



Equipping The Saints

Doctrine of God

Who is GOD? What does it mean that GOD is TRINITY?

Our study of this doctrine will be drawn from Genesis through Revelation, to learn what the Scripture has to say about God's existence, His nature and divine attributes. Come and join us!

8 Mar - 12 Apr | Wed, 8.00 - 9.30pm

6 lessons

Led by Eld. Jason Loy

Online Via ZOOM

REGISTER NOW

<https://bit.ly/ETS2023DOG>

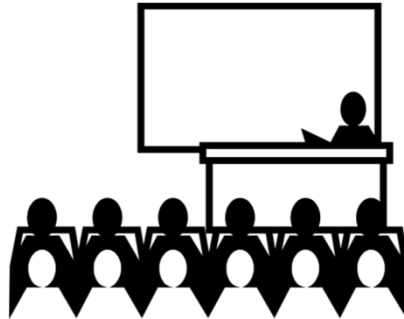


Lesson 1

The Doctrine of God

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Why do we study this topic about God?



The Greatest Thing In All My Life Is Knowing You;
The Greatest Thing In All My Life Is Knowing You.
I Want To Know You More, I Want To Know You More.
The Greatest Thing In All My Life Is Knowing You.

For I decided to **know** nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. (1 Cor 2:2)



Know
Christ



Everything
else

What about us? Do we **know** Jesus Christ and Him crucified?



Circumcised on the 8th day, Jew, tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews, Pharisees, zealous, religious, blameless (Phi 3:5-6)

Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of **knowing** Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ (Phi 3:8)

Know Christ
is **worthy**



Everything else
is **rubbish**

What about us? Do we **know** Jesus Christ more than everything else?

Paul



Walk in a manner worthy of
the Lord, fully pleasing to Him; bearing
fruit in every good work and increasing
in the knowledge of God.

COLOSSIANS 1:10

*What about us? Do we **know** God more and more each day?*

May grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of
Jesus our Lord. (2 Pet 1:2)



*What about us? Do we have the **knowledge of God**?*

Peter



And we **know** that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may **know** him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. (2 Pet 1:2)

What about us? Do we **know** the Son of God? Do we **know** Him who is true?

What is eternal life?



Eternal Life = *living forever and ever in heaven?*

(Eternity: No time concept)

Not length of time, but quality of life

And this is eternal life, that they **know** you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. (John 17:3)



Knowing
God

=

Having
eternal life

To know God, the True God of the Bible, to have intimate relationship with God

Why did God create us?





And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. (Gen 1:31a)

God wants His creation to know Him and to give Him glory

We are made to know God and to glorify God

The knowledge of God is key to everything

What does the Bible say about us those who don't know God?



Now the sons of Eli were **worthless** men. They **did not know** the LORD. (1 Sam 2:12)

Eli, the priest



If we **do not know** God, our lives are **worthless, useless and meaningless**

Know God

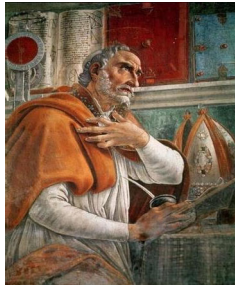
If we know God, we can know the meaning and purpose of our existence



Do not know God

If anyone does not know God, he will not know the meaning and purpose of his existence





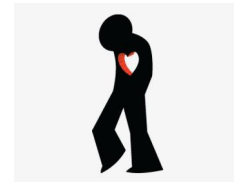
AD 354

There is a God-shaped vacuum
in every man that only Christ can
fill.

~ Saint Augustine

We are all created to know the true God.

If we do not know the true God, we will never know any
peace, we will never be satisfied.



when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels ⁸ in flaming fire,
inflicting vengeance on those **who do not know God** and on those who do not obey
the **gospel of our Lord Jesus** (2 The 1:7b-8)



The 2nd Coming of the Lord as **Judge and King**

Know God

Those who come to know God and give Him glory, God brings them to His presence eternally



Do not know God

Those who refuse to come to know God and to rebel against Him, God will one day remove them from His presence eternally



What did God say about us knowing Him?

