

**Loris First Baptist Church**  
**“52 Vital Doctrines of The Bible”**

Doctrine #5: God the Trinity

Note: Most information based on pages 37-44 of the book “Major Bible Themes” by Lewis Sperry Chaffer.

**Opening Comments. The Belief in the Existence of God:**

1. The belief that a divine being exists who is greater than man has been common to all cultures and civilizations.
2. Man seems intuitively, by his very religious nature, to reach out to some sort of higher being.
3. This has been due in part to the fact that man reasons there must be an explanation for our world and for human existence, and that a being greater than man would serve to explain this.
4. Ordinarily, men do not ask for proofs of their own existence nor the existence of material things which they recognize by their senses.
5. Although God is unseen as to His person, His existence is so evident that men generally require no proofs for the fact that there is a God.
6. The evidence for the existence of God in creation is so clear that rejection of it is the ground of condemnation of the heathen world regardless of whether or not they have heard the Gospel message. The Bible reveals that doubt of God’s existence is primarily due to man’s own perversity and blindness and to satanic influence.

Romans 1:18-20 *“The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—His eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.”*

7. Although ancient Greek philosophers were unfamiliar with biblical revelation, they attempted to make attempts to explain man’s universe on the basis of a higher being (or higher beings). Various systems of thoughts were presented and evolved into “reasonable” explanations of who this higher being (or these higher beings) could be:
  - a. Polytheism: The belief in many gods.
  - b. Hylozoism: The belief that the life principle found in all creation is God Himself.

- c. Materialism: The belief that matter is self-functioning according to natural law and no god is necessary to its functioning (i.e. a theory supporting modern evolutionism!).
- d. Pantheism: The belief that God is impersonal and identical with nature itself. God is immanent (i.e. “close and involved with all of creation”) but not transcendent (i.e. “separate from and far more advanced than all of creation”).

NOTE: All of man’s various beliefs and concepts about the existence and explanation of God (or gods) can be traced back to one of these four developed Greek theories.

**Four Main Arguments for the Existence of God Based Solely on the Facts of Creation:**

- 1. The Ontological Argument: *Of or relating to the argument for the existence of God holding that man’s universal “belief in God” and the overwhelming existence of the “concept of God” proves the existence of God.*

*It is widely accepted that the first ontological argument was proposed by Anselm of Canterbury. Anselm defined God as the greatest possible being we can conceive and argued that this being could exist in the mind. He suggested that, if the greatest possible being exists in the mind, it must also exist in reality. If it only exists in the mind, a greater being is possible—one which exists in the mind and in reality.*

- 2. The Cosmological Argument: *Every effect must have its sufficient cause and, therefore, the universe, which is an effect, must have a Creator as its cause.*

*Logic based on these premises: (1) Whatever begins to exist has a cause. (2) The Universe began to exist. (3) Therefore, the Universe had a cause. (4) The cause of the universe (i.e. all things created) can be called God.*

- 3. The Teleological Argument: *Everything that has been designed must have a designer. Since creation as a whole reveals itself as being intricately designed and interrelated, creation must have a great designer. This designer can be called God.*

NOTE: Based on the logical argument that if you found a watch lying on the ground, you would not assume that the watch “accidentally” came into existence by colliding metal, glass, and wires. Rather, you would naturally assume there must be a “watchmaker” who designed and made the watch. In the same way, since the universe has shown itself to be vastly more complicated, more intricately designed, and more dependable than a watch, there must be a “creation maker” who made the universe of infinite power and wisdom. This “creation maker” can be called God.

