

## **Forms of God in the Bible**

In the second webinar of this series about Biblical themes, we will explore different ways that God is portrayed in the *Bible*, and the way the Divine appears to express in each of these perspectives. We will introduce the discernment tool, which will allow you to see how each perspective changes how you will view a particular issue. This will give you insight into how the way a person views God conditions their values.

### **The Changing Face of God in the Bible**

The first form of God described in the *Bible* appears in the first part of the Old Testament. You may view this form of God on the 1st Ray of the Subtle Mental Plane of Subtle Mental Plane.

This form of God is a “jealous god,” who demands total obedience from his people. He flies into rages, sends plagues and misfortunes to those who disobey him, but blesses those who obey him with children, and wealth. He sends angels to kill the wicked, but protects those who follow his law.

In the stories in the *Bible*, this form of God led the Hebrew people out of Egypt, and instituted a form of blood sacrifice to atone for their sins. This blood sacrifice became the task of the Levite priests to carry out on behalf of individuals, and the entire Jewish people on special holy days.

He led the Jews into battles, allowing them to conquer much of what is modern Palestine and Israel.

He gives the Jews, the Ten Commandments, which is the foundation of their moral system, and adds a number of other laws by which Jews are required to follow to be righteous and without sin.

In this perspective, one is to love God and obey him, or risk punishment, death, or eternal torment in Hell. One’s reaction is to fearfully obey such a God.

Punishment for violations of the law in the early Old Testament included stoning, public shaming, or even death. Today, groups like the Taliban have this same black and white, absolute obedience to the laws written in their scripture, the *Koran*, and carry out similar violent punishments against those they find guilty of violating their strict moral laws.



Michelangelo's portrayal of the Angry God

## **The Dark Form of God – Lucifer or Satan**

Lucifer or Satan is always seen as the Dark Other, the embodiment of evil. Some stories portray him as a serpent; others as a fallen angel; others equate him to the Devil or the Lord of the Demons; and others see him as a Demiurge, a semi-Divine Being to whom God gives power to rule over the world.

Lucifer tempts man to sin. He places before man all of the temptations of the world: sex, alcohol and drugs, wealth, worldly power, and fame, and enslaves man by these things. Man is bound, addicted, and ensnared by the things he craves; this is the power this dark force has over man.

In the Book of Revelations, the *Bible* casts Satan as the Lord of Hell, to which sinners will be consigned in the Last Judgment. In the Old Testament, in the Book of Job, Lucifer is portrayed as a lesser power, whom God can command to tempt Job, to test Job's faith.

When you study the Continuum, Lucifer appears as the form of God that rules the Lower Astral Plane, and empowers the Occult Adepts and their disciples in the Occult Mystery Schools. He creates the magnetic, hypnotic, and fascinating content of the Lower Astral Plane, which the Soul Spark and spirit must encounter as they journey through these dark and terrifying, yet strangely seductive, realms.

Jesus was an exemplar of successfully traversing these realms and renouncing the temptations of Satan on the three mountains of the Lower Astral Plane. Buddha also faced all of the temptations of Mara, and overcame them.

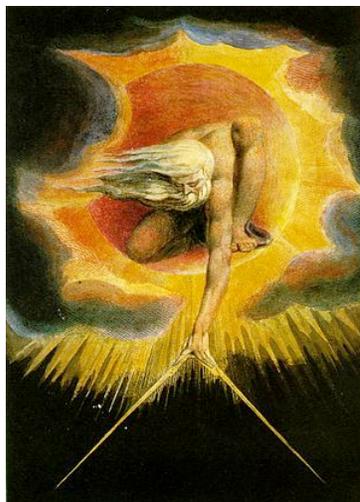


One of William Blake's images of Lucifer

## **God as Universal Mind**

At the top of the Abstract Mind on the Universal Mind Subplane, God can be viewed as the Divine Intelligence that creates the laws of mind and consciousness. In this view, God is the Creator of the Universe, the Architect of the World, and the foundation of the Perfect Law, which substands all things.

This vision of God is touched in passing in the Bible, when God is praised as the Creator of the Universe, and for his perfection.



William Blake's image of the Ancient of Days

## **God in the Psychic Realm**

In the Psychic Realm, God is portrayed in forms such as a wheel within a wheel surrounded by the Seraphim and Cherubim; and as the Divine Father amidst the hosts of heaven—the angels and the Elohim.

