSION THROUGH JESUS

2 Corinthians 4:6 For God, who said, *“Let light shine out of darkness,”* made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of God’s glory displayed in the face of Christ.

“I don’t know which brought more healing – Jesus’ power, or His compassion” Magdalena Movie

- Power, Authority, Compassion (see page 3)

John 1: 29 John the Baptist cried - *“Behold! **The lamb of God** who takes away the sin of the world.”*

- **God’s heart as a lamb is revealed through Jesus. Horns show His power but clothed in gentleness and humility.**

Luke 4:1-14 Jesus was baptized, empowered by the Holy Spirit and led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by Satan for 40 days. Jesus returned **in the power of the Spirit** to Galilee...

Luke 4:18-21 Jesus reveals Himself as the anointed one who came to fulfill the prophesy of Isaiah 61.

*18 “The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me,
Because He has anointed Me
To preach the gospel to the poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives
And recovery of sight to the blind,
To set at liberty those who are oppressed;
19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD.”* Luke 4:18-19

Mark’s Gospel 1:1 The Gospel of Jesus Christ **the Son of God**

Jesus begins His ministry, immediately demonstrating His power, His authority, and His compassion - over demons, over sickness, over sin, over religion, over creation, over death, and for provision.

- **His AUTHORITY**

- **Power and authority over DEMONIC**

- **Power and Compassion Over SICKNESS**

- **Power and Compassion Over SIN**

- **Power and Compassion Over RELIGION**

- **Power and Compassion Over CREATION**

- **Power and Compassion Over DEATH**

- **Power and Compassion for PROVISION.**

- **Compassion for CHILDREN**

- **God's Greatest Demonstration of Power and Compassion – The CROSS - and RESURRECTION**

- Isaiah 53:4-7

- John 3:16-17

- Hebrews 2:9-16 ⁹But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.

Demonic spirits, Sickness, Sin, Religion, Creation, Death must all bow to Jesus' power & authority.

- **Power in Love, Obedience, Humility and Sacrifice**

- **Philippians 2:6-11**
 - **Ephesians 1:18-22**
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- **Our Future Hope in God's Power and Compassion**

In Revelation God's power and His heart as a lamb, are revealed through Jesus on the throne.

- **Revelation 4** Gods' Power and Glory
- **Revelation 5:6** In the midst of the throne...stood a Lamb as though it had been slain.
- **Revelation 5:8** They bowed down and worshipped the Lamb
- **Revelation 14:1, 4** A Lamb standing on Mount Zion
- **Revelation 19:7** Marriage Supper of the Lamb
- **Revelation 19:10** Blessed are those called to the Marriage Supper of the Lamb!
- **Revelation 21:9** The Bride, the Lamb's wife.
- **Revelation 21:22-23** The Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple...The Lamb is its light.
- **Revelation 21:27** only those in the Lamb's book of life enter the Holy City.

Reflection

Which demonstrations of Jesus' power and compassion have most impacted you today? Why?

3. HOW DO WE EXPERIENCE GOD'S POWER AND COMPASSION?

- God's power and compassion are drawn to broken, humble, contrite hearts

Isaiah 57:15 For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: ***"I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite (repentant) and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones."***

Isaiah 66:1-2 ***"Heaven is My throne, and earth is My footstool. Where is the house that you will build Me? And where is the place of My rest? For all those things My hand has made, and all those things exist,"*** says the LORD. ***"But on this one will I look: On him who is poor and of a contrite (repentant) spirit, and who trembles at My word."***

- His Power and Compassion are Released by Faith and Need

Power and compassion flow when we come to the end of our own resources in humility and submission to God

- Isaiah 30:15-18 This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: ***"In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength,"*** but you would have none of it. ¹⁶You said, 'No, we will flee on horses.' Therefore, you will flee! You said, 'We will ride off on swift horses.' Therefore, your pursuers will be swift! ¹⁷A thousand will flee at the threat of one; at the threat of five you will all flee away, till you are left like a flagstaff on a mountaintop, like a banner on a hill." ¹⁸Yet he LORD longs to be gracious to you; therefore, **He will rise up to show you compassion.** For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!

- **Have faith - not in faith but in God.**
 - **Mark 11:22** So Jesus answered them and said to them ***“Have faith in God.”***
 - **Mark 1:40-41**
 - Jesus responds with compassion to those who _____ to Him, who _____ Him, who _____ to His Lordship, and who _____ believing He is the only one who can help.
 - **Mark 5:25-43** Woman with blood, Jairus and his daughter
 - **Mark 6:4-6** He could do no works because they had unbelief. He healed a few sick and He marveled at their unbelief...
 - **Mark 9:17-29** Father brings son with Demonic mute spirit and asks for Jesus' compassion. *“Help my unbelief”*

We don't come to a God who does not understand our weakness, our fears our trials and our sorrows but to a God who has compassion for us and has power to act on our behalf.