Psalm 19:1-4 *“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.”*

4. The Anthropological Argument: *The nature and existence of man is unexplainable apart from being created by someone who has a nature similar to but greater than man's.*

*Based on the concept that "mankind" is different from all other objects in creation. Man has intellect (capacity to think and reason), sensibility (capacity to feel and have emotions), and will (capacity to make moral choices based on what man thinks or feels). Such extraordinary abilities not found elsewhere in nature could not have come into existence except through a being who has similar but greater abilities (i.e. "non-thinking" objects can not create "thinking" objects; "non-emotional" objects can not produce "emotional" objects; etc., etc). This being who created the unique creature "man" can be called God. Therefore, God must be ultra-intelligent, with emotions, and the ability to make His own decisions!*

NOTE: Although these arguments have considerable validity to prove that it is very reasonable for man to believe in the "existence of God", they are not sufficient to bring man into a proper understanding or relationship with God. It is in the "BIBLE" that the complete revelation of God is given, confirming all the facts found in nature but adding to natural revelation many truths which natural revelation COULD NOT HAVE DISCLOSED!

#### **Five Major Revelations of God that come through Scripture and not through Creation:**

1. There is only "ONE" God who exists as a Divine "Trinity".

- a. The Old Testament emphasizes the "unity" (i.e. "oneness") of God:

Exodus 20:2-3 *"I am (i.e. singular pronoun and singular being verb) the LORD your God (singular noun), who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before Me (singular pronoun)."*

Deuteronomy 6:4 *"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is ONE."*

Isaiah 44:6 *"This is what the LORD says— Israel's King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from Me there is no God."*

- b. The New Testament emphasizes the "unity" (i.e. "oneness") of God:

John 10:30 *"I and the Father are ONE."* (i.e. Jesus did not say that He and His Father are TWO Gods!)

John 14:9 *"Jesus answered: 'Don't you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"*

John 17:11 *"...I am coming to You. Holy Father, protect them by the power of Your name—the name You gave Me—so that they may be one as We are ONE."*

John 17:22-23 *"I have given them the glory that You gave Me, that they may be one as We are ONE: I in them and You in Me. May they be brought to COMPLETE UNITY to let the world know that You sent Me and have loved them even as You have loved Me."*

Colossians 1:19 *"For God was pleased to have all His fullness dwell in Him..."*

Hebrews 1:3a *"The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being..."*

c. The Old Testament and New Testament indicates that God exists as a Trinity:

1) Plural personal pronouns are used for God in the Old Testament:

Genesis 1:26 *"Then God said, 'Let US make man in OUR image, in OUR likeness...'"*

Genesis 3:22 *"And the Lord God said, 'The man has now become like one of US, knowing good and evil...'"*

Genesis 11:6-7 *"The LORD said, 'If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. Come, LET US GO DOWN and confuse their language so they will not understand each other.'"*

2) Distinctions within the nature of God in terms of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are revealed in the Old Testament:

Isaiah 7:14 *"Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a SON, and will call Him Immanuel." (Note: "Immanuel" means "God with us!")*

Isaiah 9:16 *"For to us a child is born, to us A SON is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, MIGHTY GOD, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."*

Psalms 2:7-8 *"I will proclaim the decree of the Lord: He (i.e. "God, the Father") said to Me (i.e. "God, the Son), 'You are My SON; today I have become Your FATHER. Ask of Me, and I will make the nations Your inheritance, the ends of the earth Your possession.'"*

Psalms 104:30 *"When You (i.e. "God, the Father") send Your Spirit (i.e. "God, the Spirit"), they are created, and You renew the face of the earth."*

3) Distinctions within the nature of God in terms of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are revealed in the New Testament:

John 1:1 *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He (i.e. "the being known as The Word") was with God in the beginning."*

John 1:14 *"The Word (i.e. "God, the Son") became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only (i.e. "God"), who came from the Father (i.e. "God, the Father"), full of grace and truth."*

Matthew 3:16-17 *“As soon as Jesus (i.e. “God, the Son”) was baptized, He went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God (i.e. “God, the Spirit”) descending like a dove and lighting on Him. And a voice from heaven (i.e. “God, the Father) said, ‘This is My Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased.’”*

John 14:16-17 *“And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— THE SPIRIT of truth. The world cannot accept HIM (i.e. personal pronoun indicating the Spirit is NOT an “IT”, but a person!), because it neither sees HIM nor knows HIM. But you know HIM, for HE (i.e. “God, the Spirit”) lives with you and will be in you.”*

1Corinthians 6:19 *“Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received FROM GOD?... ”*

John 14:20 *“On that day you will realize that I am in My Father, and you are in Me, and I am in you.”\**

\*NOTE: Jesus is saying that the Father, the Holy Spirit and He (i.e. Jesus) are “one, in the same God” that will be dwelling inside every believer!

