

## The Nature of God?

Making a Case for Christ

- A. 2 simple questions that form the foundation for belief in Jesus Christ or not
  1. If God really *does* exist, then what do you want or hope *that* God to be like?
  2. And, if you want that God to be a gracious, kind, and loving God, then how could God prove to you that He is gracious, kind, and loving?
- B. The Passion Story (read the last 5 Chapters of Mt, Mk, Lk, Jn)
  1. Jesus got up from the meal and began to wash the disciples' feet  
*What do you think about believing in a God, a God who created the entire universe, who is willing to stoop down and wash your feet?*
  2. A new command I give you: Love one another; As I have loved you, so you must love one another
  3. *What about a God who would tell his followers, "Lay down your weapons! Put away your swords.... For mine is the way of peace and love"*
  4. The religious mob screamed, "Jesus must die, because he claimed to be God!  
- Some people say Jesus was a great teacher, but He never claimed to be God; The thing is, the *only* reason Jesus was crucified, was because He claimed to be God  
- yes, He prayed to the Father; & yes, He referred to the coming of the Holy Spirit; but make no mistake, the Father, Jesus the Son, and Holy Spirit are all different parts, but the same exact essence of the one Godhead (same ice, water, and steam; all H<sub>2</sub>O)
  5. If that *really* is God up there on the cross, and if God wanted to *prove* His love to you and to me, what would you expect God to say? What would you *hope* that God might say?  
  
- Jesus says, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do."
- C. What do you *want* God to be like? What do you *hope* God would be like?
  1. Then we see this entire ordeal from the Last Supper up to Jesus hanging from the cross. Not only did Jesus never raise a finger to hurt anyone else; but even from the cross, in excruciating pain, He *still* is saying, "I love them ... forgive them.... They just don't understand what they are doing."  
- *that* is unconditional love .... *That* is grace...
- D. There simply isn't anything else that I am hoping God will be other than what I have *already* seen in Jesus Christ
- E. What about you?