

I hope you will find the below study guide useful in learning the basic doctrines of the faith. The first page below will have blanks for you to fill in as you listen to/watch the message. I encourage you to print them off and fill them out. I find that filling in the blanks helps to keep my focus when I am in the pew and the act of writing helps me to remember.

If you find that you missed something (or I didn't do a good job in providing all the answers in my preaching and PowerPoint), the final page is the notes with all the answers.

God Bless,

Pastor Todd

Theology Proper – the Doctrine of God

We believe there is one, and only one, living and true God; an infinite, intelligent Spirit, the Maker and supreme Ruler of the heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love: that in the unity of the Godhead there are three Persons--the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct, but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

Exodus 20:2-3; Revelation 4:11; I Corinthians 8:6; I John 5:7

The Concept of God Extra-biblical and biblical arguments for God (ad. from S. Waterhouse *Not by Bread Alone*)

Cosmological argument for God: every effort must have a sufficient cause; God is the only _____
“Uncaused” Cause

Teleological argument for God: Design needs a sufficient designer. Creation clearly shows _____
and God is the sufficient _____.

Moral Argument for God: An inborn sense of a _____
_____ points to a divine moral _____.

Jesus Christ – the _____ for God.
His _____, His undeniable place in history, and His ultimate sacrifice on our behalf, all point to the reality of God.

Biblical Argument for God: the _____
nature of the Bible, its accuracy, and its _____
compel us to believe what it says about God. It is the authoritative testimony of who and what God is.

Attributes (Characteristics, Essential Qualities, Perfections) of God (adapted from Ryrie’s *Basic Theology*)

Eternity: God exists endlessly both in the past and into the future; He has no beginning or end. *Gen 21:33; Ps. 90:2*

Freedom: God is independent of His creation. He has no obligation to anyone. *Isaiah 40:13-14*

Goodness This attribute covers an immense amount of truth encompassing characteristics that could be listed as individual attributes: - **mercy, longsuffering, grace, love, kindness***. *Exodus 34:6; Psalm 100; 103; 145; Mark 10:18; John 15:13; Romans 5:8; 1 Peter 1:3; 1 John 4:8*

Holiness: God is _____; separate from all that is unclean or _____. He is morally pure and His perfect Law sets the standard for what is right and pure. Believers are commanded to “be holy as He is holy”. *Is 6; 1 Pe 1:16; Ps. 93:5*

Immutability: God does not _____. His knowledge and nature are perfect and consistent. *Jam. 1:17*

Infinity: God has no bounds or _____. *1 Kings 8:27; Acts 17:24-28*

Omnipotence: God is all-_____ and able to do anything consistent with His character. *Genesis 17:1; Ex 6:3*

Omnipresent: God is infinite in relation to _____ – He is _____ present in His fulness. *Psalm 139:7-11*

Think about these attributes – this is the God that we meet to _____ today, this is the God whose _____ you hold, this is the God whose commandments we must keep, this is the God who is _____ *Job 28:28*

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Jesus Christ – the greatest argument for God. His words, His undeniable place in history, and His ultimate sacrifice on our behalf, all point to the reality of God.

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Attributes (Characteristics, Essential Qualities, Perfections) of God (adapted from Ryrie's *Basic Theology*)

Omniscient: God knows _____; both actual and possible. God never learns anything or discovers anything; nothing can _____ God *Ps. 139:1-6; 15-16; 147:4-5; Prov. 15:11; Is. 46:9-10; Matt 10:29-31; 11:20-24; John 21:17*

Righteousness: God is moral and _____. He not only acts this way, He is the very definition of morality and justice. Nothing in His _____ violates this and nothing in His _____ violates this. *Psalm 11:7; 19:9; Daniel 9:7; Acts 17:29-31*

Spirit (Simplicity or Indivisibility): God is not a composite being; He is not composed of parts, He is _____. *John 4:24; Colossians 1:15; 1 Timothy 1:17*

Sovereign: God is the _____ of the universe. He is both Sovereign (supreme, chief) in position and power. "God is in _____ control of all things though He may let certain things happen according to the natural laws which He has ordained"

(Charles Ryrie, *Basic Theology*). He chooses not to function as a dictator, but rather _____ a degree of choice within His decree. Also, His sovereignty is exercised without any contradiction of His _____ (attributes). Understanding His eternity (the fact that He is not bound or affected by time), His omniscience, His omnipresence, and His omnipotence _____ us comprehend how this can be. At the same time, in our finite minds, we cannot fully reconcile the relationship between God's Sovereignty and our _____. This _____ contradiction, however, is at our level of understanding, not reality. *Psalm 115:3; 135:6; Proverbs 21:1; Isaiah 43:10-13; Daniel 4:34-36; Ephesians 1:3-6*

Truth: God is _____ with Himself. He is all the He should be. All that He has revealed Himself as He really is. He and His revelation are completely reliable. *John 17:3; 2 Timothy 2:11-13; Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:13-18*

Unity: The Bible teaches that our _____ God exists in _____ persons - the Trinity. Each person of the Trinity is _____ and equally God. (e.g. not like an egg). Each is also distinct and fulfills different roles. Each are _____ and fully present as God. *Deuteronomy 6:4-6; James 2:19; Genesis 1:26; Psalm 2:7, 12; 110:1; Isaiah 9:6; 42:1; John 1:1-3; 10:30; 14:9; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 Peter 1:2*

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