Thus says the LORD: “Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, ²⁴ but let him who boasts boast in this, **that he understands and knows me**, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.” (Jer 9:23-24)



Wisdom



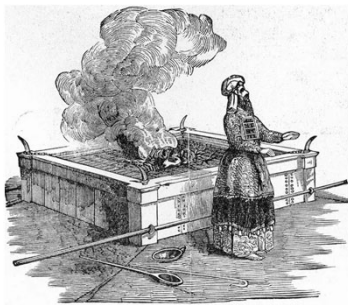
Might



Riches

God wants us to know Him, who He is, what He does and what He says

For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings. (Hosea 6:6)



God wants us to know Him, **not sacrifice**

Nothing we can give to please God, other
than **our love** and to **know Him intimately**

Beloved, let us **love** one another, for **love** is from God, and whoever **loves** has been born of God and **knows** God. ⁸ Anyone who does not **love** does not **know** God, because God is love. (1 John 4:7-8)

Do we know the right things about God?

If we know the
wrongs things
about God



Then we have a
wrong view about God



Then we worship the
"wrong god"

We are committing idolatry



We believe only what **the Scripture**
has defined for us **who God is**



Not based on our opinion of
how God should be like

If we define ourselves **how God should be like**



We are creating our **own 'gods'**



So many different **false religions**



Is there a God?

How to prove that God exists?

If there is a God, how do we know who is the true God?



2 types of Fools:

1. Those who claimed "There is no God!"

Atheist



2. Those who invent their "own god"



1. The first Fool

I cannot see God
NO! There is no God!

God is true and living

This fool uses his own 'cleverness' to refute God's existence




If God shows Himself to me, then I will believe



The fool is self-centered and proud, *make demands of God to listen to him, to appear at his command*

The fool assume by '*seeing*' something then can prove something to exist



The fool

There is no God!


The fool says in his heart, “**There is no God.**”
They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds;
there is none who does good. (Ps 14:1)

God

God is God
God is Divine
God is Sovereign
God is The Creator

God has no obligation to listen to our demands

We are men
We are not divine
We are not sovereign
We are the created beings



Who has measured the Spirit of the LORD,
or what man shows him his counsel? (Isa 40:13)

“For who has known the mind of the Lord,
or who has been his counselor?” (Rom 11:34)

We are not qualified to tell God what to do or how to make Him more believable to people, we are not His counsellors.



If we can prove God to exist, or to make God appears as we wish, then we are greater than God

God's existence is not dependable
to our debate or discussion



God's existence is not for us to
prove in a laboratory



God's existence is for us to
believe by faith



Moses asked God if the people of
Israel asked what is Your name,
what shall I say to them?"

I AM WHO I AM
EXODUS 3:14



“There is no God!”

The existence of God does not depend on man’s shouting “there is no God!”


God exists, or God is, regardless of man’s opinion or debate

The fool



The fool says in his heart, “***There is no God.***”
They are **corrupt**, they **do abominable deeds**;
there is **none who does good**. (Ps 14:1)

They **wish** there is no God because **God is holy**



The fool

There is no God!


In the pride of his face **the wicked** does not seek him; all his thoughts are, "**There is no God.**" (Ps 10:4)

The unrepentant sinner

They **hope** that there is no God

They **know** that God is holy and will one day judge their evil acts

They **do not want** to have a God that will punish them



That is why, they shout:

"There is no god!"

Adam and Eve

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife **hid** themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. (Gen 3:8)



When Adam and Eve **sinned**

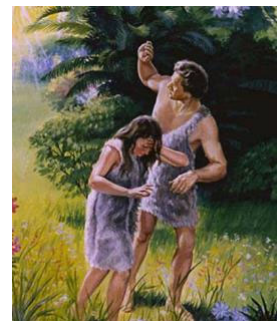
They **hid** from God

God is holy and **they are not**

God

Holy

Sin



The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, **yet the world did not know him.** ¹¹ He came to his own, and **his own people did not receive him.** (John 1:9-11)



Jesus was the light that shines in darkness



The people rejected Jesus

And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people **loved the darkness** rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things **hates the light** and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. (John 3:19-20)

Love the darkness



Hate the Light





The holiness of God is traumatic to
unholy people.

