

SPIRITUAL LESSON 1





“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”

Genesis 1:1 (NKJ)

GOD

Created

All Things



*From the time the world was created,
people have seen the earth and sky
and all that God made. They can
clearly see His invisible qualities –
His eternal power and divine nature. So
they have no excuse whatsoever for
not knowing God.” Romans 1:20 (NLT)*

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“When they refused to acknowledge God, he abandoned them to their evil minds and let them do things that

should never be done. Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness, sin, greed, hate, envy, murder, fighting, deception, malicious behavior, and gossip.”

Romans 1:28–29 (NLT)



*“All the people
of the earth are*

*nothing compared to him. **He has the power to do as he pleases among the angels of heaven and with those who live on earth. No one can stop him or challenge him, saying, ‘What do you mean by doing these things?’*** **Daniel 4:35 (NLT)**

**GOD HAS THE
POWER TO**

GOD

HAS THE POWER TO CONTROL

GOD HAS THE POWER TO CONTROL ALL THINGS

GOD

Power to Created

Control

All Things



“There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy...”

James 4:12 (NASB)



"God has every right to exercise His judgment and His power, but He also has the right to be very patient with those who are the objects of His judgment..." Romans 9:22 (NLT)

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GOD HAS THE



**GOD HAS THE
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JUDGE

GOD HAS THE RIGHT TO JUDGE ALL THINGS

GOD

Power to **Created**

Control
Judge

Right to

All Things





***“You are worthy, O Lord, To receive
glory and honor and power; For You
created all things, And by Your will they
exist and were created.”***

Revelation 4:11 (NKJ)



**GOD DESERVES
ALL THE PRAISE**

GOD DESERVES ALL THE PRAISE FROM ALL THINGS

GOD

Deserves All Created
Power to
Control Right to
Praise
Judge

All Things

Though God has the power to control, the right to judge, and deserves all praise, there are others who have tried to take these rights.

It started with Satan.



*“How you are
fallen from
heaven, O
Lucifer...you
have said in
your heart: ‘I will*



ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.”

Isaiah 14:12–14 (NKJ)

“I will ascend into heaven.”

He wants to take control and do what he pleases.

“I will sit on the mount of the congregation.”

He wants to rule and *judge* from a seat of authority.

“I will exalt my throne.”

He wants people to bow at his throne and *praise* him.

Satan Tries to Be Like God.

Trying to be like God did not end with Satan. Satan (in the form of a serpent) successfully tempted Adam and Eve to

follow his rebellion of trying to be like
God.

Man Tries to Be Like God!





*“Then the serpent said to the woman,
‘You will not surely die. For God knows
that in the day you eat of it your eyes*

*will be opened, and **you will be like God, knowing good and evil.**”*

Genesis 3:4–5 (NKJ)

Adam and Eve chose to follow Satan in trying to be like God, rather than acknowledging God as God and obeying Him.

That pattern of behavior passed to all mankind.

Whom else do you know who has been deceived into thinking he/she could assume the rights of God?

Time for the Personal Survey

| | | |
|--|-----|----|
| Does it bother you when you're not in control? | YES | NO |
| Does it frustrate you when things don't go your way? | YES | NO |
| Do you have trouble asking for help? | YES | NO |

| | | |
|---|-----|----|
| Do you get impatient when people don't do things right? | YES | NO |
| Does it upset you when you don't get good service? | YES | NO |
| Do you try to change people? | YES | NO |
| Do you look for approval or thanks from others? | YES | NO |
| Do you try to keep people happy? | YES | NO |
| Do you reject those who mistreat you? | YES | NO |

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, that is an area where you are

trying to be like God in your own life or the lives of others.

MAN TRIES TO CONTROL

MAN TRIES TO CONTROL ALL THINGS

GOD

Power to Deserves All Created

Control Right to Praise

Judge

Tries to control **All Things**







“Can all your worries add a single moment to your life? Of course not.”

Matthew 6:27 (NLT)





“Then the LORD answered Job from the whirlwind, ‘Are you going to discredit my justice and condemn me so you can say you are right?’” **Job 40:6, 8 (NLT)**



“Has the LORD ever needed anyone’s advice? Does he need instruction about what is good or what is best?”

Isaiah 40:14 (NLT)





“Have you never heard or understood? Don’t you know that the LORD is the everlasting God, the

Creator of all the earth? He never grows faint or weary. No one can measure the depths of his understanding.” **Isaiah 40:28 (NLT)**

MAN WANTS TO JUDGE & CONDEMN

MAN WANTS TO JUDGE & CONDEMN

GOD

Power to ^{Deserves All} Created

Control ^{Right to}

Praise

Judge

Wants to judge Tries to control

All Things





“God alone, who made the law, can

*rightly judge among us. He alone has the power to save or to destroy. So what right do you have to **condemn your neighbor?**” James 4:12 (NLT)*





“Be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love.”