Acts 5:3-4 *“Then Peter said, ‘Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have LIED TO THE HOLY SPIRIT and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? Didn’t it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn’t the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to God.’”\*\**

\*\*NOTE: Peter reveals that the Holy Spirit that Ananias lied to was God, Himself!

Acts 13:2 *“While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the HOLY SPIRIT said, ‘Set apart for ME (i.e. Your Lord and God!) Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’”*

Matthew 28:19 *“...Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name (i.e. “singular name”) of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (i.e. “plural persons”)...”*

d. The many indications in both the Old and New Testaments that God exists as one God that is a “triune being” have made the doctrine of the Trinity a central FACT of all orthodox creeds from the early church until modern times:

- 1) Any departure from the teaching that the Bible reveals God as existing as “One God in Three Persons” is considered a departure from scriptural truth (i.e. heretical teaching!).
- 2) Although the word “Trinity” does not occur in the Bible, the facts of scriptural revelation permit no other explanation.

e. While the doctrine of the Trinity is a central fact of Christian faith, it is also beyond human comprehension and has no parallel in human experience:

- 1) It is best defined as holding that, while God is one God, He exists in three persons.
- 2) These persons are equal, have the same attributes, and are equally worthy of adoration, worship, and faith.
- 3) They are NOT three separate gods, like three separate human beings as Peter, James, and John.

Note: *It is NOT: 1 (God, the Father) + 1 (God, the Son) + 1 (God, the Holy Spirit) = 3 Gods!  
Rather it is: 1 (God, the Father) X 1 (God, the Son) X 1 (God, the Holy Spirit) = 1 God!*

- 4) The persons of the Trinity, while having equal attributes, differ in certain properties:
  - a) The First Person of the Trinity is called God, the Father.
  - b) The Second Person of the Trinity is called God, the Son and is sent forth by the Father.
  - c) The Third Person of the Trinity is called God, the Holy Spirit and is sent forth by the Son.

Note: *This is called the doctrine of procession, and the order is NEVER reversed; that is, the Son never sends forth the Father and the Spirit never sends the Son!*

- 5) Since the uniqueness of the Godhead has no illustration or parallel in human experience, the doctrine of the “Trinity” should be accepted by “faith” on the basis of scriptural revelation even if it is beyond human comprehension and definition.

## 2. The Names of God:

a. In the Old Testament, three principal names are ascribed to God:

- 1) “Jehovah” (Latin) or “Yahweh” (Hebrew) – the name of God applied only to the true God.

a) The name first appears in connection with Creation:

Genesis 2:4 *“This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created. When the LORD God (i.e. “Jehovah” or “Yahweh”) made the earth and the heavens...”*

Note: *Whenever you see the word “Lord” capitalized as “LORD”, that means the English word “LORD” is representing the Hebrew word for the true (and only God): “YAHWEH”.*

b) The meaning of the name “Jehovah” or “Yahweh” is defined as “the self-existent, eternal God”:

Exodus 3:13-14 *“Moses said to God, ‘Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?’ God said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM.’ This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”*

NOTE: *“I AM” was written as “YHWH” by Moses (because they do not have “vowels”). “Yahweh” is written in a way for us to be able to say the name of the “self-existent” God.*

2) The most common name for God in the Old Testament is “Elohim”:

Genesis 1:1 *“In the beginning God (i.e. “Elohim”) created the heavens and the earth...”*

a) The meaning of the name has been debated, but seems to include the idea of being the “strong one” and being one to be feared or revered.

b) Because it is in a plural form, it seems to include all the Trinity:

Genesis 1:26 *“Then God (i.e. “Elohim”) said, ‘Let US make man in OUR image, in OUR likeness...’”*