— R. C. Sproul —

2. The second Fool

I don't believe in the God
of the Bible;
I will invent my own god



God of the Bible



Man does not accept the Holy God described in the Bible

Man *invents and designs his own god*, to suit their own passion and lust

They are turned back and utterly put to shame,
who trust in **carved idols**, who say to **metal images**, “You are our gods.” (Isa 42:17)



All who fashion idols are nothing, and the things they delight in do not profit. Their witnesses neither see nor know, that they may be put to shame. (Isa 44:9)



The Israelites worshipped the **golden calf**

Every man is stupid and without knowledge;
every goldsmith is put to shame **by his idols**, for his images are false,
and there is **no breath in them**.

¹⁵ They are **worthless**, a work of **delusion**;
at the time of their punishment they shall perish. (Jer 10:14-15)



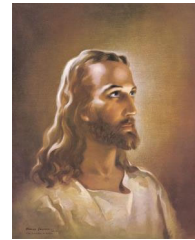
"Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: Repent and turn away
from your idols, and turn away your faces from all your abominations. (Eze 14:6)



Ten Commandments

- 1 - YOU SHALL HAVE NO OTHER "GODS" BEFORE ME
- 2 - YOU SHALL NOT MAKE FOR YOURSELF AN IDOL
- 3 - YOU SHALL NOT TAKE THE NAME OF GOD IN VAIN
- 4 - REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY TO KEEP IT HOLY
- 5 - HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER
- 6 - YOU SHALL NOT MURDER
- 7 - YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY
- 8 - YOU SHALL NOT STEAL
- 9 - YOU SHALL NOT LIE
- 10 - YOU SHALL NOT COVET

Exodus 20:3-17



Many false religions spring up
to deceive, to distract and to destroy



You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for **he is a liar and the father of lies.** (John 8:44)

Satan is father of lies



God wants to bless you, with material things !
God will make you healthy and well !
Speak things into existence ! Name it, claim it!
God will enlarge your territory !
You can come as you are, continue in your sins!



Prosperity gospel

Portray the 'wrong god' of the bible

A 'god' of **wealth, health and prosperity**

A 'god' of **love only, no hatred of sin**

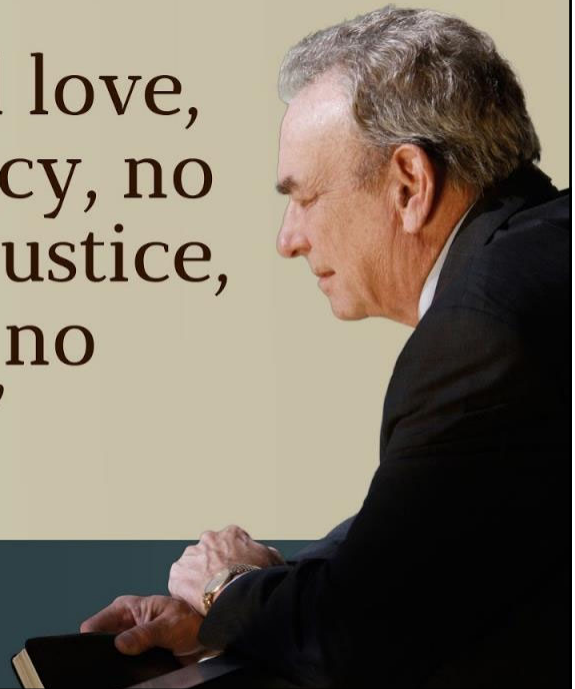
No one can serve two masters.
Either you will hate the one
and love the other, or you will be
devoted to the one and despise
the other. You cannot serve
both God and money.

Matthew 6:24



“A god who is all love,
all grace, all mercy, no
sovereignty, no justice,
no holiness, and no
wrath is an idol.”

R.C. SPROUL





Those who **do not know God**, or who believe in the "wrong god", will suffer under God's wrath for all eternity



If you believe in the wrong 'god',
you are damned



If you walk away from the True God,
you are damned

Your whole eternity is at stake, don't be a fool

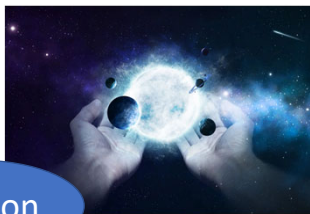
How do we know that God exists?



