



Session 3

God's Attributes—What separates us

Today most people believe in the concept of God, but when the name “God” is brought up it can mean close to anything. The human understanding of who God is, what He’s like, or how we can relate to Him is extremely diverse to say the least. But the Scriptures claim God as unique and definite. He is who He is despite what we may say or think. Because of the importance of understanding who God is, we are going to take time to dive into what the Bible says about Him.

Before we get too far let's agree that as long as we are here on the earth we will never completely understand God. Let's be honest, If we could fully comprehend God, just how great could He really be? Considering I haven't even figured out electricity yet, the deep and complete concepts of God are often WAY outside of my reach. .

True, God made everything beautiful in itself and in its time—but he's left us in the dark, so we can never know what God is up to, whether he's coming or going.

Ecclesiastes 3:11 (MSG)

God is much bigger than our minds could ever imagine. One of the biggest mistakes that we have made throughout history is trying to simplify God to fit into what our minds can comprehend. People try to break Him into catego-

ries so that they can try to get a grasp on Him. But whether we like it or not, God will always have a certain amount of mystery about Him. However, God has clearly chosen to give us some information about Himself in the Scriptures. This information is often very different from many of the beliefs we see in our culture today...

A look at the Anti-Theistic beliefs

- Atheism – denies that God exists
- Agnosticism – doubts that God exists, wants more information
- Deism – depersonalizes God; He created, but is no longer involved
- Pantheism – degenerates God's existence; everything is God; worship creation
- Satanism – defies God's existence; belief that Satan is God
- Humanism – destroys God's existence; people want to do what they want to do; everything revolves around humans

Theistic Evidences

Cosmological argument:

Cause and effect – every “effect” has a “cause”
Complexity of our bodies, the world, universe, etc.

Theological argument:

Design and plans - some type architect

Anthropological argument:

Uniqueness of humanity – we are different from animals
Religiosity – we are religious by nature
Morality – a sense of right and wrong

The above are basic philosophical thoughts that might help to lead us to the idea of God. But, there is clear and distinctive beliefs about the nature of God that are not based on philosophy but on the living and active Word of God!

from “The Holy Bible”

Belief in One True God—Isaiah 45:5-8

Preconceived ideas about the nature of God

The Sheriff—Keeping tabs of right and wrong

The Grand Butler—At our beckoning to grant wishes

The Overworked Mechanic— Spending most of his time trying to keep the universe in order.

The Grandfather— He might have been great and powerful once, but now he retired and not active.

The Nerd in a Box- kind of a geeky God, someone that “church people” still talk about but out of date.

God is Very Distinct—Unique

Exodus 3:14

While we all have unique and distinct personalities and even physical traits these do change over time. God however does not change.

God is...

Isaiah 45:5 1 Cor. 8:4 _____

Malachi 3:6 James 1:17 _____

1 Kings 8:27 Jer. 23:24 _____

Psalm 90:2 2 Peter 3:8 _____

Jer. 10:10 John 5:26 _____

1 Sam. 2:3 1 John 3: 20 _____

Lev. 19:2 Isaiah 6:3 _____

Psalm 33:4 John 17:17 _____

Luke 1:37 Psalm 33:9 _____

SO WHAT? The real question for us is what difference does this make in my life? How does this list of attributes of God Encourage you?