Christian Doctrine
God (Part 1)
Attributes: Who Is He?

God Is Spirit

➢ What Does This Mean?
• God’s nature is **spiritual**. He is a spiritual being.
• He is not composed of physical **material** (for example, a body, like we have).

➢ Where Do We See This in Scripture?
• “God is spirit” (John 4:24). “A spirit does not have **flesh** and **bones**...” (Luke 24:39).
• This explains why He is **invisible** (Col. 1:15; I Tim. 1:17; Heb. 11:27).
• Jesus said that no one has **seen** God (John 1:18; 5:37; 6:46).
  * God did reveal Himself to man in a few instances, and man was able to recognize His presence, but no one ever saw Him in His entirety (in all His glory). Note Exodus 33:20: “You cannot see my face; for man shall not see me and live.”

➢ What Does This Mean for Me?
  ➞ We can now better understand the **second** of the Ten Commandments: not to make graven images/idols. No one knows what God looks like, so no image could accurately represent Him. God is above and beyond any handmade physical object. (Ex. 20:4; note Deut. 4:15-19)
  ➞ As John 4:24 states, we must **worship** God “in spirit and truth.” Since God is spirit we must worship Him in spirit. This means our worship should not be limited to certain places or formalities.

“Anthropomorphism” – Using human features to describe God and His actions in order to help us relate to Him. God is described as having eyes (II Chron. 16:9), feet (Gen 3:8), hands (Is. 65:2; Heb. 1:10), ears (Neh. 1:6; Ps. 34:15), etc. These are all analogies, not actual body parts.

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