God's existence is not for us to prove, but to believe by faith

God
reveals

Creation



Christ



Conscience



Word



General revelation

Special revelation

For what can be known about God **is plain to them**, because **God has shown** it to them. ²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, **have been clearly perceived**, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are **without excuse**. (Rom 1:19-20)



When one looks at God's creation, he or she has **no excuse** to know that God exists

Cosmology argument: cause and effect

CAUSE

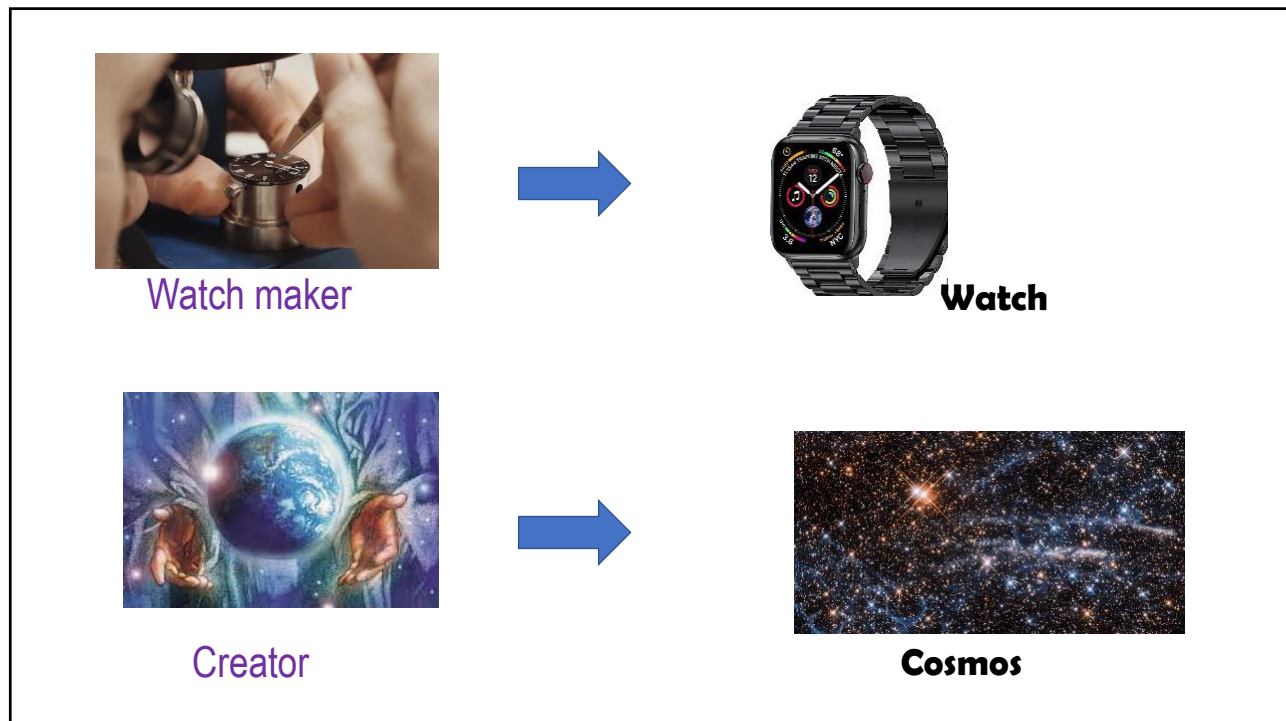
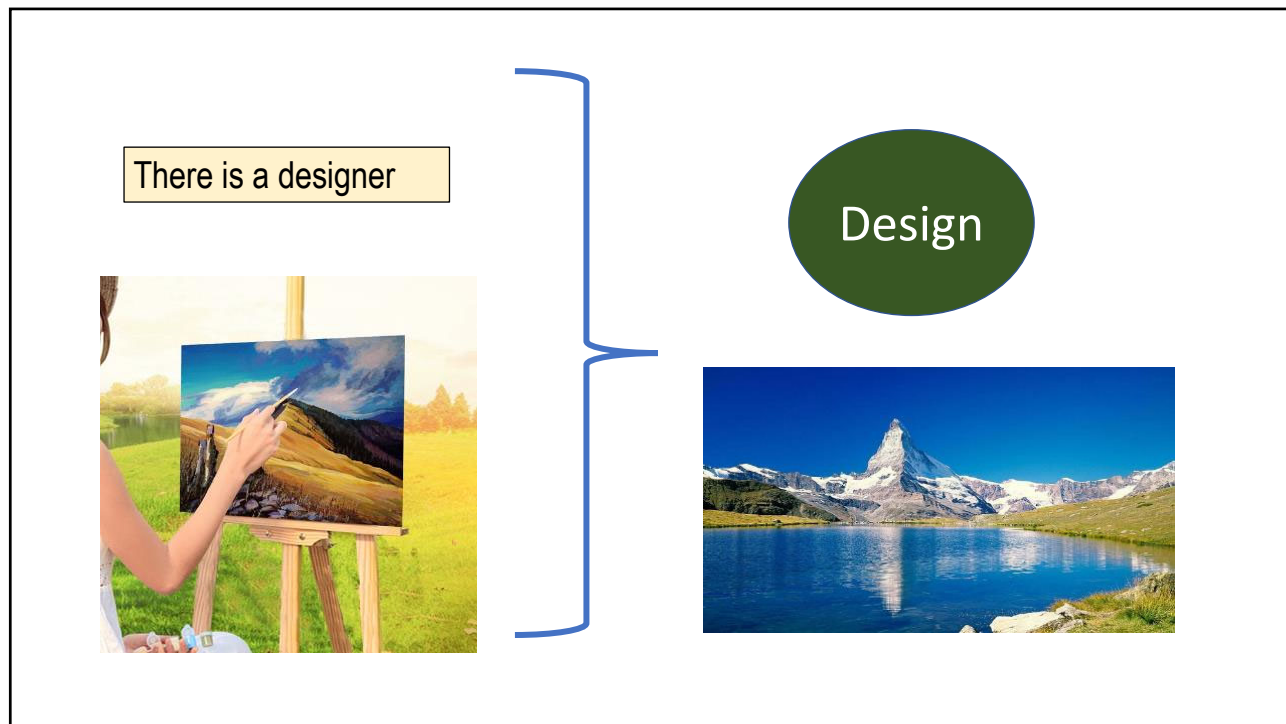
Some Higher Being must have made the world

