

God

Back To Basics

God

- A person's concept of God and relationship to God are important in determining that person's outlook on life and behavior.
- Life questions affected by belief in God:
 - Where did I come from? Why am I here? What must I do? Where am I going?
 - Should I eat drink and be merry? or Should I deny myself?
- The Bible does not attempt to prove the existence of God; it assumes his existence and declares his activities.

God

- Belief in God is an absolute essential to salvation.
- And without faith it is impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and *that* He is a rewarder of those who seek Him. (Heb 11:6)

God

- Believer or non-believer?
- Atheist – “God does not exist” – People have created the concept of God.
- Agnostic – “One cannot know if there is a God or not”
- Theist – “God exist”
- Polytheist – “There is more than one God”
- Infidel – One who believes in a different god from the one using the term God.
- Greatest threat to belief in God - worldliness

God

- Philosophical arguments for the existence of God:
- Cosmological – existence of the world – it must have had a beginning, it could not have created itself. Therefore, God must have created it.
 - The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. (Psa 19:1)
 - For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God. (Heb 3:4)

God

- Teleological – purpose and design demand a planner and designer.
 - The ear is designed for hearing and the eye for seeing.
 - The unabridged dictionary is not the result of an explosion in a print shop.
 - The watch or cell phone is not the result of a great tornado.

God

- Moral argument – in humans there is a conscience – a sense of what we ought to do and a sense of duty
- Aesthetic argument – there is a beauty in the universe. We often notice the beauty and wonder of our world and ask, “How can one see that and not believe in God?”
- Ontological argument – man can conceive of a being beyond whom none can be more perfect and sublime. Since man can conceive of an absolute, perfect, independent being, that being must exist.

God

- We believed in God before we heard any of these arguments.
- Belief in God is dependent on accepting the claims of certain individuals who say they have had contact with God and revelation from him. We have to ask if the witnesses of the Bible were deceived, deceivers or reliable witnesses.
- God gave them verification.

God

- Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. (Joh 14:6)
- No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known. (Joh 1:18 NIV))
- Who made God?
 - Before the mountains were born Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God. (Psa 90:2)

God

- In the religions of the East man searches for God. Christianity is God's revelation of himself. What is the difference in the two?
- So faith *comes* from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ. (Rom 10:17)
- but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name. (Joh 20:31)