

THE DOCTRINE OF GOD

Thinking back on this week's sermon, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

When you think of God what comes to mind first? Why do you think that is so?

Research what the Bible says about the "fear of the Lord" in your concordance, online, interpersonally, or from your favorite resource until you can confidently write, in your own words, a well-rounded biblical definition for the phrase.

How does one pursue the fear of the Lord in their own life?

It has been said that the summary attribute of God, His single-defining characteristic, is holiness. Do you agree, or would you put another attribute first? Why?

The way we introduce ourselves to others says a lot about who we are and what we want others to know about us. In Exodus 34:6-7 God personally introduces Himself. How have you experienced the attributes of God described in these verses?

What are some of the differences between the love of God as it is ascribed by the world compared to as it is proclaimed by Scripture?

STUDY QUESTION

Below is a partial list of the incommunicable attributes of God – those attributes which belong to God alone. For at least three of these, see if you can (1) come up with a scriptural reference for the attribute, (2) finish the statement "Because God is _____.", and (3) finish the statement "If God was not _____."

Example: *God is holy. The holiness of God can be found in Exodus 15:11, Isaiah 6:3, Leviticus 19:2 and Revelation 4:8. Because God is holy He is worthy of my heartfelt worship. If God was not holy I would no longer have a source of perfect holiness by which to pattern and empower the process of my becoming holy.*

- Aseity (dependent on nothing)
- Eternal/Infinite (without measure)
- Immaterial (God is spirit)
- Immanent (actively participating in creation)
- Immutable (unchanging)
- Infinite (without measure or limit)
- Omnipotent (all-powerful)
- Omnipresent (all-present)
- Omniscient (all-knowing)
- Sovereign (in control of all things)
- Transcendent (not bound by space or time)

Some suggested readings for further study and application on the Doctrine of God:

Knowledge of the Holy by A. W. Tozer is a great little book on the attributes of God and their implications for our lives.

The Pleasures of God by John Piper is a book which explores the character of God through what Scripture teaches us about what gives God pleasure.

Concise Theology by J. I. Packer is a short and approachable teaching on systematic theology, or the doctrines of our faith.

Big Truths for Young Hearts by Bruce Ware is book designed to help teach the truths of systematic theology to children.