3) The third name for God in the Old Testament is “Adonai”:

a) Commonly means “master” or “lord” and is used not only of God as our Master, but also of men who are masters over their servants.

b) When God is written as “LORD” in the Bible, this means the name “Yahweh” is being translated into English; but, when God is written as “Lord” in the Bible, this means “Adonia” is being translated into English.

c) “Adonai” is frequently joined to “Elohim” in the Bible and when so used it emphasizes the fact that God is our Master or Lord:

Genesis 15:2 *“And Abram said, ‘O Lord God (i.e. “Adonai, Elohim”), what wilt Thou give me, since I am childless...”*

b. To the combinations of the three primary names of God are many other compounds found in the Old Testament such as:

1) “Jehovah-jireh” (meaning “the Lord will provide”):

Genesis 22:14 *“So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide (i.e. written as “Jehovah-jireh”). And to this day it is said, ‘On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.’”*

2) “Jehovah-rapha” (meaning “the Lord who heals”):

Exodus 15:26 *“He said, ‘If you listen carefully to the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, who heals you (i.e. “Jehovah-rapha”).”*

3) “Jehovah-nissi” (meaning “the Lord my banner”):

Exodus 17:15 *“Moses built an altar and called it The LORD is my Banner (i.e. “Jehovah-nissi”).”*

4) “Jehovah-shalom” (meaning “the Lord of our peace”):

Judges 6:24 *“So Gideon built an altar to the LORD there and called it The LORD is Peace (i.e. “Jehovah-shalom”)...”*

5) “Jehovah-tsidkenu” (meaning “the Lord our righteousness”):

Jeremiah 23:6 *“In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness (i.e. “Jehovah-tsidkenu”).”*

6) “Jehovah-shammah” (meaning “the Lord is present”):

Ezekiel 48:35 *“...And the name of the city from that time on will be: The LORD is there (i.e. “Jehovah-shammah”).”*

c. In the New Testament, additional titles of God are found:

- 1) The First Person of the Trinity as being distinguished as “the Father”, the Second Person distinguished as “the Son”, and the Third Person distinguished as “the Holy Spirit”. These titles, of course, are also found in the Old Testament but are more common in the New Testament.
- 2) Discussion of these terms in detail will follow in Doctrines dealing with each of the three persons of the Trinity.

3. The Attributes of God:

- a. In the essential being of God, there are certain inherent “attributes” (or “essential qualities”) of God.
- b. These attributes are eternally held by the Triune God and are equal for each person of the Godhead.
- c. Included in the attributes is the fact that:



1) God is Spirit (i.e. “not material or physical in His eternal existence”):

John 4:24 “God is Spirit, and His worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.”

2) God is Life:

John 5:26 “For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself.”

3) God is Self-Existent:

Exodus 3:14 “God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM...”

4) God is Infinite:

Psalms 145:3 “Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; His greatness no one can fathom.”

5) God is Immutable (or “changeless”):

Psalms 102:25-27 “In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but YOU REMAIN; they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing You will change them and they will be discarded. But You remain the same, and Your years will never end.”

Malachi 3:6 “I the LORD do not change...”

James 1:17 “Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, Who does not change like shifting shadows.”

6) God is Truth:

Deuteronomy 32:4 “He is the Rock, His work is perfect; for all His ways are justice, a God of truth and without injustice; righteous and upright is He.”

Psalms 31:5 “Into your hands I commit my spirit; redeem me, O LORD, the God of truth.”

John 14:6 “Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’”

7) God is Love:

1 John 4:8 “Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.”

8) God is Eternal:

Psalms 90:2 “Before the mountains were born or You brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.”

