Basics of Bible Study:  
Understanding Anthropomorphic Language  

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Introduction  

Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary says that anthropomorphic language involves “ascribing human characteristics to nonhuman things.” The Concise Oxford English Dictionary defines anthropomorphism as “the attribution of human characteristics or behavior to a god, animal, or object.” Such language is common in the Bible: The physical world is thus depicted. More commonly, God is described in human terms (Judg. 9:7-15; 2 Kings 14:8-10; Isaiah 63:3; 1 Pet. 3:12).

Judges 9:7-15 ... 7 Now when they told Jotham, he went and stood on the top of Mount Gerizim, and lifted his voice and called out. Thus he said to them, “Listen to me, O men of Shechem, that God may listen to you. 8 ‘Once the trees went forth to anoint a king over them, and they said to the olive tree, ‘Reign over us!’ 9 ‘But the olive tree said to them, ‘Shall I leave my fatness with which God and men are honored, and go to wave over the trees?’ 10 ‘Then the trees said to the fig tree, ‘You come, reign over us!’ 11 ‘But the fig tree said to them, ‘Shall I leave my sweetness and my good fruit, and go to wave over the trees?’ 12 ‘Then the trees said to the vine, ‘You come, reign over us!’ 13 ‘But the vine said to them, ‘Shall I leave my new wine, which cheers God and men, and go to wave over the trees?’ 14 ‘Finally all the trees said to the bramble, ‘You come, reign over us!’ 15 ‘The bramble said to the trees, ‘If in truth you are anointing me as king over you, come and take refuge in my shade; but if not, may fire come out from the bramble and consume the cedars of Lebanon.’ (NASB95)

2 Kings 14:8-10 ... 8 Then Amaziah sent messengers to Jehoash, the son of Jehoahaz son of Jehu, king of Israel, saying, “Come, let us face each other.” 9 Jehoash king of Israel sent to Amaziah king of Judah, saying, “The thorn bush which was in Lebanon sent to the cedar which was in Lebanon, saying, ‘Give your daughter to my son in marriage.’ But there passed by a wild beast that was in Lebanon, and trampled the thorn bush. 10 “You have indeed defeated Edom, and your heart has become proud. Enjoy your glory and stay at home; for why should you provoke trouble so that you, even you, would fall, and Judah with you?” (NASB95)

Isaiah 63:3 ... 3 “I have trodden the wine trough alone, And from the peoples there was no man with Me. I also trod them in My anger And trampled them in My wrath; And their lifeblood is sprinkled on My garments, And I stained all My raiment. (NASB95)
1 Peter 3:12 ... 12 “For the eyes of the Lord are toward the righteous, And His ears attend to their prayer, But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.” (NASB95)

The Benefits of Anthropomorphic Language

God is a Spirit Being (John 4:24; 1 Tim. 1:17), One who is transcendent (Deut. 32:39; Isa. 45:5-7), One whom no man has seen (John 1:18; 1 Tim. 6:13-16), yet He reveals Himself in human terms.

John 4:24 ... 24 “God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” (NASB95)

1 Timothy 1:17 ... 17 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. (NASB95)

Deuteronomy 32:39 ... 39 ‘See now that I, I am He, And there is no god besides Me; It is I who put to death and give life, I have wounded and it is I who heal, And there is no one who can deliver from My hand. (NASB95)

Isaiah 45:5-7 ... 5 “I am the Lord, and there is no other; Besides Me there is no God. I will gird you, though you have not known Me; 6 That men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun That there is no one besides Me. I am the Lord, and there is no other, 7 The One forming light and creating darkness, Causing well-being and creating calamity; I am the Lord who does all these. (NASB95)

John 1:18 ... 18 No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him. (NASB95)

1 Timothy 6:13-16 ... 13 I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who testified the good confession before Pontius Pilate, 14 that you keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, 15 which He will bring about at the proper time—He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, 16 who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see. To Him be honor and eternal dominion! Amen. (NASB95)

