











The nature of God

1

The nature of God

The nature of Mankind



The nature of God

The nature of Mankind

The nature of Jesus





The nature of God

The nature of Mankind

The nature of Jesus

The "rules of engagement"

The nature of God...

1

The nature of God...

Does God exist?

1

The nature of God...

Does God exist?

What is God like?

The nature of God...

Does God exist?

What is God like?

Infinite & Intimate

The nature of Mankind



The nature of Mankind

Is man basically good, or bad, or neutral?

The nature of Mankind

Is man basically good, or bad, or neutral?

Does mankind carry personal responsibility for his or her actions?

The nature of Mankind

Is man basically good, or bad,

Unique & Broken

responsibility of his or her actions?

Unique & Broken

Mankind's nature implies that we find ourselves separated, alienated and isolated from the presence of the infinite and intimate God, in whose image we were uniquely made, in desperate need of a solution beyond our means.











Rules of Engagement:

Nature of God:

Infinite &

Intimate

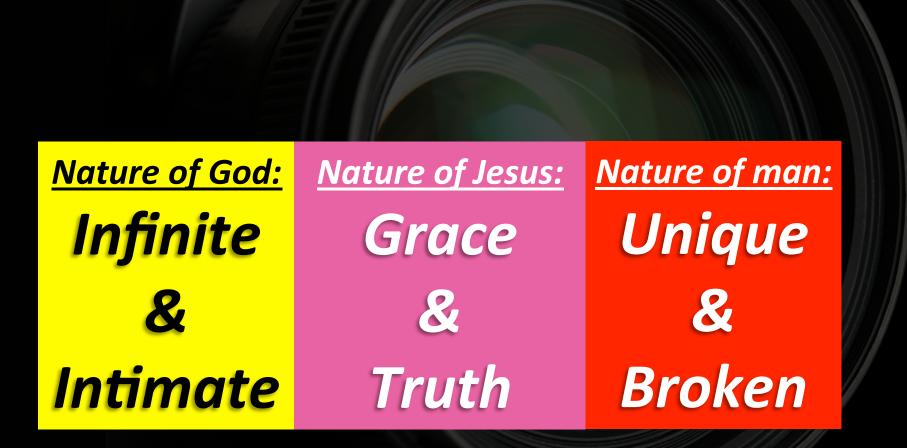
Nature of Jesus:

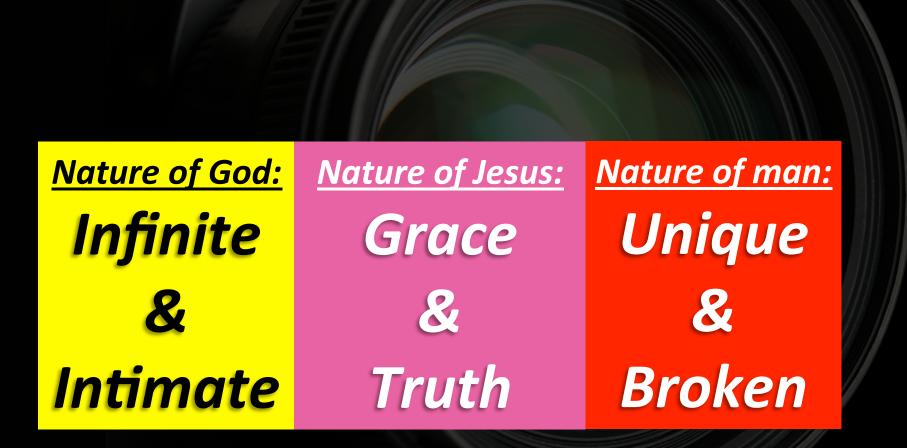
Nature of man:

Unique

&

Broken





John 1:1-14

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- 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 were made through Him, and without Him was not any thing made that was made.
- 4 In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.
- 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

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Ancient Greek term used in many ways...

- Stoic Philosophy- the divine (but impersonal)
 - animating/illuminating principle pervading the universe.
- New Testament- the incarnate presence of God in the midst of not only the universe but 'light' for life.

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- 6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
- 7 He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him.
- 8 He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

- 9 The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.
- 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him.
- 11 He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him.
- 12 But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God,
- 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

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- 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.
- 15 (John bore witness about Him, and cried out, "This was He of whom I said,
 He who comes after me ranks before me, because He was before me.")

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- 16 For from His fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.
- 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.
- 18 No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, He has made Him known.

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Intimate

Nature of the law:

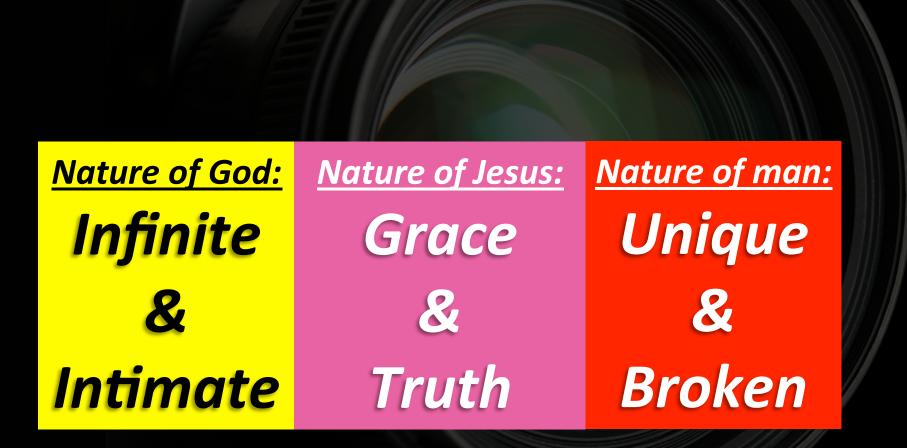
Earn your way with perfect obedience to the law

Nature of man:

Unique

&

Broken



If Jesus is *truth* but <u>not</u> gracious.

He is simply judgmental.

If Jesus is *truth* but <u>not</u> gracious. He is simply judgmental.

If Jesus is *gracious* but <u>not</u> truthful He is simply licentious.

Jesus is *grace and truth*, both of which offer freedom.







Rules of Engagement:

Nature of God:

Infinite

&

Intimate

Nature of Jesus:

Grace

&

Truth

Nature of man:

Unique

&

Broken