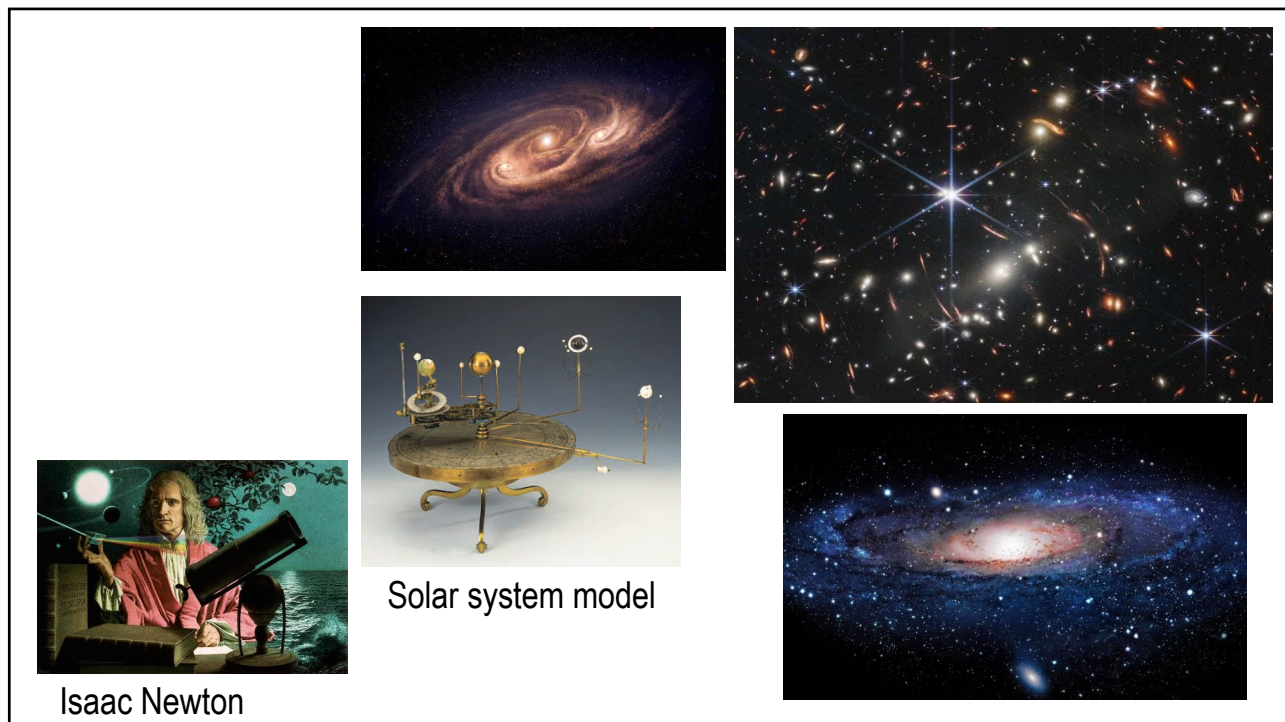
EFFECT



We live in this world
we can see and touch







There is no God argument

Nobody X Nothing = Everything

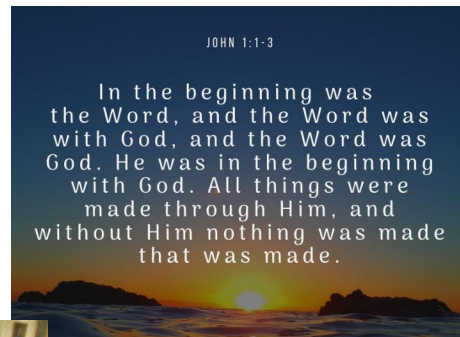
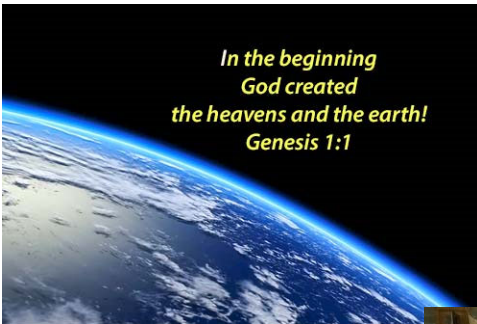


There is God argument

Somebody X Nothing = Everything

GOD





God, The Creator, reveals to us from the Scripture how this world came about

Man has morality to know right and wrong

They show that the work of the law **is written on their hearts**, while **their conscience** also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them (Rom 2:15)



Man has built-in warning system: conscience

Morality argument: man has sense of morality

Must have necessity of an
Absolute Standard

Moral Law Giver



Man knows right & wrong
Man knows good & evil

And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe **that he exists** and that he rewards those who seek him. (Heb 11:6)

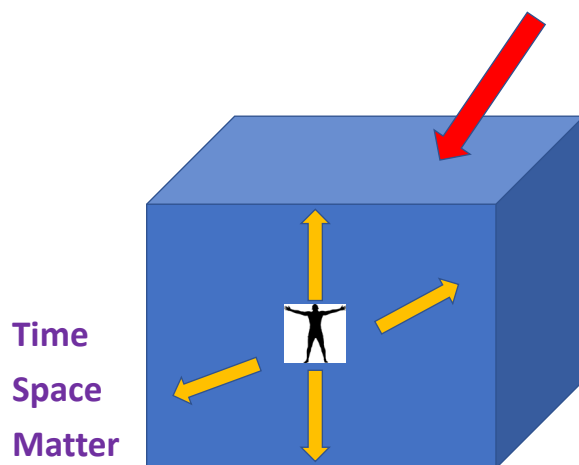
The true believer can only please God through faith