9) God is Holy:

1 Peter 1:15-16 *“But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: ‘Be holy, because I am holy.’”*

1 John 1:5 *“This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you: God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all.”*

10) God is Omnipresent (i.e. “everywhere all at the same time”):

Psalm 139:7-8 *“Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence? If I go up to the heavens You are there; if I make my bed in the depths, You are there.”*

11) God is Omniscient (i.e. “knows everything; is in the process of learning nothing!”):

Psalm 139:16 *“All the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be.”*

Psalm 147:4-5 *“He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name. Great is our Lord and mighty in power; His understanding has no limit.”*

Isaiah 42:8-9 *“I am the Lord; that is My name! I will not give My glory to another or My praise to idols. See, the former things have taken place, and new things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you.”*

12) God is Omnipotent (i.e. “all powerful; does whatever He desires”):

Isaiah 43:11-13 *“I, even I, am the LORD, and apart from Me there is no savior. I have revealed and saved and proclaimed— I, and not some foreign god among you. You are My witnesses,’ declares the LORD, ‘that I am God. Yes, and from ancient days I am He. No one can deliver out of My hand. When I act, who can reverse it?’”*

Matthew 19:26 *“With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”*

d. Variations of God’s attributes can be seen in the fact that God is “good”, God is “merciful”, and God is “sovereign”.

e. All perfections are ascribed to God to infinity, and His works as well as His being are perfect.

f. The great detail and design of the universe are evidence of His sovereignty, power, and wisdom; His plan of salvation, as revealed in the Scriptures, is evidence of His love, righteousness, and grace.

g. No aspect of creation is too large for Him to be in complete control, and no detail, even to the falling of a sparrow, is too small to be included in His sovereign plan.

#### 4. The Sovereignty of God:

- a. The attributes of God make clear that God is supreme over all. He yields to no other power, authority or glory, and is not subject to any absolute greater than Himself.
- b. He represents perfection to an infinite degree in every aspect of His being. He can NEVER be surprised, defeated, or uncertain.
- c. However, without sacrificing His authority or jeopardizing the final realization of His perfect will, it has pleased God to give men a “measure” of freedom of choice, and for the exercise of this choice, God holds man responsible.
- d. Because man in his depraved state is blind and insensitive to the work of God, it is clear from Scripture that men do not turn to God apart from the moving of His Spirit in their hearts:

John 6:44 *“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day.”*

John 16:7-11 *“But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor (i.e. “the Holy Spirit”) will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you. When He comes, He will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: in regard to sin, because men do not believe in Me; in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see Me no longer; and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.”*

- e. On the human side, however, man is held responsible for unbelief and is commanded to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ in order to be saved:

Acts 16:31 *“They replied, Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”*

- f. It is also true that in the affairs of men, especially of Christians, God works to accomplish His will:

Philippians 2:13 *“...for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose.”*

- g. Yet, God does not force men to yield themselves to Him but rather beseeches them to do so:

Romans 12:1 *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.”*

- h. The fact that God has given to men certain freedom does not introduce an element of uncertainty into the universe, as God anticipates in advance and knows to infinity all that man will do in response to the divine and human influences which come into his life.
- i. His sovereignty therefore infinitely extends to every act even if it be to the temporary permission of evil that ultimately God might be glorified.

## 5. The Degree of God:

- a. The sovereign purpose of God is defined theologically as the “decree of God”, referring to the comprehensive plan that includes all events of every classification which will occur.
- b. The decree of God includes those events which God does Himself and also includes all that God accomplishes through natural law, over which He is completely sovereign.
- c. More difficult to comprehend is the fact that His sovereign decree also extends to all the acts of men, which are included in His eternal plan. While incomprehensible to us, it is evident that the all-wise God, having complete knowledge of what man would do in his freedom, in electing to give man freedom of choice does not introduce any element of uncertainty.
  - 1) This means, the divine plan, accordingly, included permitting man to sin as Adam and Eve did with all the resultant acts of sin.
  - 2) It included the divine remedy of Christ dying on the cross and all the work of the Holy Spirit in bringing men to repentance and faith in spite of their sin.
- e. Although the working of God in human hearts is inscrutable (i.e. “cannot be learned or understood”), the Bible is plain that on the one hand what man does has been included in God’s eternal decree and on the other hand man operates with freedom of choice and is held responsible for his choices.

