

## THE STUDY OF GOD – THEOLOGY

Today I want to begin a new series that will cover information that you will find in Bible Institutes and Bible colleges – The Study of God. The more you know about God, the more you will love Him and the better equipped you will be to present Him to others. This study will involve three main subjects – Theology, Christology and Pneumatology. This will not be an exhaustive study but rest assured, you will be given information about the Godhead that most only get in Seminary or Bible colleges. Today we begin with “Theology”.

1. **The Scriptures attest to two facts:** The incomprehensibility of God and the know ability of God. Man cannot fully comprehend God but he can know Him as much as our finite minds can absorb. ***God’s incomprehensibility – Job 11:7, Isaiah 40:18. God’s know ability – John 14:7, 17:3, 1 John 5:20.***
2. **Definition of Theology** – 2 Greek words – Theos meaning God and Logos meaning doctrine – the doctrine of God.
3. **Theology is the discovery, systematizing and presentation of the truths (not opinions) about God.**
4. **Definition of God – Westminster Shorter Catechism – “God is a spirit, infinite, eternal and unchangeable in His being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth”. God is Spirit – John 4:24.**
5. **Arguments for God’s existence. Two types of Theology – General Revelation:** That which can be known of God through nature (Natural Theology) and **Special Revelation** – That which can be known of God through the Scriptures (Revealed Theology) – **Psalm 19:1.**
6. **General revelation (Natural Theology).**
  - a. **Cosmological Argument** – Every effect must have a corresponding cause, cause and effect – **Heb. 3:4.** We have a universe; Somebody had to create it.
  - b. **Teleological** – Greek word “Teleos” meaning “make perfect”. Not only is there a designer but that Designer had to be One of infinite power and wisdom. This is argument from design. A design demands a designer.
  - c. **Ontological** – Greek word “Ontos” means “in reality”, “in point of fact”. God exists because reason insists that He must exist. A triangle is a great example. If a person knows what a triangle is, it cannot be said that a triangle is four-sided. The same applies to God. Honest reason demands the existence of God.
  - d. **Anthropological** – The make-up of man proves the existence of God. Man has intellect, emotion and will and these qualities point to the One who has similar but greater qualities.
  - e. **Ethnological** – The argument from history. God is revealed in history in His dealings with nations, particularly Israel – **Ps. 75:6-7, Rom. 13:1.**

- f. **Congruity** – If we have a theory which fits all the facts of the case, we know then that we have the right theory – “Belief in a self-existent, personal God is in harmony with all of the facts of our moral and mental nature, as well as with all the phenomena of the natural world”.

## **7. Special Revelation (Revealed Theology).**

- a. **The Revelation of God in Miracles** – Ex. 4:2-5, 1 Kings 18:25-29, 30-39.
- b. **In Prophecy** – Isa. 44:28, Dan. 12:1 -.
- c. **In Jesus Christ** – John 1:18, 7:16, 1:14, 8:19.
- d. **In the Scriptures** – Ge. 1:1, John 1:1.
- e. **In Personal Experience** – Men have had direct fellowship with God throughout the ages – Exodus 3:1-6 -.