Human Actions

Manifesting human actions, He speaks (Gen. 1:3; Heb. 1:1-2),

Genesis 1:3 ... 3 Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. (NASB95)

Hebrews 1:1-2 ... 1 God, 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. (NASB95)

He sees (Gen. 1:4; 6:12),
Genesis 1:4 ... 4 God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. (NASB95)

Genesis 6:12 ... 12 God looked on the earth, and behold, it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way upon the earth. (NASB95)

He walks (Gen. 3:8; Amos 4:13),

Genesis 3:8 ... 8 They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. (NASB95)

Amos 4:13 ... 13 For behold, He who forms mountains and creates the wind And declares to man what are His thoughts, He who makes dawn into darkness And treads on the high places of the earth, The Lord God of hosts is His name. (NASB95)

He stands (Psa. 10:1; 82:1),

Psalm 10:1 ... 1 Why do You stand afar off, O Lord? Why do You hide Yourself in times of trouble? (NASB95)

Psalm 82:1 ... 1 A Psalm of Asaph. God takes His stand in His own congregation; He judges in the midst of the rulers. (NASB95)

He sits (1 Kings 22:19; Isa. 6:1), etc.

1 Kings 22:19 ... 19 Micaiah said, “Therefore, hear the word of the Lord. I saw the Lord sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing by Him on His right and on His left. (NASB95)

Isaiah 6:1 ... 1 In the year of King Uzziah’s death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple. (NASB95)

Human Volition

Engaging in acts of human volition, He chooses (Eph. 1:3-4),

Ephesians 1:3-4 ... 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love (NASB95)

He purposes (Eph. 3:11),

Ephesians 3:11 ... 11 This was in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, (NASB95)

He judges (Rom. 2:1-2),
Romans 2:1-2 ... 1 Therefore you have no excuse, everyone of you who passes judgment, 2 in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things. 2 And we know that the judgment of God rightly falls upon those who practice such things. (NASB95)

He reconciles (2 Cor. 5:18-19),

2 Corinthians 5:18-19 ... 18 Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. (NASB95)

He loves (John 3:16),

John 3:16 ... 16 “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. (NASB95)

He hates (Prov. 6:16-19), etc.

Proverbs 6:16-19 ... 16 There are six things which the Lord hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: 17 Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood, 18 A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that run rapidly to evil, 19 A false witness who utters lies, And one who spreads strife among brothers. (NASB95)

Human Features

Describing God with human features, Sacred Scripture refers to His form (Num. 12:6-8),

Numbers 12:6-8 ... 6 He said, “Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, shall make Myself known to him in a vision. I shall speak with him in a dream. 7 “Not so, with My servant Moses, He is faithful in all My household; 8 With him I speak mouth to mouth, Even openly, and not in dark sayings, And he beholds the form of the Lord. Why then were you not afraid To speak against My servant, against Moses?” (NASB95)

His eyes (Gen. 6:8; Prov. 15:3),

Genesis 6:8 ... 8 But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord. (NASB95)

Proverbs 15:3 ... 3 The eyes of the Lord are in every place, Watching the evil and the good. (NASB95)

His feet (Exod. 24:9-11; Nah. 1:3),

Exodus 24:9-11 ... 9 Then Moses went up with Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, 10 and they saw the God of Israel; and under His feet there appeared to be a pavement of sapphire, as clear as the sky itself. 11 Yet He did not stretch out His
hand against the nobles of the sons of Israel; and they saw God, and they ate and drank. (NASB95)

Nahum 1:3 ... 3 The Lord is slow to anger and great in power, And the Lord will by no means leave the guilty unpunished. In whirlwind and storm is His way, And clouds are the dust beneath His feet. (NASB95)

His arms/hands/finger (Deut. 5:15; Luke 11:20),

Deuteronomy 5:15 ... 15 ‘You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the Lord your God brought you out of there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore the Lord your God commanded you to observe the sabbath day. (NASB95)