### **Summary of what the Scriptures Reveal to Mankind that Creation does not:**

1. That God is a “Unity” that is a “Trinity” (i.e. The Godhead consists of ONE God in THREE Persons!).
2. All the “Names of God” that God has chosen to give to Himself.
3. All the “Attributes of God” that reveal to man all of God’s divine characteristics that make Him God.
4. The Sovereignty of God which reveals His complete control of all the end results of actions on this earth, even when man uses his God-given, “limited”, freedom to sin against God.
5. That God controls everything through His divine decrees which ensure His comprehensive plan for all of His creation (including man) is ultimately accomplished.

*Ephesians 3:8-11 “Although I am less than the least of all God’s people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make plain to everyone the administration of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things. His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, according to His eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

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***“52 Vital Doctrines of The Bible”***

Study Guide for “Doctrine #5: God the Trinity”

1. Read Pages 1-12 from the Doctrine#5 Study Guide by next Wednesday.
2. Answer the following Questions about “God the Trinity” as you read:

**a. The Belief in the Existence of God:**

- 1) What is a belief that is common to all cultures and civilizations? (page 1, top)
  
- 2) Mans seems intuitively, by his very religious nature, to do what? (page 1, top)
  
- 3) Although God is unseen as to His person, His existence is so evident that men generally do NOT require what? (page 1, middle)
  
- 4) The Bible reveals that “doubt” of God’s existence is primarily due to what? (page 1, middle)
  
- 5) According to Romans 1:18, what do “godless” and “wicked” men do with the “truth” that God reveals to them about Himself?
  
- 6) True or False. If a person is born in a remote village in a third world country and never hears the gospel of Jesus Christ, that person has an “excuse” to not believe in God.  
(read Romans 1:18-20)
  
- 7) Describe what a person who is a “pantheist” believes about God. (page 2, top)

**b. Four Main Arguments for the Existence of God Based Solely on the Facts of Creation:**

- 1) Name each of the four main arguments for the existence of God based on the visible universe.  
(page 2, middle – page 3, top)
  
- 2) Which argument is based on the concept that if “God” is defined as the greatest possible being that exists in man’s mind, then it makes sense to believe that that “God” exists in reality?  
(page 2, middle-top)
  
- 3) Which argument is based on the concept that every effect must have its sufficient “cause” and therefore, the universe, which is an effect, must have a Creator as its cause? (page 2, middle)
  
- 4) The fact that if you found a Timex Watch laying on the ground you would immediately assume that there is a watchmaker that made that Timex Watch (it didn’t accidentally come into existence), is basis for which argument that uses the organized universe to prove the existence of God as its “maker”? (page 2, bottom)
  
- 5) According to Psalm 19:1-4, the “heavens” (i.e. “stars”, “planets”, “universe”, etc.) declare what?
  
- 6) Which argument is based on the concept that “mankind” is so different from all other objects of creation (i.e. has the ability to think, feel, and make decisions) that there must be a “creator” of mankind who also has the ability to think, feel, and make decisions (i.e. “God”)?  
(page 3, top)
  
- 7) True or False. Although the Ontological, Cosmological, Teleological, and Anthropological arguments make it “reasonable” for man to believe in the existence of God, they do not provide any evidence or give assurance of how man can have a “relationship” with God. (page 3, top)
  
- 8) Why is the Bible so critical to the “revelation” of God to mankind? (page 3, top)

- 9) True or False. The Bible reveals facts that contradict what God has revealed to man through the created universe. (page 3, top)

**c. Five Major Revelations of God that come through the Scriptures and not through Creation:**

- 1) True or False. The revelation of God as a “Trinity” (one God in three persons) is a fact that can be discovered in both General Revelation (i.e. observing the created universe) and in Special Revelation (i.e. reading God’s Word). (page 3, middle)
- 2) According to Deuteronomy 6:4, how many “gods” are there?
- 3) According to Jesus Christ in John 10:30, He and the Father make how many “gods”?
- 4) According to John 14:9, Jesus made it clear that “if you have seen Him”, you have seen whom?
- 5) Who is Jesus Christ according to Hebrews 1:3a?
- 6) True or False. Both the Old and New Testaments proclaim repeatedly that there is only one God, but they also reveal that there is a Son and a Father that are persons of this one God. (pages 3-4)
- 7) Read Genesis 1:26. What is written in this verse which clearly indicates that although God is “One”, there is also a “plurality” to His description of Himself.