He invites us to come to Him. He is ready with a word for us in every weary situation

*“Jesus left glory and came to this traumatized world. He left His position of power and He bent over us as a servant. He got in our skin, so He knows what it is like to be us. **And he listened. Oh, how he listened.** He was fully present to the truth of this groaning creation and has been eternally impacted by its evil and suffering. He sat with us here. He bestowed honor to crushed human beings, and He reached out in love. He did not flee the atrocities of this world or our hearts. He is the crucified one, the traumatized one.*

The traumatized will not fit neatly into programs there is no quick success. The numbers are overwhelming, the help comes one by one. But it is the way our Lord went. (Diane Lanberg, Healing Trauma)

- Isaiah 50:4 NIV *"The Sovereign Lord has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed."*
- Mathew 11:28-30 *Come to Me all you who are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*
- **Desert or Wilderness seasons and trials are where we experience God's power and compassion. (Hosea 2:14-23)**

- **2 Corinthians 1:3-4** Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies **and God of all comfort**, ⁴ who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any ^[a]trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.
- **2 Corinthians 12:9** And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for **My strength is made perfect in weakness.**" Therefore, most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, **that the power of Christ may rest upon me**
- The Lord will take us through difficulty and trials because we cannot relate to others until we have experienced the baptism of fire in our own life
- **Intimacy - *When you make intimacy with Christ your top priority, you tap into His power. We also need to be willing to "suffer with Him."*** (Word for You Today April 4, 2022)

- Phil 3:10 *"I want to know Christ and **experience the power that raised him from the dead** and share in the fellowship of His sufferings*

*"We have become so focused on our comfort. But in light of Ukraine, we realize it's not important. **What is important is to have someone to share with, someone to listen, to have someone who cares.** The faces of the women coming from Ukraine are frozen, they look mad and angry. But when we approach them and ask what they need and listen to them, they open like flowers. They show us pictures of their husbands, their homes their families. They open their hearts to us. They are open in their hearts to receive hope, to hear about a God who cares for them. Maybe this crisis will help us to come back to God and back to what is real and important in life. (Angie Moldova ministering with Ukraine Refugees.)*

We have power and comfort and hope through the Word of God and the Holy Spirit.

- **The Word of God is living and powerful** (Hebrews 4:12-13)

- **Holy Spirit** - God indwells His people through His Holy Spirit, filling us with His power and compassion
 - Zechariah 4:6 ***Not by might, not by power, but by My Spirit says the Lord Almighty***
 - Act 1:8 Holy Spirit given to empower the church

- **Ephesians 1:18-19, 3:20, 6:10** His power towards us, in us, and through us,
- **Ephesians 6:10** Be strong in the Lord and the power of His might
- Paul said our gospel is not in word only but in power.

“We have to have absolute conviction of God’s faithfulness and His power working through us” (Joseph Bondarenko, Ukraine preacher tortured and imprisoned under communism)

- **Prayer is the key to heaven; Faith unlocks the door.**

- Speak out boldly. Heb 13:5,6 We can boldly say *“The Lord is my helper, I will not fear, what can man do to me?”*
- Pray God’s Word

We believe in your power oh God!

- **2 Chronicles 14:11** And Asa cried out to the LORD his God, and said, ***“LORD, it is nothing for You to help, whether with many or with those who have no power; help us, O LORD our God, for we rest on You, and in Your name, we go against this multitude. O LORD, You are our God; do not let man prevail against You!”***
- **Romans 8:26-29** Likewise, **the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses.** For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. ²⁷ Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit *is*, because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*.

²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose. ²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

- **Go to the secret place every day, dependent on Him and call on Him. Ask, Seek, Knock every day** (Matthew 7:7-9)

Pray His word believing in His power and His compassion.

- **Psalm 94:19** In the multitude of my anxieties within me, Your comforts delight my soul.”
- **Psalms 34:18** The LORD is near to those who have a broken heart and saves such as have a contrite spirit.
- **Psalm 18:6** In my distress I called upon the Lord and cried out to my God. He heard my voice from His Holy temple...
- **Psalm 30:2** Oh Lord I cried out to You, and You healed me.
- **Psalm 55:16-18** As for me, I will call upon the Lord and He will save me. Evening, and morning and at noon I will pray and cry aloud, and He shall hear my voice. He has redeemed my soul in peace from the battle that was against me.
- **Psalm 91:14-16** Because he has set his love upon Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him on high, because he has known My name. He shall call upon Me, and I will answer him; I *will be* with him in trouble; I will deliver him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him and show him My salvation.”
- **Psalm 145:18,20** The LORD *is* near to all who call upon Him, To all who call upon Him in truth. He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him; He also will hear their cry and save them.
- **Ephesians 3:20** Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us...

- **God is FOR us not against us - Romans 8:31-39**

What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us?

³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

³³ **Who shall bring a charge against God's elect?** *It is* God who justifies.

³⁴ *Who is* he who condemns? *It is* Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written: “For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.”

³⁷Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, **shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

God is FOR us! Jesus is our hope. In Him we will overcome for He is the same yesterday, today and forever!

2 Peter 3:9 The Lord does not delay His promise, as some understand delay, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance.

Revelation 21:2-7 (NIV) ⁴ *‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death^[a] or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.’* ⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, “*I am making everything new!*”

PRAYER

May you take the hand
Of the Power in Heaven above
For it is outstretched for you always
in Compassion and in Love.
Allow the comfort that it brings
To be your gentle guide
For it is there for you forever
To always walk beside.

May your heart be touched
With the kind of inner peace
That will show you that beyond the clouds,
There is sunshine still beneath.
May you feel His gentle presence
Which will all your troubles share,
And may you find that very soon
There'll be an answer to your prayer.

REFLECTION:

In what areas of your life have you been struggling to trust God's power or compassion?

What other gods are taking a higher place in your life than God? (Distractions, entertainment, spouse, family, self, social media, "things", lies, fears, hurts, addictions)

What is dead in your life that needs brought to life? What is sick or broken that needs healing? What bondage do you need deliverance and freedom from?

Liz Dickson, Love UnVeiled
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