

## Christian Doctrine God (Intro)

### *The Existence of God*

The study of God begins with the understanding that God exists. Two key evidences available to everyone which point to the reality of God's existence include:

- Our conscience: We each have an inner sense of God's reality in our hearts (Rom. 2:15).
- Nature: Every aspect of our world points to the creativity, wisdom and power of the Creator who designed it (Ps. 19:1-3; Is. 6:3).

When people deny God's existence, they are denying the clear evidence before them. Concerning such people, Romans 1 explains that God has made His reality known "to them" (v. 19), and though they "knew God" (v. 21), they "became fools" (v. 22) and "exchanged the truth about God for a lie" (v. 25). The rejection of God's reality is a willful denial of evidence that points otherwise. To say "there is no God" is foolishness (Ps. 14:1). However, for those who know God personally, the reality of His existence is further confirmed in their hearts through the Holy Spirit and by God's presence in their lives (Rom. 8:15-16; John 14:23).

### *The Revelation of God*

A recognition of God's existence will naturally bring about many questions. Who exactly is this God? What exactly is He like? These questions have attempted to be answered in a number of ways throughout the history of mankind, resulting in countless beliefs about who (or what) God is (note Acts 17:23). In this study, we will seek to answer these questioned based on what God has revealed about Himself. We will never be able to fully comprehend the complexity of God (Ps. 145:3; 147:5), but within the pages of Scripture we find that God has revealed a lot about Himself that we can learn. In the lessons ahead, will look at the qualities and attributes that God has revealed about Himself and see what they mean for us individually as we strive to know Him better (Jer. 9:23-24; I John 5:20)!

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