

GOD

God is the creator and sustainer of the universe who has provided humankind with a revelation of himself through the natural world and through his Son, Jesus Christ.

The bible does not seek to prove the existence of God; it simply affirms his existence by declaring, ***“In the beginning God.....”*** (Genesis 1:1). God has revealed himself through the physical universe (Psalm 19:1, Romans 1:19-20). By observing the universe, one can find positive indications of God’s existence. Creation reveals the results of a universal mind that devised a master plan and executed it.

The greatest revelation of God, however, comes through the Bible. Through the inspired written record, both the existence of God and the nature of God are revealed in and through Jesus Christ. That is why Jesus stated in John 14:9, ***“He that has seen me, has seen the Father.”***

Although we cannot fully understand God, we still can know him. We know him through a personal relationship of faith and through a study of what the Bible teaches about his nature.

The reason we cannot fully understand God is simply because man’s finite mind is limited. We cannot understand the infinity of God.

However, God may be described in terms of attributes. (An attribute is an inherent characteristic of a person or being.

THE BIBLE LISTS THE FOLLOWING ATTRIBUTES OF GOD:

God is Spirit:

Jesus taught that God is Spirit (John 4:24). God has no body, no physical or measurable form. Thus, God is invisible. He became visible in human form in the person of Jesus Christ, but his essence is invisible.

God is Changeless:

Progress and change may characterize some of his works, but God himself remains unchanged. (Hebrews 1:12). He does not change; otherwise he would not be perfect. Thus, what we know of God can be known with certainty. He is not different from one time to another.

God is all powerful: (Omnipotent)

God's power is unlimited. He can do anything that is not inconsistent with his nature, character and purpose. (Genesis 18:14). The only limitations on God's power are imposed by himself (Genesis 18:25). "Impossible is not in God's vocabulary. God creates and sustains all things; yet he never grows weary (Isaiah 40:27)

God is all knowing: (Omniscient)

God possess all knowledge (Job 38:39; Romans 11:33-36). Because God is everywhere at the same time, he knows everything simultaneously. That God has the power to know the thoughts and motives of every heart is evident from many scripture passages. (Job 37:16 Psalm 147:5, Hebrews 3:13).

God is everywhere: (Omnipresent)

God is not confined to any part of the universe but is present in all his power at every point in space and every moment in time. (Psalm 139: 7-12). Thus, God does not belong to any one nation or generation. He is the God of all the earth. (Genesis 18:25).

God is eternal:

Eternity refers to God's relation to time. Past, present, and future are known equally to him. (II Peter 3:8; Revelation 1:8). Man can only see a segment of time but God has the ability to see time in its entirety.

God is Holy:

The word holy comes from a root word that means "to separate." Thus, it refers to God as separated from or exalted above other things. (Isaiah 8: 1-3). Holiness refers to God's moral excellence. Being holy, God demands holiness in his own children. And what he demands, he supplies. Holiness is God's gift that we receive by faith through his Son, Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 4:24)

God is Righteous:

Righteousness as applied to God refers to his affirmation of what is right as opposed to what is wrong. The righteousness of God refers to his moral laws laid down to guide the conduct of humankind, as in the Ten Commandments. Righteousness also refers to God's administration of justice. He brings punishment upon the disobedient. (Genesis 18:25; Deuteronomy 32:4; Romans 2: 6-16). Finally, God's righteousness is redemptive. In the book of Romans the righteousness of God refers to God declaring the believer to be in a state of righteousness as though he had never been unrighteousness. (Romans 1: 16-17; 3: 24-26).

God is love:

Love is the essential, self-giving nature of God. God's love for man seeks to awaken a responsive love of man for God. God loved and gave; he loved and sought-just as a shepherd seeks his sheep. God loved and suffered, providing his love by giving his all on the cross for the redemption of humanity. God, in his love, wills well for all his creatures (Genesis 1:31; Mark 10:18).

God is Truth:

All truth, whether natural, physical, or religious, is grounded in God. Thus, any seemingly inconsistent teaching between natural and physical science and God's revelation of himself is more apparent than real. Truth is magnified in an absolute way through God's revelation.

*There is no way to adequately describe all that God is. No single or even multiple list of words can describe his whole essence. Therefore, the above list, just touches the surface of his essence.