

“The Doctrine of God—2”
“Know What You Believe”— Part 3
1 Timothy 1:10-11

Review: Last week we began studying aspects of God’s attributes essential to sound doctrine as it relates to the gospel.

1. We believe in One God.

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

The God who revealed Himself as Yahweh, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the Old Testament, is the same God who is now revealed in Jesus Christ and manifested by the Holy Spirit in the New Testament.

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, for there is only one true God.

2. We believe God is Creator of all things.

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

Implications:

This doctrine is not the conclusion of scientific inquiry. This doctrine is the conclusion of God’s revelation.

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.

The question is, “*Could God do what God said He did?*”

That God is creator is essential to the Gospel. If God is not Creator, if it all happened by chance, then God is not ruler.

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

“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.”

It is essential that each generation of the church own these truths for themselves. Then each generation has the responsibility of grappling with these truths and of teaching these truths to their children.

“The doctrinal heritage of the past is both a gift and a task, an inheritance and a responsibility.”

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

4. We believe 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.

God has made Himself known.

Because God is infinitely perfect, He wants what is best for me and knows what is best for me.

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 4:7-9

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."
John 3:16-17

He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true."
Revelation 21:5

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.

The Gospel is the outworking of God's eternal purpose.

God has purposed from eternity to redeem.

God will redeem a people for Himself.

God will make all things new.

The Bible is the story of God's work in creation, redemption, and restoration.

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.

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 greater than our comprehension, then He really is no God at all. We must constantly fight against the tendency of bringing God down to our level. But, God has revealed enough about Himself that we can by faith accept His forgiveness, love and leadership in our lives. 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.

“The Doctrine of God-2” is third in a series titled, “Know What You Believe,” January 20, 2019. All verses taken from the NIV unless otherwise noted.

Extra verses for further study "Know What You Believe" - Part 3

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 love:

But you, O Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness. Psalm 86:15

Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Ephesians 2:19-22

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:

..."Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honor and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!"

Revelation 7:10-12