Luke 11:20 ... 20 “But if I cast out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. (NASB95)

His face (Psa. 17:15; Matt. 18:10),

Psalm 17:15 ... 15 As for me, I shall behold Your face in righteousness; I will be satisfied with Your likeness when I awake. (NASB95)

Matthew 18:10 ... 10 “See that you do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven continually see the face of My Father who is in heaven. (NASB95)

His mind (Exod. 32:14; Psa. 110:4),

Exodus 32:14 ... 14 So the Lord changed His mind about the harm which He said He would do to His people. (NASB95)

Psalm 110:4 ... 4 The Lord has sworn and will not change His mind, “You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek.” (NASB95)

His heart (Hos. 11:8), etc.

Hosea 11:8 ... 8 How can I give you up, O Ephraim? How can I surrender you, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart is turned over within Me, All My compassions are kindled. (NASB95)

Human Emotions

Describing God with human emotions, the Bible refers to His jealousy (Exod. 20:5),

Exodus 20:5 ... 5 “You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, (NASB95)

His anger (Rom. 1:18-19),
Romans 1:18-19 ... 18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. (NASB95)

His remorse and regret (1 Sam. 15:11),

1 Samuel 15:11 ... 11 “I regret that I have made Saul king, for he has turned back from following Me and has not carried out My commands.” And Samuel was distressed and cried out to the Lord all night. (NASB95)

His loving compassion (Psa. 103:8), etc.

Psalm 103:8 ... 8 The Lord is compassionate and gracious, Slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness. (NASB95)

**Human Practices**

Describing the Lord in terms of human practices, Holy Writ refers to God as a Father (Matt. 6:9),

Matthew 6:9 ... 9 “Pray, then, in this way: ‘Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. (NASB95)

A Shepherd (Psa. 23:1),

Psalm 23:1 ... 1 A Psalm of David. The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. (NASB95)

A Bridegroom ( Isa. 62:5),

Isaiah 62:5 ... 5 For as a young man marries a virgin, So your sons will marry you; And as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, So your God will rejoice over you. (NASB95)

A Husbandman ( Isa. 5:1-2),

Isaiah 5:1-2 ... 1 Let me sing now for my well-beloved A song of my beloved concerning His vineyard. My well-beloved had a vineyard on a fertile hill. 2 He dug it all around, removed its stones, And planted it with the choicest vine. And He built a tower in the middle of it And also hewed out a wine vat in it; Then He expected it to produce good grapes, But it produced only worthless ones. (NASB95)

A Warrior (Exod. 15:3),

Exodus 15:3 ... 3 “The Lord is a warrior; The Lord is His name. (NASB95)

A King (Rev. 4:2-3), etc.

Revelation 4:2-3 ... 2 Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne was standing in heaven, and One sitting on the throne. 3 And He who was sitting was like a jasper
stone and a sardius in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, like an emerald in appearance. (NASB95)

The Dangers of Anthropomorphic Language

As God made man in His own image (Gen. 1:27), sinful man does the reverse, making God in his own image, attributing to God all of man’s foibles and shortcomings, lusts and weaknesses. Thus, Dionysus/Bacchus was the god of wine, ritual madness, and ecstasy; Aphrodite/Venus was the goddess of love, beauty and sexuality; and Ares/Mars was the Greek god of war. Yet, the Lord of Heaven and Earth is vastly greater than the idolatrous conceptions of mortal men (Exod. 20:4-6; Deut. 5:8-10; Isa. 40:18-26; 46:5-13; Acts 17:22-31).

