

Lesson 2 - God

God's Existence

The Bible does not attempt to prove that there is a God. The first verse in the Bible reads as follows: "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Genesis 1:1). No further discussion or debate is needed concerning the existence of God. Man's wisdom will never lead to knowledge of God. This can only come through faith.

Every person has been given two clear testimonies of God's existence. One of these testimonies is the world that God has created. All men easily observe this outward testimony. Another testimony is the conscience that He has placed within every person. The Bible clearly describes the person who rejects these testimonies: "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good" (Psalm 14:1).

Atheists deny the existence of God not because of logical or scientific arguments. Their real reason for denying God's existence is a moral reason. Denying God's existence is a way of seeking to avoid being responsible to an Almighty Creator. If there is no God, I can live any way in which I please. I don't need to ever fear judgement for my sin. Those who claim that there is no God are "corrupt" and do many unclean works. They hope that there is not a God who will one day hold them accountable for their thoughts, words, and deeds.

Who Is God?

Though many religions involve the worship of numerous gods and goddesses, the Bible plainly teaches that there is only one true God. "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord" (Deuteronomy 6:4). "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus" (1 Timothy 2:5).

Within the one God, there are three eternal Persons, known as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This understanding cannot be obtained through man's wisdom. Man can only know God when God reveals Himself to man. In the Bible, God has revealed Himself as a Triune God (three in one). "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen." (2 Corinthians 13:14).

The Triune God

The doctrine of the Godhead is most clearly taught in the New Testament, but is confirmed by the Old Testament. God uses a plural pronoun when referring to Himself. "And God said, Let us make man in our image" (Genesis 1:26). "Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language" (Genesis 11:7).

Other Old Testament indications of the Trinity include: the Son spoken of as distinct from the Father; and the Spirit spoken of as distinct from the Father.

Several times, the three Persons of the Godhead are mentioned together in the New Testament. "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit" (1 Peter 3:18). "Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied" (1 Peter 1:2).

Review Questions Lesson 2 - God

True or False

1. The Bible teaches that there are three Persons in one God.
2. The Bible writers often wrote to prove that God exists.
3. People become atheists because there are many sound intellectual and scientific arguments to support their viewpoint.
4. There are several passages in the Bible that mentions all three Persons of the Godhead.

Multiple Choice

5. God's existence can be clearly seen through:
 - a. logical thinking
 - b. scientific study
 - c. creation and conscience
 - d. studying history
6. The Bible teaches that:
 - a. there are many Gods
 - b. there are three Gods
 - c. there is one God
 - d. there is no God
7. The doctrine of the Godhead is most clearly taught in:
 - a. the New Testament
 - b. the Old Testament
 - c. the Koran
 - d. Hindu writings

Fill in the Blanks

8. "In the beginning _____ created the heaven and the earth"
9. Atheists do not truly deny God's existence because of logical or scientific evidence, but because of _____ reasons.
10. The three Persons in one God are the _____, the _____, and the _____

Further Study

John 8:44, Isaiah 6:3 , Ephesians 1:3-14,
Revelation 22:16-19
Psalm 115:3-9, 1 Thessalonians 1:9,
Genesis 1:3; Exodus 20:2-3; Isaiah 45:5,
Genesis 21:33; Psalm 102:27; Isaiah 9:6,
Romans 1:21-23 Exodus 20:4; Leviticus
26:1
Genesis 14:18; Genesis 15:2; Genesis
17:1; Genesis 21:33
Exodus 6:3; Exodus 7:1; 1 Samuel 1:3;
Romans 1:25; 2 Corinthians 1:3;
Ephesians 4