

# Existence of God

## \*\*\* SLIDE 1 - Who God Is

### Introduction:

#### \*\*\* NEXT OBJECT

- i. Today we are going to consider the existence of God!
- ii. Consider the two questions shown on the screen: “Who Is God” vs. “Who God Is”.  
 “Who is God” allows for anything to be a god in your life: money, home, car, family, etc.  
 “Who God is” establishes that there **IS** one God and then simply seeks to know Him.
- iii. Consider the book “*The Eclipse of God*”, 1996 by Martin Buber.  
 I discovered this book while writing my Masters thesis.  
 The thought is , “We have become educated beyond our intelligence!”  
 Mr. Buber suggests scholars have cast a shadow over the face of God.  
 Compare to an eclipse of the Sun.  
 I agree that our modernistic “education” has cast a shadow over the face of God.  
 We have become too “sophisticated” to believe in a Holy God.  
 But that **HAS NOT** changed God in any way - only our view of Him!
- iv. **My** mission, **my** charge, **my** passion this morning is to push that shadow aside.  
 Join me as we begin a journey to push aside that shadow and discover the “Face of God”.  
 I believe this is a journey from which you will not want to return.
- v. **Your (emphasize)** mission this morning:

#### \*\*\* NEXT OBJECT

To Know What You Know; and Why You Know It !

## I. The Existence of God or restated - Who God is

A. Is there any question greater than this one? (**Repeat and Emphasize !!!!!**)

1. We’d be better off trying to comprehend and define infinity.
  - a. Webster defines infinity as: Unlimited extent of time, space, or quantity; eternity; boundlessness; immensity.
  - b. So, imagine a box with no top, no bottom, no end, and no sides.
  - c. When you have traveled in one direction for an eternity, you are no closer to the end than when you began.
  - d. Who can truly fathom that?
2. In our modern culture we are so bombarded with the lies of the world that we don’t know what truth is and we don’t understand who man is - let alone God.
3. We are so bombarded by the philosophy of the world and, sadly, captivated by it, that we find it difficult to even talk about the existence of God.
4. **How can we even begin to answer that question** (Who God is)?
5. The truth is we cannot, or at least not completely.
6. Praise God that the eternal, infinite, omnipotent, omniscient, all-wise Creator of the Universe has **chosen** to reveal Himself to us.
7. Otherwise, we wouldn’t have the slightest clue how to answer that question.
8. So, here we are standing on the edge of this ocean infinite not only in its breadth but also infinite in its depth trying to answer this question of an infinite God.

## \*\*\* SLIDE 2 - Theology Definition

9. To help answer that question, we need to study some Theological concepts.

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#### **NEXT OBJECT**

10. Do not let that word scare you. Theology simply means the study of God.

\*\*\* **NEXT OBJECT**

11. More specifically it is, the study of the existence, nature, and attributes of God

12. Truthfully, every Christian should be a theologian.

13. Why? Because our entire life should be characterized by a deep hungering and longing to study Him, to know Him, to understand who He is.

14. As we read and meditate on His Word, we should hunger to see the Face of God and experience His mercy and grace as we submit to His will.

\*\*\* **SLIDE 3 - Your WorldView**

B. Your worldview.

1. Moses described God this way in Exodus 15:11, “*Who is like unto thee, O LORD, among the gods? who is like thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?*”

2. God’s wonders are everywhere; **all you have to do is look.**

For those who are curious, this is Spiral Galaxy M81. It is a mere 12 million light years away, located in the constellation Ursa Major.

\*\*\* **NEXT OBJECT**

70 trillion miles and that is just one galaxy in an infinite universe!