The true believer must believe God exists



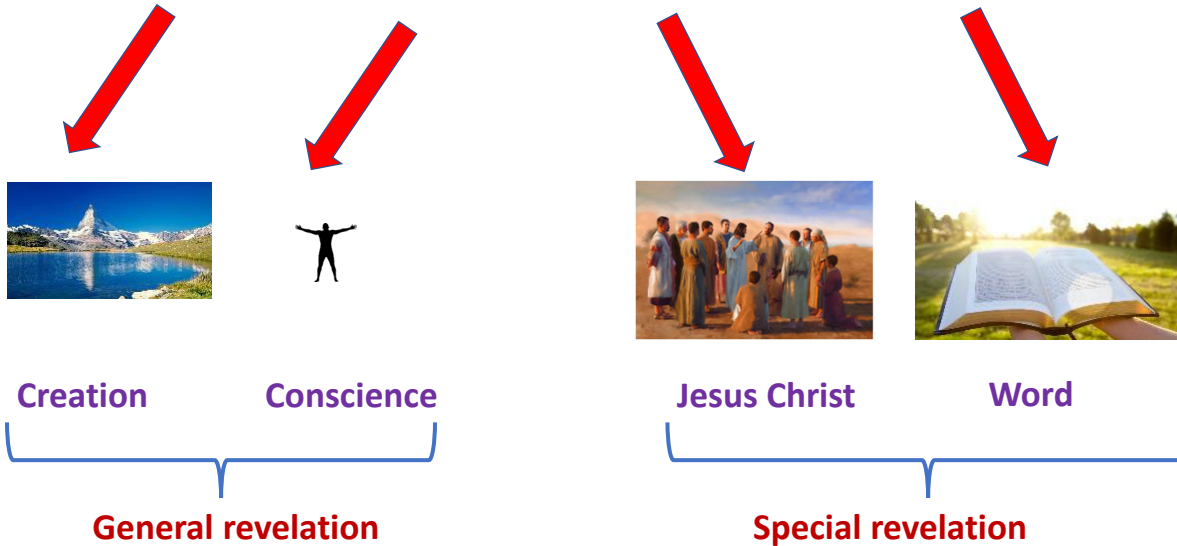
How do we know who is the true God?

God reveals Himself



Finite man can never fathom the infinite God

God reveals Himself



In the beginning was **the Word**, and the **Word was with God**, and the **Word was God**. (John 1:1)

And the **Word became flesh** and dwelt among us, and **we have seen his glory**, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John 1:14)

Jesus is God who came in
human flesh

No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, **he has made him known.** (John 1:18)

Jesus revealed God to us



His life



His love



His healing



His rebuke



His anger

Did Jesus declare to be God?

YES

So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. **For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise.**”(John 5:19)



God reveals Himself from the Bible, through Jesus Christ

We see what **Jesus does**, we see what **God the Father does**

They said to him therefore, “Where is your Father?” Jesus answered, “You know neither me nor my Father. **If you knew me, you would know my Father also.**” (John 8:19)



If we know **Jesus Christ**, we will know **who God is** and we will know **Jesus is God**

So Jesus said to them, “When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority, **but speak just as the Father taught me.** (John 8:28)



We hear Jesus' words, we hear God' words
Jesus is saying exactly what **God** says

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? **Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.** How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? (John 14:8)



God reveals Himself from the Bible, through Jesus Christ
 We see **Jesus**, we see **God**

Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad.” ⁵⁷ So the Jews said to him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?” ⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, “**Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am.**” ⁵⁹ So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple. (John 8:56-59)

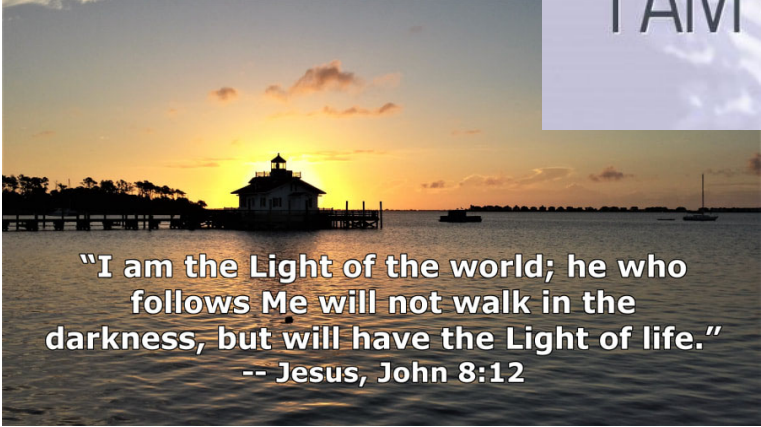


The Jews knew Jesus claimed to be God

“I and the Father are one.”