Exodus 20:4-6 ... 4 “You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. 5 “You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, 6 but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments. (NASB95)

Deuteronomy 5:8-10 ... 8 ‘You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. 9 ‘You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, and on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, 10 but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments. (NASB95)

Genesis 1:27 ... 27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. (NASB95)

Isaiah 40:18-26 ... 18 To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare with Him? 19 As for the idol, a craftsman casts it, A goldsmith plates it with gold, And a silversmith fashions chains of silver. 20 He who is too impoverished for such an offering Selects a tree that does not rot; He seeks out for himself a skillful craftsman To prepare an idol that will not totter. 21 Do you not know? Have you not heard? Has it not been declared to 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 it is who reduces rulers to nothing, Who makes the judges of the earth meaningless. 24 Scarcely have they been planted, Scarcely have they been sown, Scarcely has their stock taken root in the earth, But He merely blows on them, and they wither, And the storm carries them away like stubble. 25 “To whom then will you liken Me That I would be his equal?” says the Holy One. 26 Lift up your eyes on high And see who has created these stars, The One who leads forth their host by number, He calls them all by name: Because of the greatness of His might and the strength of His power, Not one of them is missing. (NASB95)
Isaiah 46:5-13 ... 5 “To whom would you liken Me And make Me equal and compare Me, That we would be alike? 6 “Those who lavish gold from the purse And weigh silver on the scale Hire a goldsmith, and he makes it into a god; They bow down, indeed they worship it. 7 “They lift it upon the shoulder and carry it; They set it in its place and it stands there. It does not move from its place. Though one may cry to it, it cannot answer; It cannot deliver him from his distress. 8 “Remember this, and be assured; Recall it to mind, you transgressors. 9 “Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, 10 Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, ‘My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure’; 11 Calling a bird of prey from the east, The man of My purpose from a far country. Truly I have spoken; truly I will bring it to pass. I have planned it, surely I will do it. 12 “Listen to Me, you stubborn-minded, Who are far from righteousness. 13 “I bring near My righteousness, it is not far off; And My salvation will not delay. And I will grant salvation in Zion, And My glory for Israel. (NASB95)

Acts 17:22-31 ... 22 So Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I observe that you are very religious in all respects. 23 “For while I was passing through and examining the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, ‘TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.’ Therefore what you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you. 24 “The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; 25 nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things; 26 and He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation, 27 that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; 28 for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we also are His children.’ 29 “Being then the children of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man. 30 “Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, 31 because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.” (NASB95)

God is omnipotent (Gen. 1:1-3; Psa. 33:6-9; Heb. 1:3), omnipresent (Gen. 28:16; Psa. 139:7-12; Jer. 23:24), and omniscient (Gen. 18:9-15; 41:25-32; Psa. 139:1-6). Additionally, Jehovah is eternal, unchangeable, perfect in holiness, and wholly free of sin.

Genesis 1:1-3 ... 1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters. 3 Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. (NASB95)

Psalm 33:6-9 ... 6 By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, And by the breath of His mouth all their host. 7 He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap; He lays up the deeps in storehouses. 8 Let all the earth fear the Lord; Let all the inhabitants of
the world stand in awe of Him. 9 For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast. (NASB95)

Hebrews 1:3 ... 3 And He is the radiance of His 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, (NASB95)

Genesis 28:16 ... 16 Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, “Surely the Lord is in this place, and I did not know it.” (NASB95)

Psalms 139:7-12 ... 7 Where can I go from your Spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, behold, you are there. 9 If I take the wings of the dawn, if I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, 10 Even there your hand will lead me, and your right hand will lay hold of me. 11 If I say, “Surely the darkness will overwhelm me, and the light around me will be night,” 12 Even the darkness is not dark to you, and the night is as bright as the day. Darkness and light are alike to you. (NASB95)

Jeremiah 23:24 ... 24 “Can a man hide himself in hiding places So I do not see him?” declares the Lord. “Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?” declares the Lord. (NASB95)

