

Lecture #5, Part 1

Course Information

1. Course Description

A study of the persons of The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit and their unified teaching of the doctrines of the Bible.

Survey of the Doctrines of the Bible

II-The Doctrine of God

1-Cosmological Argument for the existence of God	Rom. 1:20
2-Teleological Argument for the existence of God	Psalm 94:9
3-Ontological Argument for the existence of God	Heb. 3:4
4-Anthropological Argument for the existence of God	Rom. 2:15
5-Nature of God	1 John 4:8
6-Definition of God	John 4:24
7-Anthropomorphisms	Gen. 4:14
8-Simplicity of God	1 John 1:15
9-Immensity of God	1 Kings 8:27
10-Unity of God	Deut. 6:4
11-Wisdom of God	Prov. 9:1
12-Love of God	John 3:16
13-Immutability of God	James 1:17
14-Holiness of God	Lev. 19:2
15-Truth of God	John 14:6
16-Justice of God	Acts 17:31
17-Goodness of God	Mark 10:18
18-Grace of God	Eph. 2:8
19-Comparative Attributes of God	Psalm 139
20-Sovereignty of God	Eph. 1:8
21-Providence of God	Esther 4:14
22-Freedom of God	Isaiah 40:13
23-Will of God	Rom. 12:1
24-Law of God	Psalm 37:31
25-Primary Names of God	Exodus 3:13
26-Call of God	Phil. 3:14
27-Trinity	Matt. 28:19
28-God the Father	Matt. 6:9

Introduction to Doctrinal Footnotes

These theological footnotes are divided into three sections (1) explanation, (2) illustration, and (3) application. When you have absorbed all the notes within one topic area, you will have completed a total survey of that doctrine.

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10-Unity of God **Deut. 6:4**

Explanation: The fundamental concept of the **Shema** (the name of this passage, which is the first word in Hebrew: Hear!) is that God is one and not many gods. By definition, there can only be one all-powerful, infinite, limitless God.

Illustration: To speak more than one in the supreme, absolute, perfect, and almighty Being is to say something contradictory. There cannot be two absolutes, for then there would be no absolute.

Application: By revelation, we know that only Yahweh is that one God. Therefore, nothing in your life should come between you and God.

11-Wisdom of God **Prov. 9:1**

Explanation: The wisdom of God is used in three senses in the Scriptures.

- (1) It refers to the higher perspective by which God understands things that man is incapable of understanding (1 Cor. 1:25).
- (2) It can refer to the understanding which a Christian should have in life (Prov. 4:7).
- (3) Also, wisdom is seen as a type of Christ, who is our wisdom (1 Cor. 1:30).

Illustration: When David said Abner died as a fool (2 Sam. 3:33), he meant that Abner died because he followed his own intuition, rather than the wisdom of God, which would have saved him. He was killed as he turned aside in the gate of Hebron. Had he entered the city of refuge, as God had instructed, Joab would have been unable to kill him.

Application: A wise Christian will obey the wisdom of God.

12-Love of God John 3:16

Explanation: Love is both an attribute of God and a description of His being. He alone is the epitome of divine love and the source of all true love. His love is unconditional and consistently seeks the highest good of the one who is loved.

Illustration: God's love was clearly demonstrated at Calvary when Jesus died for all our sins (1 John 3:1).

Application: Because God first loved us, we ought to love others as well (1 John 4:11).

13-Immutability of God

James 1:17

Explanation: Since all changes are either for the better or for the worse, God is unchanging because He is perfect and cannot get better or worse. The Scriptures describe God's nature, will, and character as immutable or unchanging.

Illustration: To be immutable, however, does not mean to be immobile. God also has the qualities of personality and can act, think, create, and make decisions.

Application: God is unchanging, therefore, Christians can depend on His love and power, because God has not changed since biblical times.



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14-Holiness of God

Lev. 19:2

Explanation: The Hebrew word translated "holiness" comes from a root meaning "to separate or cut off."

The primary meaning of holiness implies God's positive quality of self-affirming purity.

The secondary meaning implies separation, particularly separation from sin. The holiness of God means he is absolutely pure and absolutely separate from (and above) all His creatures, and also separate from sin and evil.

<u>Illustration:</u> Because God is holy, all sin is offensive to Him. For this reason He had to break fellowship with His own Son when Jesus became our sin-bearer (<u>Matt. 27:46</u>). Only through the identification of Christ with our sin as our sacrifice can we be reconciled to God.

<u>Application:</u> When the Scriptures mention the holiness of God, they also stress the personal holiness of His people.

15-Truth of God John 14:6

Explanation: The word truth is used in Scripture in two ways: true as contrasted with false; and genuine as contrasted with unreal. Although both apply to God, when we speak of the truth of God, normally His genuineness is contrasted with false gods of other religions. The Scriptures in this sense declare Him "the only true God" (John 17:3). Illustration: When Elijah confronted the prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel, he challenged them to evaluate the genuineness of the Lord and of Baal (1 Kings 18:21). The true God answered by fire.

Application: Because the Lord is God, we are obligated to Him in all He demands.

16-Justice of God Acts 17:31

Explanation: The justice of God is the active extension of the holiness of God into matters of decision. It implies that God has the authority and ability to establish the standard for all relationships and that He will be consistent in relating to His obedient and disobedient creatures. The justice of God is both legislative and distributive.

<u>Illustration:</u> When Abraham attempted to prevent the destruction of Sodom, he appealed to God's justice: he knew the Judge of all the earth would do right (<u>Gen.18:25</u>).

Application: So today, everyone can have confidence that God will deal with him justly, but the believer may additionally plead God's mercy.

17-Goodness of God

Mark 10:18

Explanation: Only God is completely good in His nature and actions. His goodness includes all the positive moral attributes such as grace, patience, and kindness.

<u>Illustration:</u> When the rich young ruler called Jesus "Good Master," Jesus reminded him that only God could be properly referred to as "good" (Mark 10:18). The good that exists in the world around us truly reflects or expresses the goodness of God (Gen. 1:10). There is no other source of true "good." When God revealed His name to Moses, he described Himself as being "abundant in goodness" (Ex. 34:6).

<u>Application:</u> The goodness of God is illustrated daily in our lives by the many good things that add comfort and enjoyment (<u>James 1:17</u>). Christians should be careful not to take these gifts for granted.



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18-Grace of God Eph. 2:8

Explanation: The grace of God is the expression of His goodness toward the undeserving. Grace means unmerited favor, and can be expressed by the acrostic "God's Riches At Christ's Expense. This grace is the basis of our salvation (Eph. 1:7; Eph. 2:8).

Illustration: In salvation, men who deserve hell obtain heaven. This cannot be explained apart from God's grace. Every conversion in Scripture is an example of God's grace. When Paul (Saul) met the Lord on the Damascus Road, Paul was a persecutor of the church. Yet God made him one of the church's chief preachers.

Application: We need to remember that we are saved, given the Holy Spirit, and allowed to serve God----by His grace.