

CALL to PRAYER - Pray that we would think about God rightly. Psalm 50:21b

Intro – Last week we introduced a new series “*Definitions*” where I plan on exploring common words in our faith that have lost clear definitions. Today we tackle the definition of GOD. Polls tell us that between 80-90% of Americans believe in God; but I bet that their definition of “god” would vary greatly - Generic ideas like “*man upstairs*” ... “*higher power*” ... *impersonal force*... many religions with just as many definitions of “god.” (The god of the Mormon, Muslim & Christian are very different) The only true God has revealed Himself in nature & scripture and we should get our definition of God from there. Our definition of “God” can determine our destiny. One of the best summaries of a biblical definition of God is in the WSC - Q. 4 “*What is God? A. God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal and unchangeable, in His being, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness and truth.*” We will use this definition as a framework for the message. The text I am about read says we are to be witness to the fact that there is only one God and there will always be only one God and He is the only Savior. This only God & Savior is personal, eternal, all powerful and irresistible.

Isaiah 43:10-13 - Definitions – part 2 - GOD

GOD is SPIRIT

- We live in a material world, but the material world was made by an immaterial Being.
 - The material world has matter, space, time...dimension/extension... (measurable)
 - God is immaterial and pure spirit John 4:24 (immeasurable)
 - “*God is a being who exists without size or dimensions is space.*” W. Grudem
- God is pure spirit without dimension, division or parts.
 - There is perfect unity with God. God is one - Deut. 6:4
 - Human beings are made up of body, soul & spirit – there are many parts to our whole self
 - Our bodies are flesh & bone...blood & water...cells/atoms...
- God is an Invisible Spirit 1 Tim. 1:17
 - No one has ever seen God – 1 Tim. 6:15-16 John 1:18 John 6:46
 - It is impossible to make a material image of the immaterial God who is invisible and has never been seen. All images of God are lies....except one - Col. 1:15 John 4:24
- God is a personal Spirit not an impersonal force. Isaiah 43:12 A Person who speaks & saves

GOD is INFINITE

- God is an Infinite Spirit
 - God is without any limitations in His person or in His perfections
 - God is omnipresent & infinitely perfect. (immeasurable Person & perfection)
- God fills heaven and earth - Jer. 23:23-24
 - I Kings 8:27 Psalm 139:7-8 Eph. 1:23 “...who fills all in all.”
 - “*God’s center is everywhere, and His circumference is nowhere.*” T. Watson
 - God is not confined to space or area because He is an Infinite Spirit (God-in-a-box)

- God is totally present everywhere. Not a part of Him here and a part there
 - Undivided attention to our prayers/live here and over there.
- God is everywhere but He is distinct from everything.
 - God is totally separate from His creation.
 - Omnipresence is not pantheism (pantheism= the universe is god)
 - There is an INFINITE distinction between creature and Creator.
- All of God's perfections are infinitely perfect
 - Infinite: wisdom...power...holiness...justice...goodness...truth
 - God does not excel in anything because He is infinitely perfect in everything.

GOD is ETERNAL

- God is an eternal Spirit. Self existent - I AM God is timeless
 - Isaiah 43:10-13a There can be only ONE infinite and eternal God
 - God fills all and has always been so there can't be another.
- Everything had a beginning...but God. *"In the beginning God"* (Gen. 1:1)
 - Before time there was the timeless God - Psalm 90:1-2
 - God inhabits eternity - Is. 57:15 NKJV
- There was never a "time" when God was not. He is the eternal "I AM"
 - Rev. 1:8 Rev. 4:8-11 God is life & the source of all life.
 - Time came from the timeless God who alone exists independent & outside of time
- Heaven & Hell are eternal because God is eternal.
 - To sin against a timeless God brings a timeless consequence. Eternal Person/punishment
 - To be saved by a timeless God is to be timelessly secure. Eternal God gives eternal life

GOD is UNCHANGEABLE

- God doesn't change Malachi 3:6
 - Creatures are constantly in a state of change. We are becoming something different. Smarter/dumber stronger/weaker older/olderer
 - God doesn't grow, learn, progress, increase, diminish or alter in any way
 - We are becoming...God is an infinite, eternal unchangeable Being - I AM
 - Heb. 13:8 James 1:17 1 Sam. 15:29
- *"God is the same God always."* W. Grudem
 - Some imagine that the God of OT is different that the God of the NT
 - God is infinitely and eternally the same. God's person, plans and promises never change.
 - Our world is in constant flux, but God is fixed. You can trust in the unchangeable - anchor...
- God doesn't need us...but we need Him Acts 17:24-25

In a nation where almost 90% believe in "god"... the only true God is an increasingly the unknown God.

- God is incomprehensible yet knowable and personal - Isaiah 43:11-13
- I have given a woefully inadequate description/definition. Job 11:7-9 Psalm 139:6
- How can the finite describe the infinite...the Eternal in time...immutable by malleable...?