The Soul that passes through the first Subplane of the Psychic Realm—the Materialization Dematerialization Subplane—sees the visions of apocalyptic, doomsday scenarios, and utopian themes of paradise on earth after the world has been purged of evil. Many of the Biblical prophets appear to have tapped these realms, depicting a future of blessedness for some, and doom for others.

On the Heavenly Realms Subplane, the Soul traverses dimension after dimension of worlds beyond the veil of death, and beholds God amidst the hosts of Heaven, with Jesus and the Biblical Prophets.

These visions of God and Heaven animate many of the Psychic Realm faiths, such as the Church of Latter Day Saints, Jehovah's Witnesses, and the Spiritualist Church.

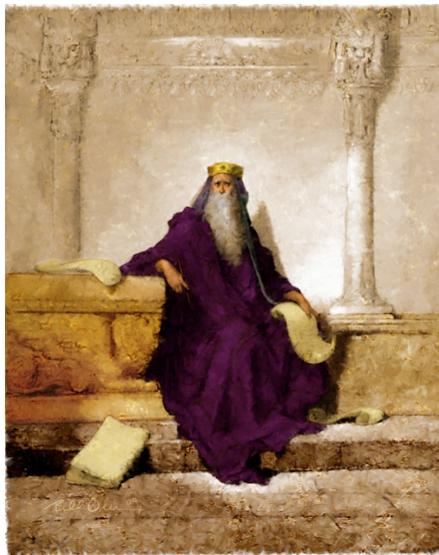


An image of God, as viewed in the Psychic Realm

## **The God of Wisdom**

At the top of the Wisdom Plane, God appears as a golden sun of Wisdom. In the *Bible*, the books of Ecclesiastes and Proverbs underscore the value of gaining wisdom and understanding. These sections of the *Bible* give sage counsel for conducting the affairs of human life.

In these verses, King Solomon was described as the wisest of men.



An artist's depiction of King Solomon

## **God Expressed in Human History**

In the First Exoteric Initiation, God expresses through each of the Seven Rays as 49 archetypes on each Ray. These archetypes underpin the beliefs and worldview of each of the major world movements anchored at this level of the Continuum:

1st Ray – Judaism

2nd Ray – Democracy

3rd Ray – Catholicism

4th Ray – The Essenes and Natural Healers

5th Ray – Social Justice Christianity

6th Ray – Evangelical Christianity

7th Ray – Kabbalistic Judaism

These world visions inspire institutions of worship, education, humanitarian and charitable service, and social and economic justice. The modern Christian and Jewish faiths are founded at this level.

They educate the moral will, encourage volunteer service and charitable giving, study of the scriptures, and leading lives of love and kindness to others. They invite confession and admission of wrong doing, and turning from error (repentance). They inspire people to have faith, hope, and love for others. They ask people to pray and seek God's will for their lives. They bid people act courageously and face the challenges of their lives with God's guidance and direction. They conduct ceremonies of prayer, praise, and worship.

These movements are based in time and human history, so look to God's intervention in history, for miracles and granted prayers in the lives of the believer, and the Advent of the Savior or Messiah in the appointed hour. The believe souls will meet God after death, and will be judged according to their deeds.



An artist's vision of the God within Human History

## **The Heavenly Father**

In the First Mesoteric Initiation, God appears as the Heavenly Father in the midst of the circle of saints and Masters. This is the God of Infinite Love, Mercy, Grace, and Forgiveness, about whom Jesus taught. This is the God that is at the other side of the cord of faith, the greatest form of God that the ego can conceive.

To move into the Presence of God and gain the beatific vision, the Soul must cross through the gates of death, and pass through the realms of Hell, Purgatory, Heaven, and the realms of the angels.



An artist's vision of the Heavenly Father

Each of these forms of God has a different keynote, and evokes different emotions in us. These are summarized in the table below.

