



God's Answers to Good Questions

Lesson 2 - Who is God?

PREPARE

- Please read the following passages:
 - Genesis 1:1-31
 - Exodus 33:18-23
 - Exodus 34:6-7
 - 1 Samuel 2:27-30
 - Isaiah 33:22
 - Isaiah 45:5-6
 - Matthew 11:27
 - Romans 1:19-22
- Watch the video lesson and complete the Study Guide while watching

STUDY GUIDE

I. Can We Know if God Exists?

A. Two groups of people:

1. _____ - they deny the existence of God
2. _____ - they say there's no way to know

B. 1 Samuel 2:27-30 – *“And there came a man of God unto Eli, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Did I plainly appear unto the house of thy father, when they were in Egypt in Pharaoh’s house? And did I choose him out of all the tribes of Israel to be my priest, to offer upon mine altar, to burn incense, to wear an ephod before me? and did I give unto the house of thy father all the offerings made by fire of the children of Israel? Wherefore kick ye at my sacrifice and at mine offering, which I have commanded in my habitation; and honourest thy sons above me, to make yourselves fat with the chiefest of all the offerings of Israel my people? Wherefore the LORD God of Israel saith, I said indeed that thy house, and the house of thy father, should walk before me for ever: but now the LORD saith, Be it far from me; for them that honour me I will honour, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed.”*

1. “Thus says the Lord, did I not indeed reveal myself ...”
2. The answer, of course, is “Yes, He did!”
3. This is how we know God exists - through His own _____

4. If God didn't reveal Himself, there could be no way that we would have any sure or certain knowledge of His _____ - it only comes by _____

C. Exodus 33:18-23 - *“And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory. And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy. And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live. And the LORD said, Behold, there is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock: And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a cleft of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by: And I will take away mine hand, and thou shalt see my back parts: but my face shall not be seen.”*

D. Matthew 11:27 - *“All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.”*

1. Between God the Father and God the Son there is this _____ inter-knowledge ... they _____ each other

2. It would seem that this inter-knowledge is a _____ - we cannot know God the Father, nor can we know God the Son except those to whom the _____ wills to reveal the _____

3. _____ reveals the Father to men, and men come to a knowledge of God through _____ - through His willing revelation of the Father

E. Romans 1:19-22 - *“Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools ...”*

II. How Does God Reveal Himself?

A. Through the _____ He has made:

1. _____ - God made all things out of _____ by the Word of His power in the space of six days
 - a. _____ revelation (or general revelation as it is sometimes called) is that way that God speaks through the _____ to give man certain knowledge of His eternal _____, His invisible _____, His divine _____
 - b. General revelation is _____ - it doesn't tell us about _____, about _____, about _____ from sin through the work of Christ on the cross, but it does give enough so that men are without excuse
 - c. Atheists, who deny God's existence, actually have no _____
2. _____ - God _____ and _____ all His creatures and all their actions for His own glory and for the good of His people

B. Through human _____

1. *Sensus divinitatis* (Latin for "sense of divinity"), also referred to as *sensus deitatis* ("sense of deity")
2. It's _____ the human being - every human being has a _____ that there is a God
3. Connected to the *sensus deitatis* is the _____ - that inner voice which speaks to us about our own _____:
 - a. The conscience tells us what was _____ with our behavior, or what was _____
 - b. The conscience is very closely connected to the _____ - the Spirit uses the conscience to bring _____ of sin and _____ to human beings

C. Through _____

1. As we read the Bible, we are _____ receiving the revelation of God
2. There's a sense in which revelation does not _____ - the canon is closed
3. There is a sense in which revelation continues through the _____ - every time we _____ our Bible and _____, God is revealing Himself to us as we interact with His Word

D. Through _____

1. There is no better mode of revelation than _____, the exact representation of the _____
2. As you study Jesus, and as you learn about who He _____, what He _____, and what He's _____, you're learning about the Father through Christ

E. By the _____ - if you do not have the Spirit of God, the things of God make no _____ to you

III. What Does God Say About Himself?

A. Genesis 1:1-5 - *"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day."*

1. In the _____ there was God - at the very beginning of the creation of the whole universe, _____ was there
 - a. Where did He come from? Was He created?
 - b. No - He _____ existed, and He comes into view at the very _____ of the creation of the universe
 - c. God is _____ - He eternally exists ... He has no beginning and He has no _____

2. God by His _____ is moving over the surface of the waters - He is bringing _____ to the lifeless mass of matter that had no energy before it
3. God _____ - He is unique in His power ... only God can _____ something to be and it comes to be

B. Exodus 34:6-7 - *“And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth, Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children’s children, unto the third and to the fourth generation.”*

1. He is the Lord Yahweh _____
2. He is the _____ God
3. He is the Lord of the _____
4. He is _____ - He's not cold or indifferent or aloof
5. He looks with compassion - just as a father pities his _____, so the Lord has compassion on those He _____
6. He is _____
7. He shows unmerited _____ and _____ to guilty, wicked people like you and me
8. He is also slow to _____
9. He is very _____ - He will continue dealing with us, not as our sins deserve, but according to His infinite _____ and _____
10. He is a God who abounds in _____ and _____
 - a. Lovingkindness - He shows active _____ for us
 - b. Truth - He doesn't fudge the _____

11. He's a God who forgives _____, _____, and _____

12. He's _____ - He will not leave the guilty to go unpunished

C. Isaiah 45:5-6 - *"I am the LORD, and there is none else, There is no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me: That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, That there is none beside me. I am the LORD, and there is none else."*

D. Isaiah 33:22 - *"For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, The LORD is our king; he will save us."*

1. The Lord is our _____ - He is the one who will acquit or condemn us

2. The Lord is our _____ - He is the one who says, "Thus you shall do, and this you may not do."

3. The Lord is our _____ - He rules over us, He defends us, He subdues our hearts as he spreads His kingdom through our lives

4. The Lord will _____ us - don't look to anyone else or anything else for salvation

IV. What Is the Purpose of Revelation?

A. That we may know the _____ and be set free

1. _____ has a freeing aspect to it - it releases us from the bondage of _____, _____, and _____

2. God reveals Himself so that we may be set free from our _____, our corruption, and our damnation

B. That we can have a _____ with Him - God wants us to be in a loving, _____ interaction and inter-relationship with Him

C. That we may tell _____ about Him

D. That He might receive the _____ due Him