- 8) True or False. Distinctions within the nature of God in terms of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are initially made in the New Testament after Jesus Christ was born.  
(page 4, middle)
- 9) What did Jesus ultimately mean when you compare verses like John 14:16-17 and 1 Corinthians 6:19 to when He said in John 14:20, "*I am in My Father, and you are in Me, and I am in you.*"  
(page 5, middle)
- 10) According to Peter, when "Ananias" lied to the Holy Spirit, he was actually lying to whom?  
(Acts 5:3-4)
- 11) True or False. The doctrine of the Trinity (i.e. "teaching that the Bible reveals God as one God in three persons) is a doctrine that only began to be taught in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Century by the Catholic Church. (page 5, bottom)
- 12) True or False. Although the word "Trinity" is not used to describe God in any verse in the Bible, it is still revealed in the Scriptures in a way that makes the concept of the "Trinity" biblically accurate. (page 5, bottom)
- 13) True or False. If man reads the Word of God and is taught properly by "biblical scholars" the concept of the "Trinity" makes "sense" and has many "parallels" in human experience. (page 6, top)
- 14) The three persons of the Trinity of God have the same "attributes", but differ in certain what?  
(page 6, middle-top)
- 15) In your own words, explain the doctrine of "procession" as it applies to the Trinity.  
(page 6, middle)



- 16) What are the three principle names ascribed to God in the Old Testament?  
(page 6, bottom – page 7, middle)
  
- 17) When the word “Lord” is written in the Old Testament, how can you tell if it is being used to represent the name for God that corresponds with “Jehovah” (i.e. Yahweh)?  
(page 6, bottom)
  
- 18) Which name for God is in the “plural” form and seems to include all the Trinity?  
(page 7, middle-top)
  
- 19) When the name for God is written as “Lord”, with only the “L” capitalized, what Hebrew name for God does it represent? (page 7, middle)
  
- 20) What is the combination name for God that is translated “the Lord will provide”?  
(page 7, bottom)
  
- 21) What does the name “Jehovah-shalom” mean? (page 8, top)
  
- 22) List at least 10 attributes that every member of the Trinity of God possess. (pages 8-10)
  
- 23) When the Bible represents God as being “Omniscient” what does this attribute mean?  
(page 10, top)
  
- 24) What attribute of God is being revealed when Jesus said, “*With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.*” (Matthew 19:26)? (page 10, bottom)

- 25) True or False. Although God is Sovereign over mankind, sometimes men sin against God and surprise Him to such an extent that He must change His original plans as time goes on, but ultimately His goals are achieved. (page 11, top)
- 26) True or False. It is impossible for sinful man to just start on his own to “seek” after God, because in his depraved state man is blind and insensitive to the work of God.  
(page 11, top)
- 27) What has to happen according to John 6:44 for a person to “come to Jesus” to be saved?
- 28) True or False. Humans are exempt from being judged and found guilty of sinning against God if God, the Father does not “draw” them enough to Jesus for them to be saved.  
(page 11, middle; also see John 3:18 and John 16:7-11)
- 29) True or False. Although God gives men certain freedoms to obey Him or disobey Him, this never introduces an element of uncertainty into the universe, as God already knows in advance anything and everything each person will do with their limited freedom. (page 11, bottom)
- 30) What does the “decree of God” refer to? (page 12, top)
- 31) True or False. The “Decree of God” included causing Adam and Eve to sin, so that God could ultimately prove His infinite love for us by coming to earth to die for man’s sins.  
(page 12, top-middle)
- 32) True or False. Because of the “decree of God”, everything that man chooses to do with his limited freedoms have already been included in God’s ultimate perfect plan and yet man will still be held responsible for trying to use his freedom to alter God’s plans. (page 12, middle)