Scripture Describes God's Nature by Using Communicable Attributes

"Attributes that are shared with mankind."

1. God is relational.

2 Timothy 2:13 (NASB)

¹³ If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.

2. God is good.

Nahum 1:7 (NASB)

⁷ The LORD is good, A stronghold in the day of trouble, And He knows those who take refuge in Him.

3. God is loving.

1 John 4:19 (NASB)

¹⁹ We love, because He first loved us.

1 John 4:12-14 (NASB)

¹² No one has seen God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us.

¹³ By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit.

¹⁴ We have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son *to be* the Savior of the world.

4. God is merciful.

Ephesians 2:4-5 (NASB)

⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,

⁵ even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved).

5. God hates.

Psalm 5:5 (NASB)

⁵ The boastful shall not stand before Your eyes; You hate all who do iniquity.

6. God is jealous.

Deuteronomy 4:24 (NASB)

²⁴ "For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

7. God is faithful.

Deuteronomy 7:9 (NASB)

⁹ "Know therefore that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments;

God is Described through Theophanies

A visible manifestation of God to humankind.

- 1. God appeared to Abraham (Gen. 18:1-33)
- 2. God and Melchizedek (Gen. 14:18; Heb 7:3,6:20)
- 3. God wrestled with Jacob (Gen. 32:28-30)
- 4. God and Moses (Ex. 3; 33-34)
- 5. God and the pillar of cloud (Ex. 13:21-22)
- 6. God stood before Joshua (Josh. 5:13-15)
- 7. God present before Monoah and his wife (Judg. 13:21-22)
- 8. God present in the temple before Isaiah (6:1-8)
- 9. God and His appearance with Ezekiel (Ez. 1:22-28)
- 10. God's writing on the wall in Daniel (Dan. 5:5)
- 11. God/Jesus (Prophesies in OT and entire NT.)

God is Described by Jesus

"A God/man manifestation that we can conceive"

1. Jesus is the radiance of God's glory and the exact

representation of His nature.

Colossians 1:15 (NASB)

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

Colossians 2:9 (NASB)

⁹ For in Him all the fullness of Deity dwells in bodily form,

Hebrews 1:1-3 (NASB)

¹God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,

² in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

³ Jesus is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

John 14:9 (NASB)

⁹ Jesus *said to him, "Have I been so long with you, and *yet* you have not come to know Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; how *can* you say, 'Show us the Father'?

John 1:18 (NIV)

¹⁸ No one has ever seen God, but God the One and Only, who is at the Father's side, has made him known.

2 Corinthians 4:4 (NASB)

⁴ in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Challenges:

Read the Bible with the expectation to find God.

Live as if God is so present.

Live as if God can be known.

Look at God through the lens of Jesus.

Look at nature through the lenses of the creation.