\*\*\* **NEXT OBJECT**

3. Your view of God, also called your worldview, is beyond question **the most** important view you have.

4. If your view of God is distorted ... then to that extent your life is distorted.”

5. Your life will be “out of focus” in relation to God.

6. I know none of us can fully understand God, but we are obligated to learn as much as God is willing to reveal to us.

7. And where do we find that revelation? (**Hold up Bible**)

B. What is our source of Truth

\*\*\* **SLIDE 4 - Key Verse**

1. The source of Truth.

a. “...and of Christ; In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”, Col. 2:2-3.

b. Notice that verse says, “all the treasures”.

c. τησαυρος, thesauros, thay-sow-ros, the place in which good and precious things are collected and laid up.

\*\*\* **SLIDE 5 - Ultimate Source of Truth**

c. What is the ultimate source of Truth?.

\*\*\* **NEXT OBJECT**

d. The ultimate source of truth is the nature, character, being, and attributes of God Himself.

\*\*\* **NEXT OBJECT**

e. Nothing that is true can contradict the Nature of God.

\*\*\* **SLIDE 20 - Jesus Before Pilate**

2. Do you recognize this scene?

3. It is Jesus is being questioned before Pilate.

\*\*\* **NEXT OBJECT**

4. “*Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then?...*”, John 18:37a.

\*\*\* **NEXT OBJECT**

5. “*Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause*

came I into the world, that I should ***bear witness*** unto the truth.”

6. It is absolutely ***crucial*** that you grasp the foundational truth in this verse.
  - a. Without Truth, there is no Bible.
  - b. Without Truth, there is no Salvation.
  - c. Without Truth, there can be no God.
  - d. Without Truth, you are hopelessly and forever lost.

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**NEXT OBJECT**

7. Pilate then asked Jesus, “*What is truth?*”
  - a. Please notice that he did not even wait for Jesus’ answer.
  - b. Because he **DID NOT** want to know the truth!
  - c. This is a perfect illustration of the world.
  - d. They (academia) make a lot of empty noise about “seeking truth”, but they really **DO NOT** want to know the Truth.
  - e. John 8:32, “*And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*”
  - f. Does the world want to be free? No absolutely not, they would rather live in blindness and bondage to the religion of evolution and humanism.

\*\*\* **SLIDE 7 - God’s Existence Assumed**

C. God’s existence is assumed by the Scriptures.

1. It never even occurred to the Old or New Testament writers to argue for or to attempt to prove the existence of God.

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**NEXT OBJECT**

2. Within Scripture it is everywhere and at all times simply an undeniable fact.
3. God is the self-existent One, Ex. 3:14

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**NEXT OBJECT**

- a. Moses asked who he should say sent him.

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**NEXT OBJECT**

- b. “*I AM THAT I AM*” (YHWH) - this is a special and significant name (not merely an appellative (common) title such as Lord [adonai]) by which God revealed himself to the ancient Hebrews (Exodus 6:2,3).
- c. There God used Jehovah and El Shadday (God Almighty).
- d. This name (YHWH) was held by the Jews to be so sacred that it was never pronounced except by the high priest on the great Day of Atonement, and **only** when he entered into the most holy place.
- e. Whenever this name occurred in their sacred books they pronounced it, as they still do, "Adonai" (i.e., Lord), thus using another word in its stead because of their misinterpretation of Lev. 24:16.
- f. The meaning of the word is "the unchanging, eternal, self-existent God," the GREAT "**I AM**".

4. His name signifies:

- a. That He is self-existent; He has His being in and of Himself, and He has no dependence upon any other.

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**NEXT OBJECT**

- b. That He is eternal and unchangeable, always the same, yesterday, today, and forever.

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**NEXT OBJECT**

- 1.) Ja. 1:7, “...with whom is no *VARIABLENESS*, neither shadow of turning.”

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**NEXT OBJECT**

- 2.) He will be what He will be and what He is, see Rev. 1:8.

\*\*\* **SLIDE 8 - God Not Found by Searching**

c. That we cannot by searching find him out.

1.) His name is such a name as should restrain all doubting inquiries.

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**NEXT OBJECT**

2.) Judg. 13:18, says, "*And the angel of the LORD said unto him, Ask not after my name, seeing it is secret.*", spoken to Manoah.

