

Element 1: The Attributes of God: Parts A & B

What Is God Like? / The Nature of God / Is Your god Too ?

Bible Study - Prepared by: Gregory A. Weis

I. Introduction to Proclaiming the Gospel: Reviewed & Expanded

- A. Lifestyle-Evangelism & Proclamation Evangelism: (Meaning of εὐαγγελίζω / *euaggelizō*)
- B. Pre-Evangelized?: Jerusalem, Athens or Somewhere in Between: (Acts 2:5-40) vs. (Acts 17:16-34)
- C. Good News Demands True Bad News: Reading the Reverse Negative: 2 Sources of Bad News Denial
 1. The World: Modern; Post Modern & Post Christian (2 Thessalonians 2:10) (Eph3sians 4:15, 25)
 2. The Modern Church: Two Caricatures of God Emerging from Modernism vs. Fundamentalism
 - a. Reductionist God, Gospel & World View: (Will Become Clear As We Study 8 Elements)
 - b. Sadducees vs. Pharisees:
- D. Everyone Has a World View: Inevitable from Imago Dei (*Hold discussion until Tuesday night*)
 1. Who or What Is Ultimately Real? (Not always discernable from what they say, but what they do.) (James 2:18-19) But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.¹⁹ You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! (See also Matthew 12:34; 15: 18) (See also Hebrews 5:11-14)
 2. What Is The Intrinsic Nature of Man? (Three Issues: All Related to Culpability)
 - a. Ethical Predisposition or Intrinsic Moral Nature
 - b. Innate Value
 - c. Heredity (Nature) or Environment (Nurture)
 3. Man In Society: Law; Economic & Political Theory; Philosophies of History; Justice; Etc.

II. Eight Essential Elements: Outline & Overview

0. Intro: Proclamation / Pre-Evangelism / Disciples / Pole Fishing / Diagnostic Tools / 7 Missing Elements
1. **God: Essential Biblical Attributes**: (Non-Communicable & Communicable)
2. Man: Essential Biblical Attributes: (3 Issues / Culpability / Empowerment)
3. The 10 Commandments: (Exodus 20:1-17) & (Deuteronomy 5:1-21)
4. Historical Narrative of Israel & Warning(s) of Eternal Judgment Day: The Gospel Presentations in Acts
5. Jesus Christ: Only Mediator: Intro to Christology: Bridge / Solution / Ministry / Atonement / Reign
6. Receiving Jesus Christ: (John 1:12-13) Responding: Key Components & Exchanges of Soteriology
7. The First 5 Steps Into the Kingdom of Christ: Acts 2:37-47 (See Pt. I, E, 3 Above)
8. Maturing in Jesus Christ: 3 Tools of Grace - Vital Growth Ingredients / Necessity of Discipleship

III. The Gospel Essential Attributes of God: What is God Like? (*Paul In Athens: Adapt to Today*)

(Romans 1: 18-26a)¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,¹⁹ because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.²¹ For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.²² Professing to be wise, they became fools,²³ and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

²⁴ Therefore God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, so that their bodies would be dishonored among them.²⁵ For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.²⁶ For this reason God gave them over to ...

(2 Thessalonians 2:10, 12) ... those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved.... in order that they all may be judged who did not believe the truth, but took pleasure in wickedness.

A. Non-Communicable Attributes (Vs. Reductionist Modern Remade Man-Centered in Man's Image)

1. Eternally Existent in Three Persons: Trinity (One & Many)

(Note: Existence of God: Never Questioned – Always Asserted in Scripture)

(Psalm 14:1-3) The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they have committed abominable deeds; There is no one who does good. ²The LORD has looked down from heaven upon the sons of men To see if there are any who understand, Who seek after God. ³They have all turned aside, together they have become corrupt; There is no one who does good, not even one. (Psalm 53:1A) (Romans 3:10-12)

(Psalm 19:1) The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. (ESV)

(1 Tim. 1:17) Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

2. "Omni's" ... Omniscient; Omnipresent; Omnipotent;

3. Transcendent Creator: Outside & Above or Separate from Creation

(Genesis 1:1) In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:26-28)

(John 1:1-3) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

(Colossians 1:16) For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things have been created through Him and for Him.

4. Jude; Lawgiver; Covenant Maker: (NT Gospel Always w/ a Warning of Judgment)

(Acts 17:30-31) The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now He commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because He has fixed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by a Man whom He has appointed; and of this He has given assurance to all by raising Him from the dead." (ESV)

(Genesis 18:25b) ...Shall not the Judge of all the earth deal justly?" (See Romans 1:18 Above.)

(Hebrews 9:27) And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment,

(Jeremiah 17:10) "I, the LORD, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give to each man according to his ways, According to the results of his deeds. (2 Chronicles 6:14) (Deuteronomy 7:9) (Nehemiah 1:5, 9:32)

5. Sovereign Gracious Redeemer: He is In Control & he Is Offering You Loving Reconciliation

(Romans 8:28-30) And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose. ²⁹For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren; ³⁰and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified. (Never Crash Recipe: Faith in God's Sovereignty & Care; Good Conscience / Confession)

(Jeremiah 29:11-14a) ¹¹For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. ¹²Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. ¹³You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. ¹⁴I will be found by you, declares the LORD, and I will restore ...

B. Communicable Attributes:

1. Personal: (A He Not an it – Not Impersonal or Abstract – Personality, Emotions. Living, Caring)

2. Fatherhood: (See Hebrews 12:5-9)

(Psalm 68:5-6) A father of the fatherless and a judge for the widows, Is God in His holy habitation. ⁶God makes a home for the lonely; He leads out the prisoners into prosperity, Only the rebellious dwell in a parched land.

3. Merciful and Loving: (See Romans 11:32; Ephesians 2:4; Luke 1:78, Etc.) (Many, many verses)

(James 2:13) For judgment will be merciless to one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

(Psalm 116:5) Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; Yes, our God is merciful. (NKJV)

(1 John 4:8) The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

