

What does each book of the Bible say about God?
-Consider a combination of books from both the OT and NT.

Theology I - GOD

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Theology I – God (The Doctrine of God Existence)

SUBTITLE

1. The Existence of God
2. Natural Knowledge of God
3. Christian Knowledge of God
4. Invisible Things

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. God's created works
2. God's continued operation in the realm of nature and human history
3. The Divine Law written in the heart of men
4. Atheism denied God existence
5. Exposition of Truth

<p>God's Created Works:</p> <p>God's created works was in His likeness (Genesis 5:1) and in His image (Genesis 1:27). The crown of the creation was male and female... (Genesis 5:2)</p>	<p>God's continued operations in men history and nature:</p> <p>And have put on the new <i>man</i>, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him: Colossians 3:10 (KJV)</p>	<p>Divine Law written in the hearts of men:</p> <p>Had God not revealed Himself, man never would have known Him, since God is the absolute, perfect personality, who dwells in the light which no man can approach unto. I Tim. 6:16.</p>	<p>Atheistic deny the existence of God:</p> <p>For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ. Jude 1:4 (KJV)</p>
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Exposition of Truth – (Natural Knowledge of God): Whatever man knows of God he knows through God's own revelation of Himself either in the realm of nature or in the realm of grace, that is to say, either through God's work of creation and providence or through His holy Book, the Bible.

Doctrine of God

The Existence of God

- By means of natural knowledge of God, man knows that there is a personal, eternal, omnipotent Divine Being, who has created this world and still preserves and rules all things and who is holy and just, demanding what is good and punishing what is evil.

The Existence of God

"The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good. ² The LORD looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. ³ They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one. ⁴ Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers who eat up my people as they eat bread and do not call upon the LORD"? **Psalm 14:1-4 (ESV)**

And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; **Romans 1:28 (KJV)**

God's Created Works;

1. By God's created works which in themselves bear witness to their omnipotent Creator. Apostle Paul attest that, though God Himself is invisible, man nevertheless knows of Him and in particular of His personality, eternity, omnipotence and sovereignty, "by the things that are made".
2. That this is true is proved by the testimony of many heathen philosophers i.e. Aristotle and Cicero. Cicero writes, "This natural knowledge of God is so certain that the apostle says of all agnostic and atheists, who deny His divine existence and commands, that "they are without excuse". (The cosmological proof of God's existence.)

For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. **Romans 1:20 (ESV)**

God's continued operations in men history and nature;

- “Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. ¹⁶ In past generations he allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways. ¹⁷ Yet he did not leave himself without witness, for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.” **Acts 14:15-17 (ESV)**
- And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, ²⁷ that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, ²⁸ for “‘In him we live and move and have our being’; “‘For we are indeed his offspring.’ **Acts 17:26-28 (ESV)**

(The historical proof of God's existence.)

Divine Law written in the hearts of men

Divine Law written in the hearts of men; by means of this Law, men know the judgment of God (Rom. 1:32) and without the revealed Law “do by nature the things contained in the Law”, ‘their conscious also bearing them witness and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another” (**The Moral proof of God’s existence.**)

For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. ¹⁵ They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them. **Romans 2:14-15 (ESV)**

Atheistic Deny the Existence of God

1. Antithetic theories held by men are not the results of sound reasoning, but rather the effects of man's perverse, willful suppression of the natural knowledge of God, which He has implanted into human heart, (Rom. 1:18).
2. They do not represent progress in human religious thought, but rather spiritual and moral decadence.

1. Atheism -
2. Polytheism -
3. Hylozoism -
4. Materialism -
5. Pantheism -
6. Pessimism -
7. Atheistic Evolution -
8. Theistic evolution -
9. Positivism -
10. Phenomena –
11. Secular humanism -

Natural Knowledge of God

1. The Natural Knowledge of God; God's truth imputed into the heart of men. This knowledge teaches of God's personality, eternity, omnipotence, sovereignty, holiness, and righteousness, all agree with scripture.
2. A Law unto themselves; (Rom. 2:14-15) the work of the Law written in their hearts.
3. This natural knowledge teaches the works and ways of God and is revealed in history. (Acts 17:27-28)
4. The natural knowledge of God teaches and/or the moral foundation of civil righteousness. This natural knowledge is used as proof of God's existence to combat unbelief.

(PROOFS)

The natural knowledge of God must not be underestimated, since God has bestowed it upon man to govern him in His kingdom of Power, holds him accountable for his attitude toward it and reward his respecting and obeying it with blessings.

(Exodus 1:20-21)

- a. Ontological proof –
- b. Cosmological proof –
- c. Teleological proof –
- d. Moral proof –
- e. Historical proof –
- f. Theological proof -

Christian Knowledge of God

1. The Christian knowledge of God, which we obtain from the Holy Scripture and from no other source is not only theistic but Trinitarian; therefore, the Christian believer knows and worships God only as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three distinct persons in one inseparable essence.
2. The natural knowledge of God is not some type of supplement but an entirely new revelation, by which man is enabled to know God truly and fully.
3. See Matt. 28:19-20; I Cor. 8:4-6 in knowing God.
4. See Is. 41:14; 42:5-8 43:1-3, 10-12; 44:1-8; 45:20-25 in worshipping Him by faith as his Savior.

Invisible Things

1. The natural knowledge of God is not a saving agent. It does not save. It is not adequate to secure salvation (everlasting life), nor has any mortal ever been redeemed, nor can anyone ever be redeemed by it alone. See Acts 4:12; Rom. 10:17; Mark 16:15-16; Gal. 3:11; Eph. 4:18; 2:12; Gal 4:8.
2. Since the natural knowledge of God does not embrace the gospel, **I Cor. 2:7-10**
 - a. but only the Law, **Rom. 2:14-15**,
 - b. its practical result is nothing more than a guilty conscience, Rom. 1:20; 2:15,
 - c. fear of death, **Heb. 2:15**,
 - d. the state of condemnation, **Gal. 3:10**
 - e. and utter hopelessness, **Eph. 2:12**.
3. Man by nature know that there is a just and holy God but not that the eternal demands of His perfect justice have been satisfied by the vicarious satisfaction of Christ, **I Cor. 1:21**.

Exposition of Truth

1. The saving knowledge of God takes us to another level of personal conviction. We obtain eternal life by that which is revealed through the word of God, which God makes known Himself and His Will.
2. To this revelation God has bound His church, which knows, worship and glorifies God only as He has revealed Himself in His word, so that in this way the true and only Church of God may be distinguished from all heather religions.

Questions for review, not required to turn in...

1. How should you as a Christian believer view the nature and concept of God?
2. What is the divine nature of God's word
3. What is the divine theological concept that man must consider?
4. What does it mean to carry your cross daily?
5. Do all religion seek after the living God?
6. Do they seek after what they believe will bring them through a crisis, even when it is made by their own hands?
7. Why is the etymology of the term religion is still a matter of controversy?
8. What does it mean to believe in Christ?
9. What does it mean to fully trust Christ?

a) Psalms 90:2

b) Psalms 24:1

c) Psalms 50:12

d) Psalms 89:11

e) Hebrews 11:3

Summary – Concept of Theology

The Challenge

What does each book of the Bible (in general) say about God?

Doctrine of God Existence

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