Keynote	Evoked Emotion	Level
Obedience	Fear	Subtle Mental Plane
Temptation	Conflict between strong desire and renunciation	Lower Astral Plane
Harmony with the Divine Mind	Serenity, sense of unlimited possibilities	Abstract Mind Plane
Mystery and Revelation	Awe and wonder, desire for more revelations	Psychic Realm
Wisdom, Understanding, and Forgiveness	Reverence, self-restraint	Wisdom Plane
Righteous living and caring for others, involvement in the community	Worship, Glorifying God	First Exoteric Initiation
Devotion, Ecstatic communion with God in the sacred altar of the heart, ultimately culminating in the Beatific Vision	Ecstasy, complete surrender to God, love and devotion for God	First Mesoteric Initiation

## **The Discernment Tool**

One of the ways that you can understand the changing perspectives of the Jewish and Christian faiths throughout history is to change the frame on any given topic, and to see how it is viewed in each of these contexts. Ask:

How would this be viewed in the Subtle Mental Perspective?

How would this be viewed on the Lower Astral Plane?

How would this be viewed on the Universal Mind Subplane?

How would this be viewed in the Psychic Realm?

How would this be viewed in the First Exoteric Initiation?

How would this be viewed in the First Mesoteric Initiation?

As you examine each of these perspectives, you can see why there is so much divergence of opinions on any topic in Judeo-Christian religion. The authors of the Bible who contributed to this sacred text over two millennia, dwelt in these varying levels of the Continuum, and put these disparate viewpoints in the same volume—views ranging from the middle Subtle Realm to the First Mesoteric Initiation.

Depending on the context of the person who reads the *Bible*—the God that speaks to them where they are—is a God that inhabits one of these seven frames. The frame that believers select to view God also informs their cosmology—the way they see the world and God—and sets the tone of how they will interpret the scriptures, and how this influences their values, their beliefs, and their behavior.



To which of these perspectives of God have you been exposed?

Were you brought up in a household that operated through one of these frames, and it influenced your family's values, beliefs, and actions?

Did you have a different perspective on God than your family when you were growing up? Did this create tension between you and your family? How did you resolve this?

Do you find yourself operating in any of these frames today? In what ways do you find yourself relating to God that come from one or more of these frames?

## **The Seven Forms of God in the First Mesoteric Initiation**

Excerpted from *Religions, Cults, and Terrorism: What the Heck Are We Doing?*

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In the *Bible*, [in the First Mesoteric Initiation]... God appears in the following seven forms.

Form	Divine Action	Meaning
God of Battles	Grantor of Victory	Overcoming through faith, courage, and effort
Racial Protector	God of the Covenant with the Jews	Protections and Blessings
Pillar of Fire	Miracle Worker	Overcoming through Divine Intervention
The Spirit Upon the Mercy Seat of the Ark of the Covenant	Forgiver of Sins	Grace, Forgiveness of Transgressions
The Spirit in the Midst of the Angels	Watch care and Guidance	Mercy
God of Dispensation	Giving forth of revelation and guidance for each new generation	Understanding of the nature of God
God the Father	Sanat Kumara, the Lord of the World	Eternal Fountainhead of Love, Wisdom, and Power

These same seven forms appear to the meditator crossing these inner Planes of the First Mesoteric Initiation. Here the chela senses the invocation of humanity through their fervent prayers for success, protection, miraculous invention, forgiveness, mercy, understanding, and spiritual nourishment.

God is seen with the inner eye, the witnessing power of consciousness itself, which we refer to as the attentional principle. God is felt and heard by the spirit as it opens the inner channels of the Nada to this level of the First Mesoteric Initiation. God is intuitively known by the Soul when it first rests in the nodal point where these seven forms of God are revealed.

Knowing God is not an intellectual exercise, manipulating words in the fine nets of reason, but a full meta-sensory experience. While the physical senses reveal the external world of the environment and feelings within the physical body, the three meta-senses of attentional principle, spirit, and ensouling entity reveal the multiple dimensional worlds of the Great Continuum of Consciousness.

To move from spiritual blindness, deafness, and numbness, these three meta-senses must be activated and stimulated into full functioning from their state of hibernation. The Master of Integral Meditation shows the seeker how to reunite with these three principles, and ignites their activity by immersion in the Light. Once given a gentle kick-start, the aspirant must keep his or her spiritual motor running by regular meditation.

Through this means, the aspirant can begin to travel upon the Great Continuum of Consciousness, to behold visions such as described in this article, and much, much more. For the aspirant's potential is infinite, and every world of God lies within. We invite you to join us, on this greatest of adventures.



Thank you for attending our webinar today!

