

The Calvary Chapel New Believers Bible Study Series

Study Number 3:

GOD: The Father

1. The Existence of God

- The Bible does not seek to prove the existence of God. The fact that there is a God is assumed throughout the Scriptures. The first verse of the Bible, **Genesis 1:1**, is an example. *"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."* God's existence is presented as a statement of fact that needs no proof.
- The man who says there is no god is called a fool in **Psalms 14:1**.
- However, even apart from the Bible, there are certain evidences for the existence of God.
 1. Mankind has always believed in a universal being.
 2. Creation must have a creator. The universe could not originate without a first cause, the design of the creation demands a Designer/Creator. The wonderful design that we see in creation demands an infinite designer. Random chance could not create or maintain such an intricately formed universe.
 3. Since man is an intelligent being, the creator must have been of a much higher order in order to create him.

2. The Nature of God

God is Spirit - He is invisible

John 1:18 _____

John 4:24 _____

God is a person - Personal names are used in reference to Him.

Exodus 3:14 _____

Exodus 6:3 _____

3. The Attributes (Characteristics) of God

- Omnipresent (present everywhere) - **Jeremiah 23:23, 24**
- Omnipotent (all powerful) - **Jeremiah 32:17, 27**
- Omniscient (all knowing) - **Job 34:21**
- Eternal (everlasting) - **Deuteronomy 33:27**
- Holy (free from all defilement, absolutely morally pure, no sin) - **Isaiah 6:3**
- Righteous or just (always does what is right) - **Psalms 145:17**
- Merciful (doesn't give us what we deserve) - **Deuteronomy 4:31**
- Immutable (He doesn't change) - **Malachi 3:6**
- Truthful (cannot lie) - **Titus 1:1, 2**
- Awesome (inspiring awe which is reverent wonder tinged with godly fear) - **Deuteronomy 7:21**

Personal characteristics are ascribed to Him:

- Knowledge - **Isaiah 55:8-10**

- Emotions - **Genesis 6:6**
- Will - **Joshua 3:9, 10**

4. The Love of God

What is the very essence of His nature? **1 John 4:7, 8, 16** _____

Whom does God love? _____

God loves His Son - **Matthew 3:17**

God loves the world - **John 3:16**

How did God demonstrate his love for us? **Romans 5:8** _____

How do I experience God's love each day? **Romans 5:5** _____

5. The Father is God

The father holds the place of authority within the Godhead. He is not more important than the Son or the Holy Spirit, but authorizes their ministries (**John 6:38, 14:16**)

6. The names of God the Father in the Old Testament all speak of His person.

- YHWH – Yahweh or the national name of God to Israel meaning the Self-existent One, this is the name given to Moses at the burning bush.
- Jehovah – built upon the YHWH name by adding vowels to the consonants. This name was often coupled with others words to provide further meaning such as Jehovah Our Salvation.
- El - "El" was frequently combined with nouns or adjectives to express the name for God with reference to particular attributes or characteristics of His being. El Shaddai, "God Almighty," appears in Genesis 17:1. El-elohe-Israel, in Genesis 33:20, was used to distinguish the God of Israel from all others. El Elyon, in Genesis 14:18 and Psalm 78:35, was written to suggest the exalted nature of God.
- All of these refer to the same God, each name indicating something of His nature or His character when it is used.

Notes or Questions _____

Assignment: Assignments: Read **John 8**, memorize **1 John 1:3**, and pray for one another by name.