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**NEXT OBJECT**

3.) The Hebrew word used there for "secret" means wonderful, incomprehensible, or extraordinary.

4.) Or consider Prov. 30:4, "*Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and what is his son's name, if thou canst tell?*"

5.) Meaning, to know the secrets of God. And the answer is, "Nobody"!

6.) God says it is secret or hidden from mortal men, such as thou can not fully comprehend My nature or My essence.

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**NEXT OBJECT**

d. We must simply accept that He is what He is, He is what He ever was, and He is what He ever will be.

\*\*\* **SLIDE 9 - Proofs of God - Universal**

#### D. Proofs of the Existence of God

1. These "proofs" may not "conclusively" prove, humanly speaking, that God is.

a. However, they do show that in order to believe in the existence of: knowledge, thought, reason, conscience, etc. we **MUST** agree that God is.

b. These arguments are probable, but not demonstrable, or conclusive scientifically using empirical methodology.

c. However, rather than doubting everything that can be doubted, let us doubt nothing until compelled to do so.

d. True religion was not produced by proofs of God's existence.

e. And true religion **WILL NOT** be destroyed by the scientific lack thereof.

f. True religion existed before argument.

g. Remember what we said about infinity? Unless you have traveled to every corner of the known universe and have examined every single speck of it, you have **ABSOLUTELY** no authority or right to say there is no God, period, end of discussion !!!

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**NEXT OBJECT**

2. Universal - Belief in the Existence of God

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**NEXT OBJECT**

a. Man everywhere believes in the existence of a supreme being to whom he is morally responsible and to whom atonement must be made.

1.) In some places that belief may be crude in its manifestation.

2.) However, God's existence is not invalidated by such crudeness, ie. a child's attempt to draw a picture of his/her father.

3.) Voltaire, a great atheist, prayed to God during a thunderstorm.

4.) One atheist is claimed to have said, "I thank God I am an atheist."

5.) Another said, "I have gotten rid of the idea of a supreme Being, and I thank God for it."

b. Belief in God **IS NOT** the result of logical arguments.

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**NEXT OBJECT**

- c. Belief in God is not the result of tradition.  
 1.) Tradition can only perpetuate only what has already originated.
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**NEXT OBJECT**
- d. Belief in God came not from the Scriptures.  
 1.) Unless a man had knowledge of and belief in God, His revelation would have no authority whatsoever.  
 2.) Revelation **MUST** first assume the existence of God
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**NEXT OBJECT**
- e. Universal belief comes from *within* man.  
 1.) **ALL** evidence points to this conclusive fact.  
 2.) The existence of God is innate in man.  
 3.) It comes from man's rational intuition.  
 4.) Modern science starts from a biased premise and works backward.  
 5.) We have become educated beyond our intelligence ("Eclipse of God").

\*\*\* **SLIDE 10 - Proofs of God - Cosmological**

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**NEXT OBJECT**

3. Cosmological – Argument from Cause

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**NEXT OBJECT**

- a. Cosmology - The science of the origin and development of the universe.  
 b. As Humans, we see a thing and naturally ask the cause of that thing.  
 1.) We see the world and ask how it came to be.  
 2.) Is it self-originating?  
 3.) Is it's cause outside of itself?
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**NEXT OBJECT**
- c. The fact that the universe could not possibly come into being of itself seems clearly obvious.  
 1.) Just as bricks, wood, nails, paint, mortar, etc. cannot come together of themselves.
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**NEXT OBJECT**
- 2.) Hebrews 3:4. Says, "*For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.*"  
 3.) The world we live in was built by a Designer of infinite power and wisdom.

