



Which is the Real Face of God?

While my glory passes by...I will cover you with my hand...and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen." Ex 33:22+23 (ESV)

She gave birth to her first born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths." Luke 2:7 (ESV)

While Moses was on the Mountain interceding for Israel's "Golden Calf" rebellion, God permitted Moses to experience His presence. But God's majesty was too great for Moses to actually be able to see His face! The imagery and sounds of being in God's presence cannot be given justice even by Charlton Heston! Yet centuries later God Himself came fully human, yet fully God, as a babe in a manger for shepherds and Wise Men to see. So which face will we see when we come into the presence of God One day? The powerful God of all Creation? Or the gentle face of peace and compassion?

No doubt that God IS the all-knowing and all powerful Creator of this world. With a finger He can move mountains. Yet He also reveals His unconditional love for us by becoming a tiny baby and demonstrating His love by going to the Cross for our sins. Why would a powerful God lower Himself to our sinful world?

God's immeasurable and unconditional love for you is shown in His humble act of redemption for His children. The omnipotence of the Father is beyond our understanding. The love of the Son is also beyond anything natural to our sinful human reasoning. The faithfulness of the Holy Spirit draws us daily towards God's majesty and compassion.

As you prepare for the Advent of our King, pause to reflect God's willingness to show you "both sides of His face." Whether it is a relationship in your school, family or someone in your neighborhood, look for opportunities to share the two sides of God's face with someone who needs to hear that our God is mighty to save and has done so through the love of Christ.

God's peace,

Mike Zimmer

Discussion Questions-

1. Do the two faces of God seem contradictory or complimentary?
2. When you think of God in His Throne Room, what images do you have?

3. How does God's Almighty power and unconditional love give opportunity to share God's love with others?