

“The Doctrine of God”
“Know What You Believe” Part 2
1 Timothy 1:10-11

What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you—guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

2 Timothy 1:13-14

These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. Deuteronomy 6:6-9

...sound doctrine that conforms to the glorious gospel of the blessed God... 1 Tim 1:10-11

Where does the Gospel Story begin?

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning.

John 1:1-2

In the beginning God...Genesis 1:1

**Sound doctrine begins by knowing
the truth about God.**

“We believe in one God, Creator of all things, holy, infinitely perfect, and eternally existing in a loving unity of equally divine persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Having limitless knowledge and sovereign power; God has graciously purposed from eternity to redeem a people for Himself and to make all things new for His own glory.”

1. We believe in One God.

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

Deuteronomy
6:4

"The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' "

Mark 12:29-30

For you are great and do marvelous deeds; you alone are God. Psalm 86:10

Implications:

- He is God of the whole world.
- The person who does not know the God of the Bible, does not know God at all.

2. We believe that God is Creator of all things.

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1

You alone are the Lord. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. Nehemiah 9:8

By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

Hebrews 11:3

Implications:

- This doctrine is not the conclusion of scientific inquiry.
- Since science deals with causal relationships within the created order, the existence of creation itself must be a philosophical or theological question.
- The fact that God is Creator of all things is beyond the realm of scientific discovery.
- Faith is essential to the truth that God is Creator.

3. We believe God is Holy

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory." Isaiah 6:3

"Who among the gods is like you, O Lord? Who is like you — majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?" Exodus 15:11

But the Lord Almighty will be exalted by his justice, and the holy God will show himself holy by his righteousness. Isaiah 5:16

"Who can stand in the presence of the Lord, this holy God?" 1 Samuel 6:20

For the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand? Revelation 6:17

Implications:

- God's awesome holiness and His wrath that flows from it is the thing that needs to be most grasped in our world today. Without it the gospel makes little sense.

4. We believe that God is infinitely perfect.

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom. Psalm 145:3

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! "Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?" Romans 11:33-34

Implications:

- God's perfection means that He is totally without defect.
- Nothing caused God, because God does not need a cause.
- God is self-sufficient.

- God is unknowable unless He chooses to make Himself known.
- We are totally dependent on God to make Himself known.

5. We believe God is love.

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 1 John 4:7-8

Implications:

- God's love and holiness are not contradictory
- God's love is always perfectly holy .
- God's holiness is perfectly loving
- God's love is shown in Jesus Christ.
- Love makes God different than some life force.
- The God of the Bible is a personal God who is love.

6. We believe the one God is triune.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:1

Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.

Romans 9:5

"When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, he will testify about me.

John 15:26

Implications:

- There is one God but this one God has never been alone.
- The Trinitarian nature of God is a great mystery, beyond our understanding. (God is greater than our comprehension.)
- The God of the Bible is a God of relationships.
- God is love, and in that love we can, through the Son and by the Spirit, now know Him as Father.

Application: If we cannot accept that the God of the Bible is Creator by faith, then all of the rest of the Gospel will make no sense. We must never forget that the Gospel is finally not about us but about God and His glory. In His wisdom, the Gospel is ours by God's grace through faith, not by works, so that no one can boast.

Extra verses for further study

I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. Isaiah 46:9

"The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands... 'For in him we live and move and have our being.'"

Acts 17:24-28

What has God revealed to us beyond question, is this:

- God is the Creator of all things
- God spoke the Universe into existence.
- God pronounced His creation good.
- God created with order and purpose.
- God is the sovereign ruler over all creation.
- God created the first human beings—in His image.
- Through their sin all humanity along with this created order is now fallen. (We will study this more when we look at the doctrine of man.)

God is Holy:

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our "God is a consuming fire.

Hebrews 12:28-29

Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrong. Habakkuk 1:13

God is infinitely perfect:

Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain. Psalm 139:6

"Who has ever given to God, that God should repay him?" For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

Romans 11:35-36

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my

ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:8-9

"Can you fathom the mysteries of God? Can you probe the limits of the Almighty? They are higher than the heavens — what can you do? They are deeper than the depths of the grave—what can you know? Their measure is longer than the earth and wider than the sea.

Job 11:7-9

God is Triune:

For this reason the Jews tried all the harder to kill him; not only was he breaking the Sabbath, but he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.

John 5:18

But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven; he is guilty of an eternal sin. Mark 3:29

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

Conclusion:

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, singing: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!" Revelation 5:13