\*\*\* **SLIDE 11 - Proofs of God - Teleological**

4. Teleological – Argument from Design

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**NEXT OBJECT**

- a. Teleology - a doctrine explaining phenomena by their ends or purposes  
 1.) Watch maker theory, a watch proves not only a maker, but a designer.  
 2.) Obviously a watch is made for a purpose.  
 3.) It's structure shows a thoughtful, intelligent design.
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**NEXT OBJECT**
- b. The "ends" in nature *ARE NOT* attributable to "natural processes", or "natural selection", or more ridiculous, "evolution" over millions or billions of years.  
 1.) They **ARE NOT** the result of "accident" or "chance".  
 2.) They **ARE** the **DIRECT** result of a superintending intelligence, God.
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**NEXT OBJECT**
- 3.) The "Ends" and "Purpose" are the result of the will of God.

\*\*\* **SLIDE 12 - Proofs of God - Ontological & Anthropological**

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**NEXT OBJECT**

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**NEXT OBJECT**

- a. Anthropology - the study of societies and cultures and human origins.
- b. Man has an intellectual and moral nature.
  - 1.) It stand to reason then that his Creator is an intellectual & moral Being.
  - 2.) Conscience in man says, “Thou shalt”, “Thou shalt not”, “I ought”, “I ought Not”.
  - 3.) These moral mandates are **NOT** self-imposed, they are God imposed.
- c. Where did we get standards of right and wrong?
  - 1.) Morality is **NOT** optional, it is obligatory.
  - 2.) Conscience - There is in the heart of man, an ideal, a thundering from on high, the Law of a High and Holy Judge.
  - 3.) Who has a right to command my life or your life?
  - 4.) **Nobody but God?, REPEAT**
- d. We **MUST** believe that there is a God, or believe that the very essence of our nature is a lie.
- e. Belief in a self-existent, personal God is in harmony with all the facts of our mental and moral nature.
- f. “The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God...”, Ps. 14:1, Ps. 53:1
- g. We often stop quoting that verse there. Let’s read the rest of the verse.

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**NEXT OBJECT - Text Box****\*\*\* SLIDE 13 - Argument from Scripture**

## 6. Argument from Scripture

- a. Much of man’s knowledge rests upon the testimony of others.

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**NEXT OBJECT**

- b. The Bible **absolutely** is competent testimony or history.
- c. If allowed, Bible history is sufficient to satisfy every reasonable demand.

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**NEXT OBJECT**

- 1.) The Jews history and prophecy is simply not explainable without God.
- 2.) If we cannot believe in the existence of God based on the testimony of Scripture, we should then burn all our books of history.
- 3.) Do you believe that George Washington was a real person?
- 4.) Why? Simply because someone you don’t even know said so, in a book?
- 5.) Well then, why do we not believe this Book?
- 6.) This Book has survived far longer than any other book.

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**NEXT OBJECT**

- d. If you deny the truth of Scripture, basically you are saying, “No amount of testimony will convince me there is a God.”
- e. As I said before, Scripture does not attempt to prove the existence of God.

**\*\*\* SLIDE 14 - Scripture Asserts 1**

f. Scripture simply asserts and declares that knowledge of God is universal:

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**NEXT OBJECT**

- 1.) **Rom. 1:19-21**, “Because that which may be known of God is **manifest in them**: for God **hath showed** 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

\*\*\* SLIDE 15 - Scripture Asserts 2

\*\*\* NEXT OBJECT

- 2.) **Rom. 1:28**, “*And even as they did not like to **retain** God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;*”

\*\*\* NEXT OBJECT

- 3.) **Rom. 1:32**, “*Who **knowing the judgment** of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.*”

\*\*\* NEXT OBJECT

- 4.) **Rom. 2:15**, “*Which show the work of the law **written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness**, and their thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;*”
- g. Scripture declares that God has wrought this truth in the very essence of every man’s being.
- 1.) Nowhere is God without this witness.
  - 2.) Every preacher, every teacher, every Christian **MUST** declare that “His eternal power and divinity” are evident, clearly seen, and perceived through the evidences of His handiwork which abound on every hand.

\*\*\* SLIDE 15 - Understand God