

I. GOD THE FATHER ... AND CREATION

I. A. GOD THE FATHER:

"God" is both a n_____ and a t_____

יהוה Yahweh : I a__ who I am (Genesis 2.4)

L_____ **Psalm 110.1:** The **LORD** says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet." (cf. **Matthew 22.44-45:** The **Lord** said to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand until I put your enemies under your feet." If then David calls him 'Lord,' how can he be his son?)

Elohim: most p_____ (Genesis 1.1)

Adonai: almighty r_____ (Genesis 15.8)

Lord Sabaoth: Lord of a_____ (James 5.4)

I. A. 1. Attributes of God

God is a God of L_____ AND J_____

God is a spirit,
infinite
eternal
unchangeable

}	}	in His being wisdom power holiness justice goodness truth
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Key Concepts about God:

- holy
- omnipotent: all p_____
- omniscient: all k_____
- omnipresent: present e_____
- omnitemporal: always " _____ "

The "Father" problem:

I. B. THE FOUR WILLS OF GOD

1. His s_____ will

n_____ & s_____

m_____

God as the p_____ cause

2. His p_____ will

3. His d_____ will

4. His p_____ will

I. C. THE KINGDOM OF GOD

kingdom v. kingship

I. D. CREATION THEORIES

Three Views of Creation

1. C_____ : God worked miraculously to create everything in 6 24 hour days

Y_____ E_____ :

This position explicitly denies the scientific evidence of fossils, carbon dating, astronomy and paleontology. (Paleontology: a science dealing with the life of past geological periods as known from fossil remains.)

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2. E_____ :

Evolution is a t_____ with a great deal of evidence , but there are g_____ the scientific facts can be put together to show w_____ happened... but there are only theories on h_____ these changes actually happened

Natural selection is survival of the fittest, in Darwin's first edition of *Origin of the Species*, he gave g_____ to God for using evolution... others convinced him to d_____ "God" from future editions

Modern evolutionary theory denies any n_____ for God

3. T_____ Evolution

The key to this belief is that God c_____ the evolutionary process

Theistic evolution overlaps with intelligent d_____

Christians who believe in this take Genesis 1-2 as a p_____

Psalm 90.4: A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.

Genesis 1.14-19... the sun & moon did not even exist until the fourth day, so how could there be 24 hour days before that?

Is man an animal?

Science cannot and does not presume to explain s_____ realities

Christians believe that humanity differs from animals because we have s_____ and they do not.

Food for thought: the Galileo story

I. E. ADDITIONAL READINGS

The readings for this week are Bible verses relevant to the topics of God.

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; ...

WCF Readings

Chapter 2: God and the Holy Trinity

1. There is **only one living and true God**, who is infinite in being and perfection. He is a most pure spirit, invisible, with neither body, parts, nor passive properties. He is unchangeable, boundless, eternal, and incomprehensible. He is almighty, most wise, most holy, most free, and most absolute. He works all things according to the counsel of his own unchangeable and most righteous will, for his own glory. He is most loving, gracious, merciful, long-suffering, abundant in goodness and truth, forgiving

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iniquity, transgression, and sin, and he is the rewarder of those who diligently seek him. He is also most just and terrifying in his judgments, hating all sin, and will by no means acquit the guilty.

2. God has all life, glory, goodness, and blessedness in and of himself. He alone is all-sufficient, in and to himself, not standing in need of any creatures which he has made, nor deriving any glory from them, but rather manifesting his own glory in, by, to, and on them. He alone is the fountain of all being, of whom, through whom, and to whom are all things. He has absolute sovereignty over them, to do by them, for them, or upon them whatever he pleases. In his sight all things are open and manifest; his knowledge is infinite, infallible, and independent of his creatures; so that nothing to him is contingent or uncertain. He is most holy in all his counsels, in all his works, and in all his commands. To him is due from angels and men, and every other creature, whatever worship, service, or obedience he is pleased to require of them.

3. In the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, of one substance, power, and eternity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. The Father is of none, neither begotten nor proceeding; the Son is eternally begotten of the Father; the Holy Spirit eternally proceeds from the Father and the Son.

Suggestions for Further Reading:

Theology is one of the required courses in almost all seminaries. From the Reformed tradition, two classic textbooks are:

Hodge, Charles. Systematic Theology (in 3 volumes)

Berkhof, Louis. Systematic Theology.

On a more basic level, more popular authors deal with these issues:

Lewis, C.S., Mere Christianity

Packer, J.I., Knowing God

Sproul, R.C. The Holiness of God

Stott, John, Basic Christianity