

THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

3. THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

EXODUS 3:12-15

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GOD IS THE GOD WHO IS

Exodus 3:12-15 ...God said to Moses, “יְהוָה יְהוָה.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel, ‘יְהוָה has sent me to you.’” ...

PROVING GOD EXISTS

...is called “Classical Apologetics”:
see classes 6 and on at
<http://twincityfellowship.com/apologetics.php>

- The universe has a beginning
- Common morals and ethics exist
- Universe has a complex design

GOD EXISTED BEFORE CREATION

Genesis 1:1-2 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

John 1:1-3 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made.

CREATION DEMONSTRATES GOD

Psalms 19:1-4 The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge...

Romans 1:19-20 ...God has shown it to them. For his attributes...have been clearly perceived...in the things that have been made.

MORALS DEMONSTRATE GOD

Romans 2:14-16 For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness.

Genesis 3:21-22

COMMON GRACE DEMONSTRATES GOD

Acts 14:15-17 "...we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. In past generations he allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways. Yet he did not leave himself without witness, for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness."

Hebrews 1:3, Matthew 5:44-45

KEPT PROMISES DEMONSTRATE GOD

Exodus 14:30-31 Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Exodus 20:1-2

PROPHETS DEMONSTRATE GOD

Zechariah 1:3-6 "...But my words and my statutes, which I commanded my servants the prophets, did they not overtake your fathers? So they repented and said, As the LORD of hosts purposed to deal with us for our ways and deeds, so has he dealt with us."

JUDGMENTS DEMONSTRATE GOD

Ezekiel 32:15 When I make the land of Egypt desolate, and when the land is desolate of all that fills it, when I strike down all who dwell in it, then they will know that I am the LORD.

JESUS DEMONSTRATES GOD

- John 1:14-18 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth...No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

We must submit to
the God who is there

rather than a *religion*
or *belief system*

So the existence of God
affects our...

BASIC ASSUMPTIONS

God exists
and can be partially known

*We must deny that
God is totally unknowable*

BASIC ASSUMPTIONS ₂

Things made by God exist
and can be partially known

*We must deny that
the world is random and contradictory*

BASIC ASSUMPTIONS ₃

Things made by God
are not God

*We must deny that
God is everything or in everything*

PHILOSOPHY: KNOWLEDGE

- *Truth* is that which corresponds to **reality**: what God is or what God has made
- We can begin to understand some truth by using our senses and our thinking

PHILOSOPHY: LOGIC

- God made us to be able to make **distinctions** in our thinking
- Laws of Logic:
 - a thing is that thing (**A is A**)
 - a thing isn't "not that thing" (**A is not non-A**)
 - a thing is either one certain thing or it is something else. (**Either P or non-P is true**)
- Note: Not a "black or white" approach to everything.

BELIEFS: CONFESSION

I believe in the God who is there
I believe that what he says is true

*I must not believe
in a god who seems good to me*

BELIEFS: THEOLOGY

- Not formed, but **informed** - The things of God are as God says they are - *instead of adhering to a tradition, system, or school of thought*
- Not what is best, but what **is correct** - The things of God are good because they are true; *they are not supposedly true because they seem good.*

CONDUCT

- We must act, work, and conform ourselves according to *the will of "the God who is there"*, not to an ethical, cultural, or religious system.

"In saying God is there, we are saying God exists, and not just talking about the *word* god, or the *idea* god. We are speaking of the proper relationship to the living God who exists."

-Francis Schaeffer
The God Who Is There