Ephesians 4:2 (NLT)



“Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands

or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand.” **Romans 14:4 (NKJ)**





“Stop judging others, and you will not be judged. Stop criticizing others, or it will all come back on you. If you forgive others, you will be forgiven.” **Luke 6:37**

(NLT)

MAN SEEKS PRAISE AND APPROVAL

MAN SEEKS PRAISE

GOD

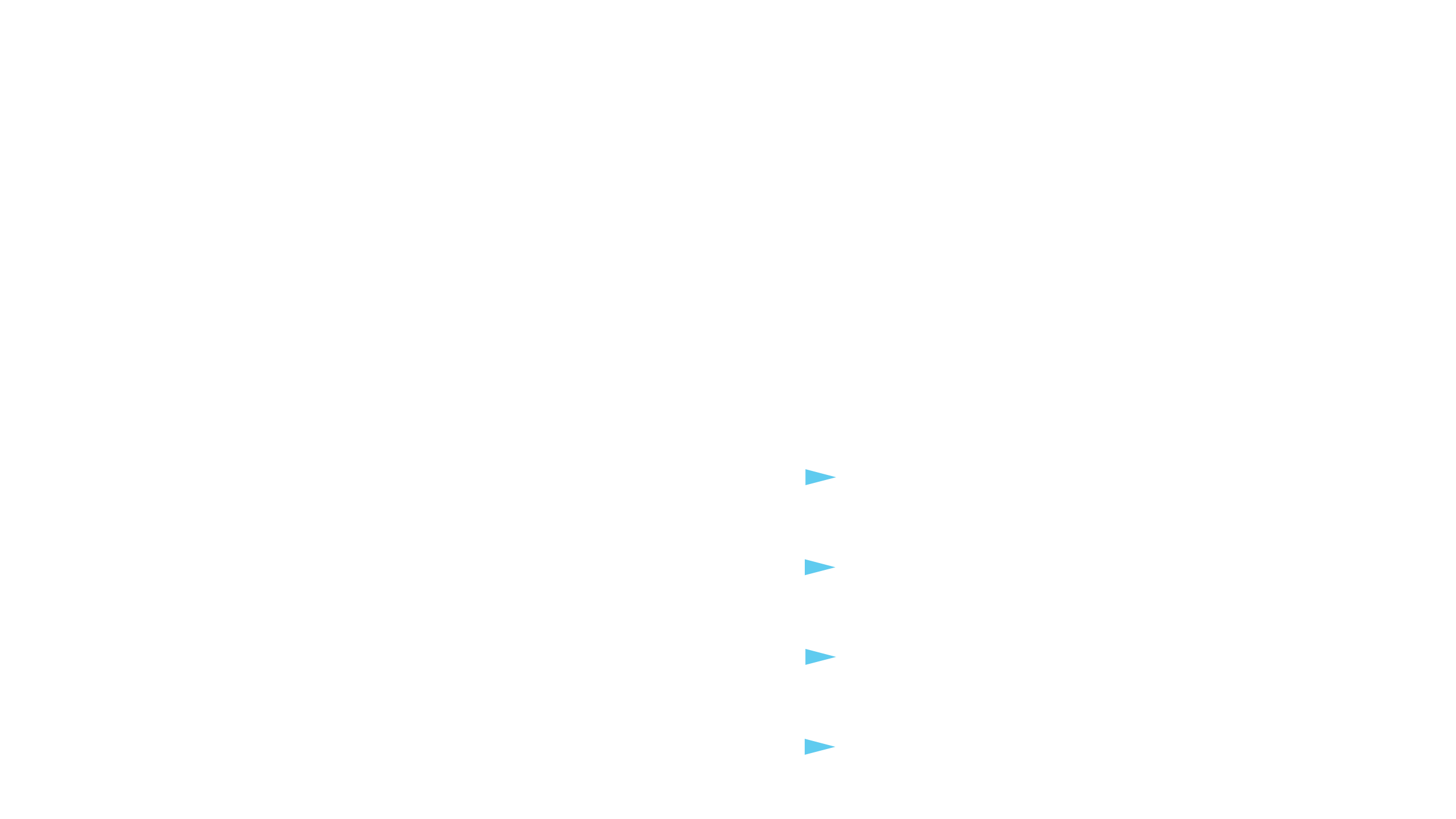
Power to ^{Deserves All} Created

Control ^{Right to}
Praise_e

Judge
Wants to judge Tries to control **All Things**

Seeks
praise







“I am the LORD; that is my name! I will not give my glory to anyone else. I will not share my praise...”

Isaiah 42:8 (NLT)



*“...In Your presence is fullness of joy;
At Your right hand are pleasures
forevermore.”* **Psalms 16:11 (NKJ)**



*“For we know Him who said,
‘Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,’*

*says the Lord. And again, ‘The Lord
will judge His people.’”*

Hebrews 10:30 (NKJ)





*“...As the Scriptures say, ‘God sets Himself against the **proud**, but He shows favor to the **humble**.’”*

James 4:6 (NLT)

The life of Jesus, the Son of God stands in stark contrast to Satan and Adam. Although He Himself is God, He gave up His rights as God and became a man.