Genesis 18:9-15 ... 9 Then they said to him, “Where is Sarah your wife?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” 10 He said, “I will surely return to you at this time next year; and behold, Sarah your wife will have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent door, which was behind him. 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; Sarah was past childbearing. 12 Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I have become old, shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?” 13 And the Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh, saying, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, when I am so old?’” 14 “Is anything too difficult for the Lord? At the appointed time I will return to you, at this time next year, and Sarah will have a son.” 15 Sarah denied it however, saying, “I did not laugh”; for she was afraid. And He said, “No, but you did laugh.” (NASB95)

Genesis 41:25-32 ... 25 Now Joseph said to Pharaoh, “Pharaoh’s dreams are one and the same; God has told to Pharaoh what He is about to do. 26 “The seven good cows are seven years; and the seven good ears are seven years; the dreams are one and the same. 27 “The seven lean and ugly cows that came up after them are seven years, and the seven thin ears scorched by the east wind will be seven years of famine. 28 “It is as I have spoken to Pharaoh: God has shown to Pharaoh what He is about to do. 29 “Behold, seven years of great abundance are coming in all the land of Egypt; 30 and after them seven years of famine will come, and all the abundance will be forgotten in the land of Egypt, and the famine will ravage the land. 31 “So the abundance will be unknown in the land because of that subsequent famine; for it will be very severe. 32 “Now as for the repeating of the dream to Pharaoh twice, it means that the matter is determined by God, and God will quickly bring it about. (NASB95)
Psalms 139:1-6 ... 1 For the choir director. A Psalm of David. 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you understand my thought from afar. 3 You scrutinize my path and my lying down, and are intimately acquainted with all my ways. 4 Even before there is a word on my tongue, behold, O LORD, you know it all. 5 You have enclosed me behind and before, and laid your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is too high, I cannot attain to it. (NASB95)

Conclusion

Born of a virgin, Jesus fulfilled the Messianic prophecies of Isaiah: He is Immanuel, i.e., “God with us” (Isa. 7:14; 9:6-7; Matt. 1:18-23).

Isaiah 7:14 ... 14 “Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel. (NASB95)

Isaiah 9:6-7 ... 6 For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. 7 There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this. (NASB95)

Matthew 1:18-23 ... 18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child by the Holy Spirit. 19 And Joseph her husband, being a righteous man and not wanting to disgrace her, planned to send her away secretly. 20 But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 “She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” 22 Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 23 “Behold, the virgin shall be with child and shall bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,” which translated means, “God with us.” (NASB95)

Jesus Christ perfectly reveals the Father (John 1:1-18; 12:44-45; 14:8-14).

John 1:1-18 ... 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. 4 In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. 5 The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. 6 There came a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him. 8 He was not the Light, but he came to testify about the Light. 9 There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. 11 He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. 12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His
name, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. 14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. 15 John testified about Him and cried out, saying, “This was He of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.’ ” 16 For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. 17 For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him. (NASB95)

John 12:44-45 ... 44 And Jesus cried out and said, “He who believes in Me, does not believe in Me but in Him who sent Me. 45 “He who sees Me sees the One who sent Me. (NASB95)

John 14:8-14 ... 8 Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” 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’? 10 “Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works. 11 “Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; otherwise believe because of the works themselves. 12 “Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater works than these he will do; because I go to the Father. 13 “Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 “If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it. (NASB95)

Before His incarnation, He existed in the form of God (Phil. 2:5-8).

Philippians 2:5-8 ... 5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. 8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (NASB95)

He is the image of the invisible God (Col. 1:15-20).

Colossians 1:15-20 ... 15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. 16 For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. 17 He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. 18 He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything. 19 For it was the Father’s good pleasure for all the fullness to dwell in Him, 20 and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself, having made peace through the blood of His cross; through Him, I say, whether things on earth or things in heaven. (NASB95)

He is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of His nature (Heb. 1:1-3).
Hebrews 1:1-4 ... 1 God, 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 And He is the radiance of His 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, 4 having become as much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they. (NASB95)

Have you rendered obedience unto Him (Heb. 5:8-10)?

Hebrews 5:8-10 ... 8 Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. 9 And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation, 10 being designated by God as a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek. (NASB95)