Q: Does it matter what God looks like? Should we even be interested?

*Psalm 27:4 One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.*

I. GOD IS LIGHT

A. God has the appearance of Jasper, like a diamond. (Rev. 21:11). The New Jerusalem that comes down from heaven has the glory of God like jasper, clear as crystal.

B. God is light. By His nature, God is light and there is no darkness in Him at all. 

*This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. (1 John 1:5)*

C. God is surrounded by light and He is clothed in light. The light surrounding God speaks of His beauty, holiness, and purity. (Psa. 104:2; 1 Tim. 6:16)

D. Jesus Christ, the Son of God is light. (Matt 17:2; John 8:12)

E. God is the Father of Lights

*James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.*

1. The first act of God as Creator was to call light into being and separate it from the darkness. It reflects who He is. (Gen. 1:3-4)

2. God relates to us in the manifestation of His light. God desires for us to live in His light. 

*Numbers 6:25 The LORD make His face shine upon you, And be gracious to you.*

3. In the age to come, we will live in the light of God. (Rev. 22:5; 21:23)

F. God’s appearance like jasper speaks of His purity, holiness, and goodness. We can understand the concept of God’s nature, but it takes revelation to truly know God.
II. GOD IS A CONSUMING-FIRE

A. God also has the appearance of sardius stone, a deep-red stone.

And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald. (Rev. 4:3)

1. God has fiery desire and burning passion. This gives us insight into what He feels like. God is not an emotionless being or impersonal spirit.

B. One of the first revelations in the Bible of God’s is that He is a consuming fire.

Deuteronomy 4:24 For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God. (c.f. Heb. 12:29)

1. The jealousy of God is essential to His moral character. It causes worship and confidence in His people, and fear in all who come against that fiery love. (2 Cor. 11:2-3)

2. God is represented in the OT as the spouse of His people: (Isa. 54:5; 62:5; Jer. 3:1; Ezek. 16:8; Hos. 2:18, 19). The Bridegroom God is filled with benevolent jealousy. He will not relent in His pursuit until He has all our heart. (Exo. 34:14)

C. God’s appearance like sardius speaks of His passion for His people and His fiery zeal for justice. He will remove all that hinders love.

1. God is zealous and passionate for His people. He seeks exclusivity in His relationship with us. We are to have no other gods. He calls for all of our heart, soul, strength, and mind.

D. God’s appearance like sardius also speaks of His zeal for justice. God will remove everything that hinders love (Deut. 9:3; Heb. 12:28-29).

III. THE GATHERING PLACE

A. We will stand on the sea of glass is mingled with fire. (Rev. 15:2-3)

B. We will stand on the sea of glass, the gathering place of heaven and gaze upon the face of God. We will have resurrection bodies that can be receptive to everything around the throneroom. (Rev. 15:2-3; 22:4)

C. As the Day of the Lord, and Jesus’ return are approaching, it becomes more vital that we commit to assembling of ourselves together. (Heb. 10:24-25)

D. The Stewardship Campaign is a focus point for us to look forward to the Day of Jesus’ appearing, when we will stand on that sea of glass. To consider our gathering place in heaven and our earthly gathering place, to beautify it.