

Lesson 1: The God of the Bible

Introduction:

- Series of Lessons on Jesus Christ
 - Who is Jesus Christ?
 - Christianity has been around for thousands of years, yet so many do not know who He is
 - My prayer and aim is that through this brief series of lessons you would know Him and believe in the redemption that is only found in Jesus Christ
- There is no question more important than "Who is Jesus Christ?"
 - How you respond to Jesus Christ determines your eternal destiny
 - Those who wrongly answer will face divine, eternal judgment
 - Those who believe in Him and His cross, eternal life
- Yet, who is He?
 - The skepticism and false teaching about Jesus Christ stretches far and wide, for instance, it has been said and taught:
 - Jesus is merely a creature - simply man
 - Ancients suggested He was just one of many divine entities
 - Some chalk of Jesus to be a mere moral teacher, a social activist of sorts, or
 - At best a benevolent prophet, an inspirational leader

Preview:

- However, as we will see and as the Bible declares
 - Jesus was and is no mere man
 - He is the eternal second member of the Godhead, the triune God of the Bible
 - He is worthy of our worship, service, and life
- In this lesson
 - First, I want to provide you with a glimpse of the result of this series of lessons
 - Secondly, if Jesus is God, the 2nd member of the triune God, then we must start with - who is God and more specifically, who is the God of the Bible?

Sermon:

A Glimpse of "who is Jesus Christ?"

- **Hebrews 1:1-4** -
 - "appointed heir of all things"
 - "made the worlds"
 - "brightness of His glory"
 - "the express image of His person"
 - "upholding all things by the word of His power"
 - "by Himself purged our sins"
 - "at the right hand of God"
 - "better than angels"

- No other book will portray Jesus Christ as such?
- So what will one do with or respond to understanding Jesus Christ?
- **Colossians 2:9**
 - :8 - "beware"
 - :9 - "For in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily."
- **John 1:1-3**
 - "In the beginning was the Word:
 - "the Word was with God"
 - "the Word was God"
 - "all things were made by Him"
 - "without Him was not any thing made that was made."

Who is the God of the Bible?

- If Jesus is God, then we ought to start with who is the God of the Bible?
 - Who Jesus is, is answered different from other "holy books" and that is because each of the gods in which those "holy books" portray are different gods and are not the God of the Bible.
- I want to briefly examine 6 features or characteristics that provide a framework of the God of the Bible
 - God is not like man
 - If God were that which we could conjure up in our minds, he would be our idol and simply a figure of our imagination - not a very great, almighty, majestic, glorious, holy God
 - Thus pursuing knowing God is not only a worthy venture, but an eternal one
 - **Job 11:7-8 Canst thou by searching find out God? canst thou find out the Almighty unto perfection? {8} It is as high as heaven; what canst thou do? deeper than hell; what canst thou know?**
 - Therefore, because the God of the Bible is God that which He reveals about Himself is true and only can reveal Himself.
 - In one sense He is incomprehensible
 - In another sense He has revealed Himself to us in His Word, the Bible

1. The God of the Bible is the Creator

- Romans 1:16-21
 - "the truth of God"
 - Invisible things of God are clearly seen by what He created and made
 - Eternal power - self-sufficient, not dependent, and is sourceful (not resourceful) gives life, gives substance
 - Godhead - He is the authority, all other so-called are creatures of His making that want to be like Him, but He is the head of gods, He is the Godhead!

- All this is in view of Him creating
- Many religions claim their god as Creator; however, we are examining the God of the Bible and He is not the same as other gods of other books
- Other religions claim their god is "singular", the God of the Bible is not
- Genesis 1:1 - God
- Genesis 1:2 - Spirit
- Genesis 1:26 - Image (2 Cor. 4:4/Heb. 1:1-3/Col. 1/John 1:1)
- Genesis 1:26 - "Let us"

2. The God of the Bible is One God in Three Persons

- God is One - Deut. 6:4; Isa. 43:15
 - In three persons
 - 1 in essence - being of God (primary)(similar)(unified)
 - 3 in persons - substance (secondary)(dissimilar)(diversified)
 - Matthew 3:16-17
 - 1 Peter 1:2
 - 2 Corinthians 13:14
 - This is what distinguishes Him as the Godhead

3. The God of the Bible is Holy, Holy, Holy

- Isa. 6:3-7 - glorious God, problem for sinful man
 - Immutable, cannot lie
- Rev. 4:7-11

4. The God of the Bible is Good

- Exodus 34 - abundant in goodness
- Romans 2:4 - despise His goodness
- Ephesian 5:9 - all goodness in the Spirit

5. The God of the Bible is Love

- 1 John 4:8, 16
 - Does not generate love, He is love
 - In fact, the only God that has rightful claim of this, for He is triune, thus as truthful in that there are persons of the Godhead that He can love.
 - Love is first shared among the triune God, then overflows to His creatures
 - This love is the remedy for man's problem in the face of His holiness

6. The God of the Bible is a Saving God

- Romans 5:8 - "But commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."
- Romans 6:23 - "the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life

through Jesus Christ our Lord."

- 1 Timothy 1:4-6 - "who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time."

Conclusion:

- All have in common God's salvation is found in Jesus Christ and what He did for you, believe that and be saved from the debt and penalty of your sin which is eternal separation from God, and justified, or declared righteous in God's sight by the merit of Jesus Christ unto eternal life.