

IN THE BEGINNING GOD...

LESSON #1

CHRONICLES OF
REDEMPTION

In the Beginning God...

Genesis 1:1

THEMES

THE BIBLE IS:

- God's _____ of truth to man—therefore it is sufficient for every human need.
- Without error—therefore it is completely trustworthy.

GOD IS:

- *Eternal*—He has always existed.
- *Immanent*—He is _____ in and with His creation.
- *Transcendent*—He exists outside of His created universe.
- *Independent*—He is not dependent upon anything outside of Himself for existence.
- *Sovereign*—He has absolute _____ over everything physical and spiritual.

NOTES:

QUOTE:



"This Book contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrine is holy. Its precepts are binding. Its histories are true. Its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise. Believe it to be saved. Practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you..."

"...It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter. Here heaven is open, and the gates of hell are disclosed. Christ is the grand subject, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, health to the soul, and a river of pleasure. It is given to you here in this life, will be opened at the judgment, and is established forever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and condemn all who trifle with its contents."

 THE BIBLE IS UNIQUE; IT IS THE REVELATION OF GOD.

NOTES:

- ***“No prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit” (2 Pet. 1:20-21).***

God used holy men to write His Word. "*Private interpretation*" refers to the _____ of the Scriptures, NOT the _____ of them. Throughout the Old Testament, writers referred to their work as the *Word of God*.

- ***“The law and the words which the LORD of hosts had sent by His Spirit through the former prophets.” (Zech. 7:12b).***

The process by which God gave us His Word was by the _____ and through _____. God made sure that what was written by the men was exactly what He wished to communicate.

 THE BIBLE IS GOD'S MESSAGE TO MANKIND.

God is a communicator. He desires to inform man about:

1. _____: We will study Who God is by observing what He says and does. He is the central focus of the Bible.
2. *His* _____: God reveals much to us about Himself through His creation. How He created the world, what He used to create it, and the purpose behind creation all display aspects of His character.
3. _____: The Bible clearly reveals how and why God created man, and His expectations for man. It also addresses the issues of purpose and destiny.



_____ and His glory.

[illegible]

- The Old Testament, written approximately between 1400-400 B.C., contains _____ books which can be divided into Law (Torah), History, Wisdom, and the Prophets.
- The New Testament, written approximately between 45-95 A.D. contains _____ books. Five are historical, one is prophetic, and the rest are epistles (letters).

[illegible]

1. The _____ and glory of God.
2. The rebellion of man toward his Creator and its result.
3. The _____ of God on sin.
4. The helplessness of man to change his condition before God.
5. The redemption of man provided by God.
6. The _____ and universal restoration.



WHY STUDY IT?

NOTES:

1. It is _____ in its totality and without error in its parts (cf. Ps. 19:7; Prov. 30:5-6).
2. It is the source of truth (cf. John 17:17; 2 Tim 3:16).
3. It reveals the person of God (cf. Prov. 2:5; John 5:39).
4. It will accomplish what it promises (cf. Isa. 55:11; Heb. 4:12).
5. It does not _____ (cf. Ps. 119:89).
6. It is the source of God's blessing when obeyed (cf. Luke 11:28).
7. It is more valuable than gold (cf. Ps. 19:7-10).



The God Of The Bible



GOD ALONE EXISTED IN ETERNITY: HE IS ETERNAL.

The God of the Bible has no _____. He has always existed. In contrast, the universe is not eternal. There was a time when man, animal, earth, space, light, and matter did not exist. The universe, both seen and unseen, was brought into existence by God (cf. Gen. 1:1 ; Col. 1:16).



Psalm 90:2

"Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God."



GOD IS PRESENT EVERYWHERE: HE IS IMMANENT.

God is not distant or uninvolved with His creation (cf. Jer. 23:23-24). Rather, God is intimately involved within His creation, yet He does not exist within any created thing (cf. Job 12:10, Acts 17:24-25). Since He is _____, in all places simultaneously, nothing is hidden from Him (cf. Ps. 139:7-12).



GOD SURPASSES HIS CREATION: HE IS TRANSCENDENT.

God also exists outside and above His creation. He is _____ than His creation (cf. Isa. 40:21-23; 57:15).



GOD NEEDS NOTHING OUTSIDE OF HIMSELF TO EXIST: HE IS INDEPENDENT.

NOTES:

God identifies Himself as "I AM WHO I AM"—the Self-Existent One (cf. Exod. 3:13-14).

1. God exists independent of _____.

The measurement of time in minutes, days, and years did not exist before the creation of the universe (cf. Ps. 90:4; 2 Pet. 3:8).

2. God exists independent of _____.

God is Spirit and therefore does not have limitations of a physical body (cf. John 4:24).

3. God exists independent of _____.

God does not depend on the things He has made to sustain Himself. He is self-sufficient—the Source of all things (cf. Ps. 90:2).



GOD IS RULER OVER ALL: HE IS SOVEREIGN.

1. There is none _____ Him "...Before Me there was no God formed..." (Isa. 43:10).
2. There is none _____ Him "...Nor shall there be after Me. I, even I am the Lord" (Isa. 43:10-11).
3. There is none _____ Him "...I am the First and I am the Last: besides Me there is no God" (Isa. 44:6) (cf. Deut. 4:35).
4. There is none _____ Him "...To whom will you liken Me, and make Me equal and compare Me, that we should be alike? ...I am God, and there is none like Me" (cf. Isa. 46:5,9; Deut. 33:26; 2 Sam. 7:22; Jer. 10:6).



Questions

1. Where did the Bible come from?

2. How was the Bible written?

3. What is the purpose of the Bible?

4. What are the two major divisions of the Bible?

5. What are some major themes contained within the Bible?

6. What are some of the reasons to study the Bible?

7. What is God's relationship to His creation (time, space, all things)?

8. What does Isaiah 40:10-11 teach about nature of God?

9. To what or whom is God comparable?
