

L*esson*
2

God

Who is God? What is He like?

GOD

In order to have a personal relationship with God, it is necessary to know who God is and what He is like.

God has revealed Himself so we can know Him, love Him and, most of all, glorify Him through our life.

LESSON 2

This lesson is designed to give you a basic understanding of the nature of God.

Copyright 1994

3rd Printing—September 1999

4th Printing—December 2000

5th Printing—December 2001

6th Printing—March 2005

New King James Version

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IS IT POSSIBLE TO KNOW GOD?

It would be absolutely impossible for us to know God apart from God revealing Himself. Lesson One taught some basic means God has used to reveal Himself. The following statements are a summary of what we have learned:

“Creation reveals God.”

“Christ revealed God.”

“The Bible reveals God.”

Briefly to state our belief:

“There is a God and He has revealed Himself in the Bible.”

From the book of Genesis to Revelation, the pages are filled with insights into the nature of God.

God's Existence

The Bible does not set out to prove the existence of God; rather it begins by assuming God already exists. Scripture is concerned more with revealing who God is and what He is like.

Some have demanded:

“Prove there is a God.”

The burden of proof is to demonstrate with evidence that there is no God. The creation itself is evidence of the existence of God. Romans 1:19-20.

Discipleship—God

1. According to Psalm 19:1, what does creation declare?

2. Psalm 14:1 says a “fool” is a person who does what?

3. God has given man proof through creation of His existence. What do most people do with the evidence of creation?

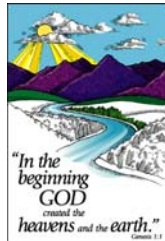
4. Evolution is an example of creation apart from God. Can an individual believe the Bible and evolution?

Yes

No

5. According to Genesis 1:1, who was the Creator of all things?

“By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God.” Hebrews 11:3



“...for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.” Hebrews 11:6

GOD’S NAMES

One way God reveals Himself and His nature is through His names. We will look at a few of His names in the Bible.

1. Write the names of God found in these verses:

Genesis 17:1 _____

Exodus 6:3 _____

Psalms 95:6 _____

Matthew 1:23 _____

John 8:58 _____

Discipleship—God

2. Some names reveal information about God. Write down what the following verses tell you about God.

Genesis 14:22 _____

Genesis 21:33 _____

Revelation 4:8 _____

3. Give a brief summary of what you have learned about the characteristics of God from His names.

GOD'S NATURE

There are several means which enable us to know the character of an individual. One such way is to observe the actions of the person. Actions tell a great deal about an individual. The character of a person determines the actions that individual performs.

So it is with God! His nature, or His character, is the basis for all His actions. Thus, in order for us to know God, we must know the attributes which God possesses. **Attributes are the qualities of God's character which make up His nature.** These attributes of God, revealed throughout the Bible, enable us to gain a knowledge of God.

In this section of study, we will trace the basic attributes of God through the Bible.

Moral Attributes

God's moral attributes form the basis of His character.

1. From the following verses, a moral attribute is distinguishable in God.

Isaiah 57:15 _____

Psalm 99:9 _____

I Peter 1:15-16 _____

Which attribute is it? _____

Discipleship—God

- a. According to Job 34:10, holiness means separation from what?

- b. Since God is holy, what does God require of you? (Leviticus 11:43-45)

“Holiness” means that God is set apart from sin. Thus, God hates sin and must deal with it because it is contrary to His nature. God’s holiness means that He will always act in righteousness and justice.

2. The second moral attribute of God is love.

- a. I John 4:7-11 speaks of love. What do the following verses teach about God and love?

Verse 7 _____

Verse 8 _____

Verse 9-10 _____

Verse 11 _____

- b. You can know and experience God’s love because it has been demonstrated to you. According to these verses, how has God manifested His love to you?

John 3:16 _____

Romans 5:8 _____

I John 3:16-18 _____

The greatest display of God’s love for us was on the cross of Calvary where He died for our sins. God is a God of love. Since God is a loving God, He will act with mercy and grace.

Conclusion

1. These two moral attributes, holiness and love, are in perfect harmony with God’s nature.
2. Since God is holy and hates sin, “righteousness and justice” demand that He deal with your sin. Because God is love, **His** “mercy and grace” provided Jesus Christ, who paid the penalty for your sin.

Natural Attributes

Other qualities which are seen in God's nature are called natural attributes.

1. Psalm 90:2 God is *eternal*. What is meant by "everlasting to everlasting?"

2. Malachi 3:6 God is *immutable*. According to this verse, what is immutability?

3. Hebrews 4:13 God is *omniscient*, meaning what?

4. Psalm 93:3-4 God is *omnipotent*, meaning what?

5. Psalm 139:7-10 God is *omnipresent*. Where is God present?

CONCLUSION

From this lesson we have learned a little about an awesome God, a holy and loving God! The most amazing fact—God desires a loving relationship with you.

Write down any questions you may have regarding this lesson.

Memory Verse ***Hebrews 11:6***



