

FATHER
FRIEND
SAVIOR

BIBLICAL TENSION

LORD
HOLY
JUST

— THE GOD WHO DRAWS US NEAR —
IS THE SAME GOD BEFORE WHOM WE TREMBLE.



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Do we divide what the Bible brings together?

- Father without Lord.
- Friend without Master.
- Grace without holiness.
- Forgiveness without repentance.
- Confidence without reverence.

Or . . .

- Judge without Father.
- Master without Friend.
- Holiness without mercy.
- Obedience without assurance.
- Fear without love.

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God has always revealed Himself as holy and merciful:

- God, Adam & Eve (**Gen. 3**)
 - God punishes and provides.
- God & Moses (**Exo. 3:1-6; 4:24-26; 34:5-8**)
 - God calls but instructs him to stay back.
 - God calls but threatens his life.
 - God reveals His nature, but warns.
- God & A Sabbath Breaker (**Num. 15:32-36**)
 - God provides and punishes.
- God & David (**2 Sam. 12**)
 - God provides and punishes.

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In Christ, we learn how to live before God.

- God & John (1 Jn. 1:5-10; 2:1-6; 3:4-10, 19-20)
 - God knows our hearts. That's good, correct?
- God & Us (Hebrews 12:25-28; Rom. 8:12-17)
 - Faith doesn't run from God in terror nor approach Him causally.

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Ultimately, it's embracing both because we're embracing God!

- Because He is Father, come near.
- Because He is Lord, obey.
- Because He is holy, revere Him.
- Because He is merciful, don't run away when you fail.
- Because He is Savior, trust Him.

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