

Series: Biblical Answers to Life's Big Questions; Sermon: **The Existence of God**
Delivered by: **Dr. Josh Moody**, senior pastor; Date: **May 22, 2016**

Bible text explored: Psalm 14

¹The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."

They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds,
there is none who does good.

²The LORD looks down from heaven on the children of man,
to see if there are any who understand,
who seek after God.

³They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt;
there is none who does good,
not even one.

⁴Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers
who eat up my people as they eat bread
and do not call upon the LORD?

⁵There they are in great terror,
for God is with the generation of the righteous.

⁶You would shame the plans of the poor,
but the LORD is his refuge.

⁷Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion!
When the LORD restores the fortunes of his people,
let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

[ESV]

Review and application questions

1. What (v. 1) is the biblical perspective on what makes a person a fool? Is it concerned with pragmatic, social, moral, or spiritual matters?
Is it more about accurate perception or worthy choices? (See Proverbs 1:7; Isaiah 32:6.)
2. When Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin returned from space in 1961 and reported that he had not seen God, what did this comment on the material universe fail to take into account?
3. Pastor Moody cited a survey—first given in 1916 and repeated within the last decade—as measuring the proportion of scientists who believe in the existence of God. Did you find how these century-apart measures compare surprising?
4. What (vv. 2-6) are ultimate effects of denying there is a powerful, righteous God?
Why did Pastor Josh conclude that this goes beyond *their* intellectual rejection to *our* "functional atheism"? (Note who is included in Paul's quotation from verses 1b-3 [above] in Romans 3:10-12.)
To what extent does a failure to emphasize the wrath of God allow us to acquiesce in societal divergence from his moral law?
5. Fyodor Dostoyevsky wrote "If God does not exist, everything is permitted."
Does this explain the current unraveling of democratic consensus in our society?
Why are the eventual options for God deniers either the "meaninglessness" portrayed in Ecclesiastes or "great terror" (v. 5)?
6. What (v. 7) is David's confidence for those who acknowledge divine lordship?
Why should moral decay cause us to urgently pray for revival?
Why should the prospect of rescue cause us joy in anticipation?