



# HAS GOD ALWAYS BEEN LOVING?

1. [Group] title



God sometimes had prophets use symbolic language that was fitted to [the Israelite's] state of belief and that reflects God not as God actually is, but as the people were able to understand. God, therefore, is not mediocre, but the people's understanding is mediocre; God is not limited, but the intellectual capacity of the people's mind is limited.

Adopted from Novation (200-258 C.E.). *De Trinitate*

2. title2



### **EXODUS 34:11**

Do everything that I command today. Then I will force the Amorites, Canaanites, Hittites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites out of your way.

3. title2



### **EXODUS 23:28-30**

And I will send the pestilence, in front of you, which shall drive out the Hivites, the Canaanites, and the Hittites from before you. I will not drive them out from before you in one year, or the land would become desolate and the wild animals would multiply against you. Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased and possess the land.

4. title2



## **II KINGS 6:15-23**

When the servant of the man of God got up in the morning and went outside, he saw troops, horses, and chariots surrounding the city. Elisha's servant asked, "Master, what should we do?"

5. title2



Elisha answered, "Don't be afraid. We have more forces on our side than they have on theirs." Then Elisha prayed, "Lord, please open his eyes so that he may see." The Lord opened the servant's eyes and let him see. The mountain around Elisha was full of fiery horses and chariots.

6. title2



As the Arameans came down to get him, Elisha prayed to the Lord, "Please strike these people with blindness." The Lord struck them with blindness, as Elisha had asked. Elisha told them, "This isn't the way! This isn't the city. Follow me, and I will lead you to the man you're looking for." So he led them into Samaria. When they came into Samaria, Elisha said, "Lord, open the eyes of these men, and let them see." The Lord opened their eyes and let them see that they were in the middle of Samaria.

7. title2



When the king of Israel saw them, he asked Elisha, "Master, should I kill them? Should I kill them?" Elisha answered, "Don't kill them. Do you kill everyone you take captive in combat? Give them food and water. Let them eat and drink. Then let them go back to their master." So the king prepared a great feast for them. They ate and drank, and then he sent them back to their master. After this, Aramean troops didn't raid Israel's territory anymore.

8. title2



### ISAIAH 62:2-5

You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married.

For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

9. title2



GO IN  
PEACE

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