

## Three Levels of Interpreting the Character of God

### **1.) God relating to the world**

- God, the creator of the world (Elohim Gen.1:1)
- God's redemptive plan for humankind
- God, different from Egyptian gods and other idols
- God, the judge of the world: flood, Babel...
- How does the New Testament interpret Genesis?

### **2.) God relating to the people of Israel**

- The roots of Israel as a people group
- The reason for Israel to be slaves in Egypt
- The future of Israel
- The covenant with Abraham, the promises and fulfillments
- Jacob calls him 'El-Elohe-Israel' the God of Israel
- Genealogies explaining the origins of people groups
- The beginnings of the 12 tribes

### **3.) God relating to the individual**

- God, the creator of individuals (Yahweh Gen.2:14)
- God's care for the outcast: Hagar, Leah, Tamar...
- God reveals himself to individuals through dreams, visions, angels...
- Hagar calls him 'El-Roi' the God who sees
- Genealogies point out individuals and their unique achievements
- details about individuals' faith, sin, obedience, ... etc. to show how people should / should not relate to God