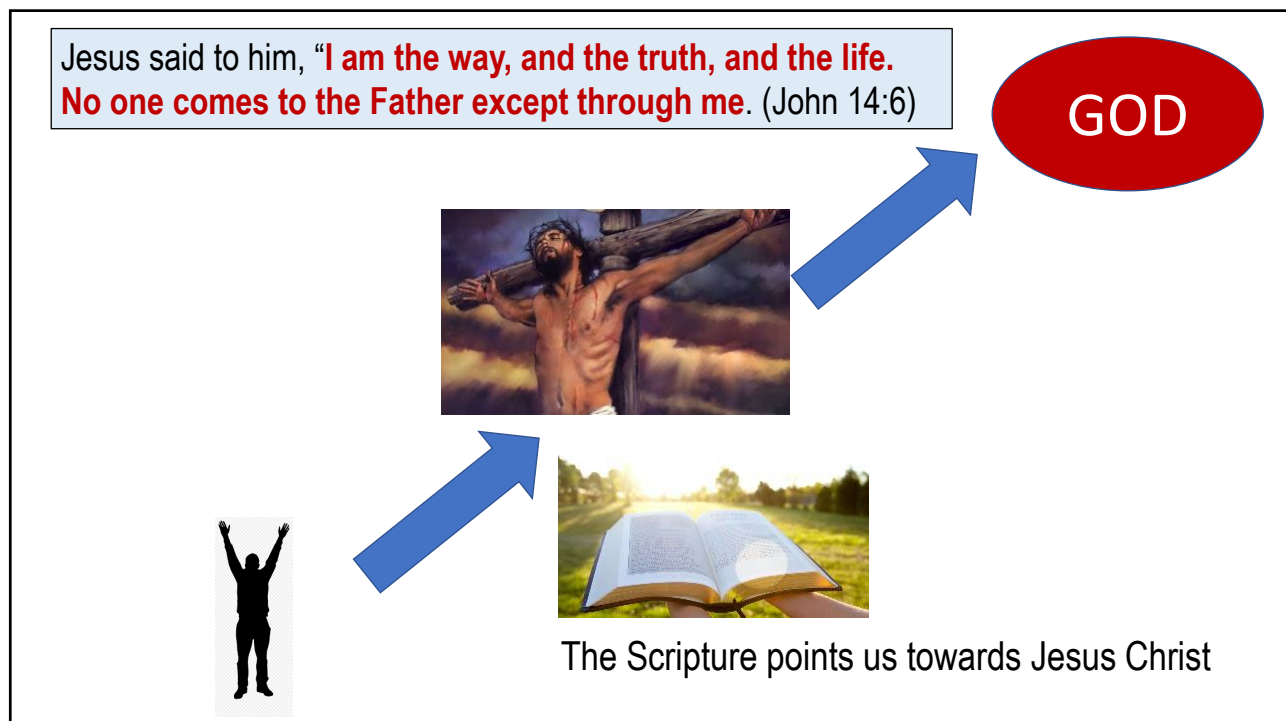
³¹ The Jews picked up stones again to stone him. ³² Jesus answered them, “I have shown you many good works from the Father; for which of them are you going to stone me?” ³³ The Jews answered him, “It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you but for blasphemy, because you, being a man, **make yourself God.**” (John 10:30-33)





I AM WHO I AM
EXODUS 3:14

**"I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."
-- Jesus, John 8:12**



Jesus is the Only Saviour



So how can we know God more and more?

Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, **he will keep my word**, and my Father will love him, and **we** will come to him and **make our home** with him. (John 14:23)

We can know God, through reading and keeping His word

We can know God, because God is in us

We can know God, because Jesus is in us

If we keep God's words, we can be sure that The Father and Son are in us



The only way for us to know God, is for God to reveal to us through **the Scripture**

The only way for us to know God, is to know and believe in **Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour**

“There must be a God who is infinite, eternal, omnipotent, omnipresent, omniscient, personal, emotional, volitional, moral, spiritual, aesthetic, holy, just, loving, and living. It’s all there. And you pick up **the Bible**, and **the Bible** substantiates every bit of that. God is.”



Pastor John MacArthur

Next week

Who is God?

What is God like?



The God of the Bible