“Though He was God, He did not demand and cling to His rights as God.” **Philippians 2:6 (NLT)**

GOD

Power to ^{Deserves All} Created

Control ^{Right to}
Praise_e

Judge

Wants to judge Tries to control **All Things**

Seeks
praise

JESUS TRUSTED GOD'S CONTROL

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GOD

Power to ^{Deserves All} **Created**

Control ^{Right to}
Praise_e

Judge

Wants to judge Tries to control **All Things** ^{Trusted God's} control

Seeks
praise





“[Jesus] made Himself of no

*reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He **humbled** Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.”* **Philippians 2:7–8 (NKJ)**





*“And while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept **entrusting** Himself to Him who judges righteously.”*

1 Peter 2:23 (NASB)

**JESUS DID NOT
JUDGE &
CONDEMN**

JESUS DID NOT JUDGE & CONDEMN

GOD

Power to ^{Deserves All} Created

Control ^{Right to}
Praise_e

Judge

Wants to judge Tries to control **All Things** Did not judge Trusted God's control

Seeks
praise



“If

*anyone hears My sayings and does
not keep them, I **do not judge him;***

for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world.”

John 12:47 (NASB)





*“Jesus said, ‘Father, **forgive** these people, because they don’t know what they are doing...’”*

Luke 23:34 (NLT)

JESUS DID NOT SEEK THE PRAISE OF MAN

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GOD

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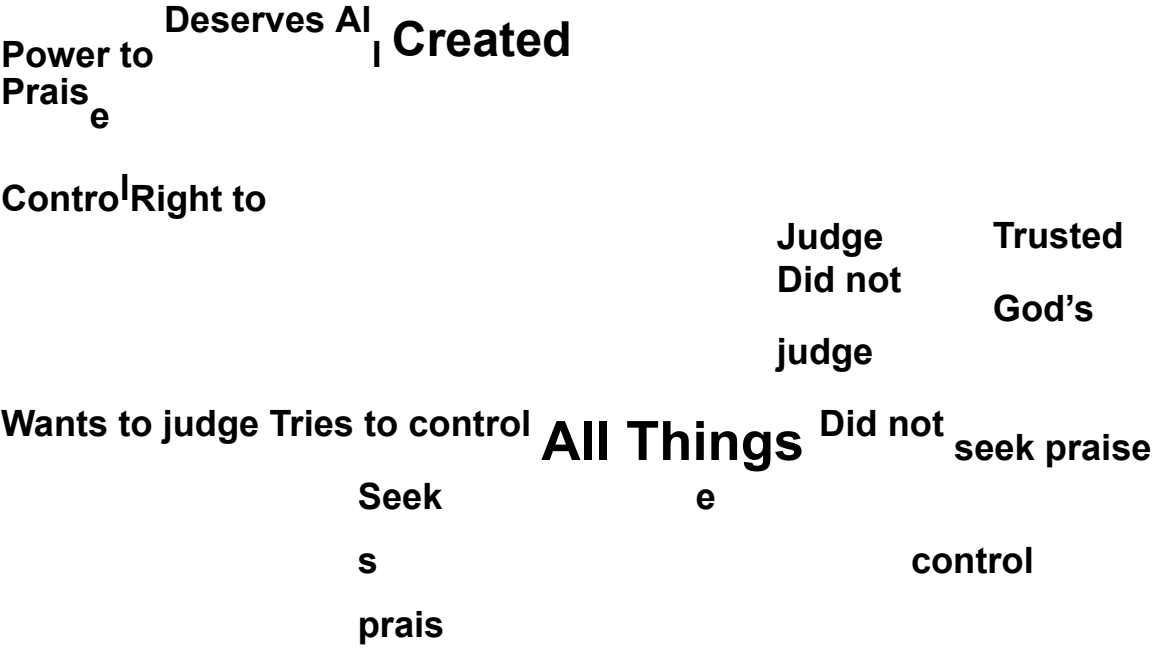
*“And suddenly a voice came from
heaven, saying, ‘This is My beloved*

Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

Matthew 3:17 (NKJ)

God is Over All Things

GOD



When you try to be “god” of your own life, not only are you going in the opposite direction of Jesus, you are actually following Satan’s example.

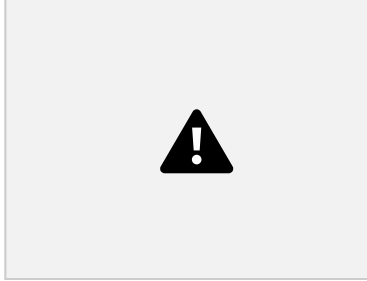
Competing with God is sin.

God is Over All Things

GOD

Power to
Praise
Deserves All
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Control Right to



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Did not judge

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Wants to judge Tries to control

All Things

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If you have been controlling, judging others or seeking praise, now is the time to turn to follow Jesus' way, instead of going your own way - trying to play God.

NOW IS THE TIME!



GOD IS GOD AND I AM NOT



*“I pondered the direction of my life,
and I turned to follow your statutes.”*

Psalms 119:59 (NLT)

God is Over All Things

GOD

Power to ^{Deserves All} Created

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