

## Theology 101: Wrong Views and the True View About God

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### What Does Genesis 1 Suggest About God?

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Gen 1:1)

- God Is Obvious
- God Is Plural
- God Is Eternal
- God Is Creative
- God Is Incomprehensible
- God Is Intelligent
- God Is Knowable
- God Is Powerful
- God Is Unique
- God Is the Center of Attention

### If God Obviously Exists, Why Do People Reject Him?

NOTE: It is NOT a lack of information, a good argument, etc.

1. *Because They Desire to Suppress the Truth They Know (Rom 1:18-20)*
2. *Because They Develop Futile Thoughts and Become Fools (Rom 1:21-23)*
3. *Because God Gives Them Up to Deeper Sin (Rom 1:24-32)*
4. *Because They Love Sin and Desire to Hide from God's Truth (John 3:16-21)*
5. *Because the God of This Age Has Blinded Them (2 Cor 4:3-4)*

### 10 Words That Describe What God Is Like

These are often called God's **attributes** or God's **perfections**. God has many attributes (not just these), and people categorize them in different ways.

1. *Holy: God is completely separate from sin.*
2. *Self-Existing: God does not need anyone or anything.*
3. *Infinite: God is not limited by time or space.*
4. *Omniscient: God knows all things past, present, & future.*
5. *Omnipotent: God possesses infinite power.*
6. *Omnipresent: God is aware of everything everywhere.*
7. *Sovereign: God is the absolute and sole Ruler of all*
8. *Spiritual: No material substance, free from physical limits*
9. *Immutable: God never changes.*
10. *Loving: God cares in His words and actions.*

## Wrong Views and the True View of God

### Wrong Views of God

1. \_\_\_\_\_ – “no God.” The Bible assumes God exists.
  - **Radical materialism** (matter is eternal)
  - **Naturalism** – (things evolved randomly – evolution)
  - **Fatalism** – All things are predetermined and inevitable
  - **Humanism** – (man-centered or man-focused)
  - **Nihilism** – (nothing – no meaning, logic, reason)
  - **Agnosticism** – I don't know if there is a god.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ – (multiple forces exist side-by-side).
3. \_\_\_\_\_ **theism** – “everything is God.” Bible: God is above creation.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ – God was here, but He left us alone.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ **theism** – “One god,” but could be other gods too.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ **theism** – “many Gods” – Bible speaks of just one God.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ – “one God taking different forms”

## The True View of God (How God Reveals Himself in the Bible)

### 1. God reveals Himself as \_\_\_\_\_

Deut 6:4 “Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD *is* one!

1 Tim 2:5 For *there is* one God and one Mediator between God and men, *the* Man Christ Jesus,

### 2. Yet God Presents Himself in the \_\_\_\_\_

- Gen 1:1 In the beginning God [Elohim] created the heavens and the earth.
- Gen 1:26a Then God [Elohim] said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness;

### 3. Each Person Is \_\_\_\_\_

- Matt 3:16-17 When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. <sup>17</sup> And suddenly a voice *came* from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”
- Matt 28:19 “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”
- John 14:16-17 “And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—<sup>17</sup> “the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.”
- 1 Pet 1:2 elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.

### 4. Each Person Is \_\_\_\_\_

#### THE FATHER:

- John 6:27 “Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.”

#### THE SON:

- John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
- Rom 9:5 of whom *are* the fathers and from whom, according to the flesh, Christ *came*, who is over all, *the* eternally blessed God. Amen

#### THE SPIRIT:

- Acts 5:3-4 But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back *part* of the price of the land for yourself? <sup>4</sup> “While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.”
- 1 Cor 3:16 Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?