

THE DOCTRINE OF GOD
HIS EXISTENCE
[A SYSTEMATIC APPROACH BY SUMMARY]
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APPROACHING GOD BY FAITH NOT EMPIRICISM

The Bible assumes the existence of God; it does not attempt to prove God's existence – it simply states “In the beginning God” Genesis 1:1; John 1:1). God's existence is presupposed. “The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is no God’ Psalms 14:1).’ Denial of God is due to moral depravity, not to intellectual ability. Hebrews 11:6 states that without faith it is impossible to please God, *for he that cometh to God must believe that he is.*”

LOGICAL APPROACHES

Cosmological Approach

This approach states every effect must have a cause. Hebrews 3:4 says the same thing: “For every house is built by some one, but the builder of all things is God.” Creation is orderly and beautiful. It didn't just happen from nothing. – To even think such a thing is, to me, blasphemous. It is arrogance because of the depravity of man. In Romans 1:20, Paul states it better than anybody: “For the invisible things of God from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, (by) His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.”

Teleological Approach

Emphasizes purpose and design in the universe, therefore there must be a designer – by necessity. See Genesis 1:1 - 2:23.

Scriptural Approach

The entire Bible is a proclamation of God's existence. The Bible in the original writings is inerrant and infallible – THE ONLY Book that can make that claim. God is “I AM that I AM” (Exodus 3:14), the self-existent one (Psalms 135:6-7: 15-18; 138:2b).

ATTRIBUTES OF GOD – HIS ESSENCE

God is the **self-existent** one (Isaiah 40:13-14; Exodus 3: 13-15). God is not dependent on anything outside himself for existence. He has always been – comprehend that if you can.

God is Infinite. All His Attributes are unlimited (Acts 17: 24-25).

God is Eternal. God exists outside of time. He has always existed and always will exist (Psalms 90:2; 102:27; 2 Peter 3:8).

God is Immutable, Faithful, Trustworthy. He does not and cannot change (Numbers 23:19; Proverbs 19:21; Jonah 3:10; Malachi 3:6; Revelations 4:8).

God is Holy. Holiness is the Absolute Integrity of God. God loves Righteousness and Justice (Psalms 11:7; 45:7).

God is Love. Love is the character of God that *loves him to give* (John 3:15-18; 1 John 3:16).

God is Omniscient. There isn't anything God doesn't know and no knowledge exists apart from God – He is all in all (Psalms 139:1; 147:5).

God is Omnipotent. There isn't anything that God cannot do, His power is limitless. God created the heavens and the earth (Genesis 1:1-31; God became Human (John 1:14; God raised Christ from the dead Matthew 28:1-15; Mark 16:1-14; Luke 24:1-32).

God is Omnipresent. The entire essence of God is present everywhere. No place exists apart from God (Jeremiah 23:23-24; Isaiah 66:1).

God is Veracity – Absolute Truth (John 14:6; Romans 3:4; 1 Thessalonians 5:24; 1 Corinthians 1:9). God's Word is Truth (Psalms 138:2; 2 Corinthians 1:20; Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:16). God's Veracity is the basis for our continued forgiveness, when we sin, as often as we sin (1 John 1:9).

PARADOXICAL APPROACH **God Is Incomprehensible, Yet Knowable.**

God is incomprehensible: Psalms 139: 1-6; Job 11:7; 1 Corinthians 2:11. “God alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light; whom no man has seen or can see. To Him be honor and eternal dominion! Amen.” (1 Timothy 6:16). This is one of the most beautiful statements in all of Scripture.

God is knowable: Psalms 76:1; Colossians 1: 9-10; 2 Peter 3:18. God is personal because of His Son – Jesus Christ. Christ made God personable. The universe, all creation testifies of God (Hebrews 11:3). The witness of Creation is universal and dramatic (Psalms 19: 1-9). We have the Mind of Christ so that we can know how God thinks (1 Corinthians 2:16). God's General Revelation of Himself is found throughout Creation (Romans 1:20). God's Special revelation of Himself is found throughout Scripture. Creation is temporary (Hebrews 1:10-11); but the Word of God abides forever (1 Peter 1:23-25).

This summary of “The Doctrine of God” presents an example of a Systematic approach to study. It is by no means complete or exhaustive, but is designed to help you understand God by “Systematically Theology.” For a more detailed study of God see “The Essence Of God. Happy Studying!