

## FOUR VIEWS OF GOD

In September of 2006, Sociologists from Baylor University released the results of a study looking into America's different views of God. Part of the study was a survey conducted by the Gallup organization, which identified four distinct views of God's personality and interaction with the world. Baylor researchers outlined the results as follows:

Those who believe in an "Authoritarian God" who is "angry at humanity's sins and engaged in every creature's life and world affairs": 31.4 percent.

Those who believe in a "Benevolent God" who is forgiving and accepting of anyone who repents: 23 percent.

Those who believe in a "Critical God" who "has his judgmental eye on the world, but he's not going to intervene, either to punish or comfort": 16 percent.

Those who believe in a "Distant God" who is more of a "cosmic force that launched the world, then left it spinning on its own": 24.4 percent.

If you are having trouble picturing what God is like, though, just look at His Son Jesus.... "Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father" (John 14:9).