

# **THE EXISTENCE OF GOD**

## **Introduction**

The doctrine of God (Theology Proper) relies on scripture as the primary source of evidence for the existence and information regarding the nature and character of God. All other evidence is subordinate to the biblical assessment of the person and character of God.

God has in fact revealed Himself nonverbally to all people through nature, conscience, and history. This is referred to as general or natural revelation, which the Bible affirms. Example: Psalm 19:1-6

- Mankind is held responsible for rejecting God's general revelation. –Romans 1:18-25

## **Mankind's General Awareness of God**

The example of Nineveh – Jonah 3:1-10

Paul at Athens – Acts 17:16-34

## **The Natural Arguments or Proofs of God**

The cosmological argument considers the fact that every known thing in the universe has a cause. Therefore the universe itself must have a cause, which can only be God.

The teleological argument points to the harmony, order, and design of the universe concluding there must be an intelligent designer.

The ontological argument begins with the idea of God who is defined as being greater than can be imagined by man. Therefore God must exist.

The moral argument stems from man's sense of right and wrong and the need for justice to be done. This argument says there must be a God who will one day mete out justice to all people.

## **Response To The Natural Arguments / Proofs**

The fatal flaw of all of these proofs is they are based on man's reason and will not necessarily lead a person to the one true God. Natural arguments alone build a theology of God by defining God through human thinking and logic.

- None of these arguments necessitate only one true God.
- None point to something that is perfectly good, kind, or gracious.

- None of these arguments describe a god as morally perfect or having an unchangeable moral code higher than that of man.
- None describe the relationship between God and man or even if a relationship can be had.
- Ultimately with all these human arguments we are left with more questions than answers.
  - Who is God?
  - What is He like?
  - Do we have any responsibilities due Him?
  - What if anything does He want from us?
- What is the value of all these arguments and even general revelation without the teachings from God's inspired, inherent, and authoritative word?

### **The Bible Reveals to Man the One True God**

The Bible begins and ends speaking of God – Gen. 1:1, Rev. 22:18-21

The Bible insists there is only one true God.

- Psalm 14:1
- Deuteronomy 6:4-15
- Isaiah 44:6-8
- Jeremiah 10:1-16
- 1Corinthians 8:4-6
- 1Timothy 2:5-6

James 2:19

“You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder.”