

# Maple Springs Baptist Church

Series: GOD is here.

Week 6: Putting Your Hope in Hevel

**Ecclesiastes 2:10-11**

Results of a "root" problem: putting our hope and happiness in temporary things.

**1. Anxiety.** Why do we get so anxious so often? **From forgetting that GOD is present even if "This!" isn't.**

Anxiety is uncertainty, and everything is uncertain except for GOD. So what's the cure? **COLOSSIANS 3:4** "Christ, who is your life." Until your heart is satisfied in GOD, anxiety will make you sick.

**2. OCD—Obsessive Comparison Disorder.**

If, instead of being satisfied that GOD is here. . . Your happiness will hang on unending, obsessive comparisons. **1 CORINTHIANS 1:27-28.**

**GOD is—even with those of us who don't get the world's praise.**

**3. Exhaustion.** You would love to sit down and rest, but you can't. Religion is an exhausting list of rules and rituals. Trying to satisfy the human heart apart from GOD is exhausting. And never ending. And dangerous.

GOD invited us to come and find rest **MATTHEW 11:28.**

**Exhaustion is a red light on the dashboard of your soul.**

**4. Disobedience.** Jesus' invitation is "Follow me" (**Matthew 4:19**). Make no mistake, following Jesus will cost you the temporary highs that sin so often provides.

Sin is trying to replace GOD with something else out of a desire to be happy. (**MATTHEW 13:44**). **Your odds of following Jesus = What you think of GOD.**

**5. Anger.** You get angry at GOD when He takes away your "This!"

Which is why GOD put **Job** in the Bible. Job loved GOD. He thought much of GOD. But what would happen if GOD took away Job's "This!" **JOB 1:9-11**. Job proved Satan wrong. **JOB 1:20-21**.

Notice what got Job back on track—not a logical explanation of GOD's plan for his pain, but a personal encounter with the glorious Creator GOD. Job's story is all of our stories. We all experience many moments when the Lords stops giving and starts taking away. When that happens, do you think much of the GOD who allowed it?

**Without suffering, we would never know if we loved GOD for His presence or His presents.**

Unlike all of the temporary things of life, GOD is always.

## **8 BIBLICAL WAYS TO SAY "GOD IS!"**

1. **Eternal**—Eternal means "without end, lasting, permanent." It is the opposite of hevel. (**Isaiah 26:4**)
2. **Everlasting**—everlasting distinguished GOD from all the temporary blessings that don't last forever. (**Isaiah 40:28**).
3. **Unfailing**—GOD doesn't give up, give out, or grow old. GOD is constant, steady, and reliable. (**Psalms 13:5**).
4. **Enduring**—To endure means "to stick around, to last, to be persistent and permanent." (**1 Chronicles 16:34**).
5. **Always**—Always means "without fail, consistently, 24/7/365." (**Matthew 28:20**).
6. **Never**—Never means "not ever, at no time, not even once." GOD never fades or fails, even if everything else in life does. (**Hebrews 13:5**).
7. **Remain**—means "to stick around, to not leave, to last." Due to His eternal character, GOD remains with us. (**Psalms 146:6**).

**8. Faithful**—To be faithful means "to be dependable, trustworthy, or constant."  
Too often, people break their promises. But GOD is faithful. (**Psalm 36:5**).

**GOD is not like 'This!'**

**'This!' is temporary. GOD is eternal!"**