



Sunday Morning Seminary

Developing a theology of God

Why we must think rightly about God

Part 1

The most fundamental tenant of any person's belief system must deal with their understanding of God. What a person believes about God will determine everything else about them!

Key Text: Romans 1:18-25

Suppression will lead to an exchange

- If you exchange what is true about God for what is false; you exchange what is true about yourself, it is impossible for the created to have a correct understanding of itself apart from an understanding of the creator.
- Our identity can not be viewed apart from our creator.

Romans 1:20 tells us two things can be clearly known about God.
His eternal power & his divine nature

Characteristics of God's Eternal Power

God is *spiritual* yet personal

- God is Spirit (John 4:24, I Tim 1:17, 6:15-16)
- God is not limited to geographical or spatial location (Acts 17:24 & John 4:21)

God is spiritual yet *personal*

- God has a personality, self-consciousness, & a will, capable of feeling and having reciprocal relationships
- God has a name, He is not abstract and unknowable (Exodus 3:14) - "I Am"
- God is active in world affairs (Genesis 3:8-9)
 - He can be approached as Father (Matt. 6:9)
 - The relationship is reciprocal (Rom. 12:1-2)

God is characterized by life

- He is a living God
 - compare him to other Gods (Jeremiah 10:10 & I Thess. 1:9)
 - scripture assumes the existence of a living God (Hebrews 11:6)
- God does not derive life from any other source (John 5:26)
- God's life is uncaused, before anything else, God was... (Genesis 1:1 & John 1:1-2)
- God is in need of nothing (Acts 17:25)

God is Infinite

- God is not subject to space (all finite objects must be somewhere, thus they can not be elsewhere at the same time; God is not confined to this, he has no physical body to be located at a particular place (Acts 17:24-25)
- There is no place God is not found (Matt. 28:19-20). This leads to a tension between the Immanence (God is everywhere) and the Transcendence (God is not anywhere) of God (Jer. 23:23)
- God is infinite in relation to time (Ps. 90:1-2)
How old is God? - no older than he was a year ago! (Infinity + 1 = Infinity)
- God is timeless -He does not grow old or develop, he knows what is happening, has happened, and will happen at each point in time
- God's knowledge is infinite (Omniscience)
His understanding is immeasurable (Ps. 147:5)
God sees everything ((Prov. 15:3)
God watches over His Creation (Matt. 10:29 & Heb. 4:13)
- God's power is infinite (Omnipotent) **"I am God Almighty"** (Gen 17:1, Jer. 32:15-17)
Power over nature (2 Kings 6:5-7, Mark 4:35-41)
Power over history (Acts 17:26)
Power over Sin (Matt. 19:25-26)

God is Constant (Ps. 102:26-27)

- Gods thoughts are constant (Ps. 33:11, Malachi 3:6)
- God cannot increase or decrease
- God will fulfill his commitments (Lam. 3:22-23 & I John 1:9)

Things God can NOT do:

- Learn
- Things that are against his nature or logically contradictory (make square circles)
- God can not lie or fail to keep his promise (Heb. 6:17-18)

Thus.....

God is wise He knows what to do.

God is good He chooses to do what is right.

God is powerful He is capable of doing what he wills to do.