DISCOVER GOD STUDY BIBLE

Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Dr. William R. Bright

1921-2003

"We can trace

all of our human problems

to our view of God."

DR. BILL BRIGHT

WELCOME TO THE DISCOVER GOD STUDY BIBLE

Everything about our lives—our attitudes, motives, desires, actions, and even our words—is influenced by our view of God. Our behavior reflects our beliefs about the One who created us.

Do you really trust God? It depends a lot on how you view God. Do you really believe He is good? Do you believe He is worthy of your trust?

The Bible is the place we mere humans meet the living God. The Bible is God's book written to us. My husband, Bill Bright, said that when he began to study the Bible, he discovered for the first time the real, living God—and what he discovered filled his heart with awe.

No one meets the God of the Bible and is unchanged. Both Bill and I want as many people as possible to truly discover God through His word and reflect His character in their lives.

To help people in the discovery process, we commissioned a team of Bible teachers and scholars to organize Scripture presenting ten core teachings of the Bible in a convenient TopicGuide (starting on page A7) to key Scripture passages.

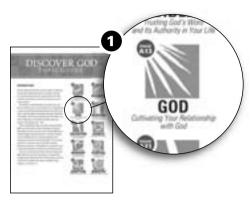
I pray this physical result of Bill's life-long vision to know and serve God will bear fruit in your life—just as it has touched my life in a deep way.

Lovingly,

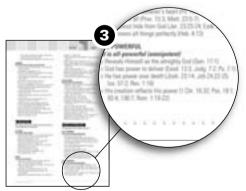
Vonette Bright

THE TOPICGUIDE™

YOUR ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO THE BIBLE'S 10 KEY THEMES



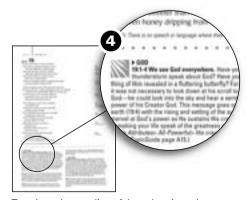
Begin with the TopicGuide (page A7) and select one of ten themes. In this example, we will study the theme of **GOD**.



Identify a key topic and subtopic. Read and study each passage to gain a comprehensive understanding of God's Word. In this example, under **God's Attributes**, we are looking up the subtopic called "All-Powerful" and are interested in "His creation reflects His power" (Psalm 19:1-4).



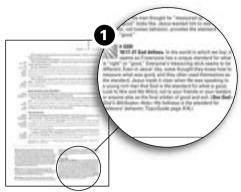
To read the overview of your selected theme, turn to page A13. Select a topic. In this example, we have selected **GOD'S ATTRIBUTES**.



To gain understanding of the subtopic and your theme, read the related verses and study notes. Then refer turn back to the TopicGuide to locate the next related passage.

THE TOPICLINKTM SYSTEM

HOW TO FIND MORE ABOUT A THEME WHILE READING THROUGH THE BIBLE



To study more about the theme of God when you are reading Mark 10, simply look at the last sentence of the note, which will refer you back to the TopicGuide.



Once in the TopicGuide, you'll see numerous passages pertaining to the overall theme.

Using both the
TopicGuide and the
TopicLink study tools,
you will gain
a more complete
understanding of
God's Word. As you
understand these
themes and your
knowledge of God
grows, your life can't
help but be changed.

No one meets the God of the Bible and goes unchanged!

DISCOVER GOD TOPIC GUIDE™

INTRODUCTION

Do you feel busy? Like your world is chaos? In this busy world, some people have given up trying to find time to know God personally and understand His will with certainty. Sometimes, we feel like the best we can do is just survive!

But God has called Christians to a better way, and He's promised to give us the power to do it. God gives us a way to know Him personally and know His will for our lives—and He explains the simple message of salvation in the Bible. The following TopicGuide of the Bible is our way of helping you understand the other important issues in the Christian life—fast.

Why a TopicGuide? First, we need to know what the Bible says about God and the challenges of living for Him today. Second, we need to see how the Bible has a single message running through it—salvation through Jesus the Messiah with continued obedience and repentance empowered by the Holy Spirit. Third, sound doctrine is a necessary part of Christian maturity. Organizing doctrine in a TopicGuide is an important way to guard us and those we influence from false doctrine.

You are no less busy now than when you bought this Bible. But if you use this TopicGuide, it will point you straight to the truth about God and His creation as found in His Word, the Bible. But what is the Bible? Keep reading—you'll find out!



Trusting God's Word and Its Authority in Your Life



GODCultivating Your Relationship
with God



SALVATION
Appreciating Redemption
from Sin and Death



WORSHIP Giving God the Praise and Glory He Is Due











PURPOSE
Embracing God's Will
and Master Plan





DISCOVER GOD

Cultivating Your Relationship with God

How do you imagine God is? As long as there have been people, there have been songs and stories that explore exactly who created the universe and why. All of these stories and myths have some value, and none should be completely rejected just because they are from another religious perspective. But the Christian history of God's relationship with His creation is different because this history was written by those inspired directly by God and in His own words—that is, the Bible. In it we have God's own self-testimony of who He is and why He matters.

We can learn Greek and Hebrew and Aramaic so we can read the Bible in its original language; we can study and practice archeology so that we can recover and understand more about the civilizations with whom God dealt in the past. We can study every bit of data there is to know about God, His church, and His Word, but if we don't know *God*, then we have accomplished very little. If we don't know God personally, in the end, all our works (even reading good study Bibles!) will be for nothing. Thus, this outline begins with and is driven by the necessity of knowing the God who has real relationships with real people like you and me.

RELATIONSHIP Because God wants an intimate relationship with me,

I can trust that He has sent a Savior to make peace between us.

GOD'S NATURE Because the Triune God is the one true God,

I can turn my back on the counterfeit deities of this world.

SALVATION Because the Triune God is committed to saving His people,

I can enjoy the full assurance of my salvation.

GOD'S ATTRIBUTES Because we serve an all-powerful, holy God,

I can trust that His love for His people never changes.

GOD'S NAMES Because God has revealed Himself to us,

I can know Him personally.



Relationship with God: What does God want with me?

▶ GOD'S DESIRE

God's desire for a relationship with us (Matt. 23:37)

- ▶ God does not leave His people without hope (Exod. 2:23)
- ▶ God pursues a relationship (1 Kgs. 18:37; Hos. 1:2; 3:1; Joel 2:27; Matt. 16:8-11; 18:12-14; John 15:16, 19)
- God loves and wants to be loved (Isa. 1:3; John 3:16-18: Rev. 2:4)

- God covenants with people
- ¬Adamic covenant (Gen. 2:15-17)
- ¬Universal covenant [with nature] (Gen. 9:1-4)
- Covenant of grace (Gen. 17:1-2, 7-8; Jude 1:4)
- Sinaitic covenant (Exod. 19:5-6)
- ¬New Covenant (New Testament)

▶ GOD ENABLES

God enables a relationship through Christ

- ▶ Relationship with God requires sacrificial living (Gen. 12:1; 22:3; Mark 8:34-38)
- Relationship with God requires purity (Lev. 2:1; 15:31; 18:22; Num. 19:17; Ps. 24:4; 1 Thes. 4:3-5)
- Relationship with God requires a right heart (Lev. 12:8; Ps. 4:4; Isa. 1:16; Ezek. 11:19; Dan. 7:28; Mic. 6:6-8; Rev. 22:20)
- ▶ Relationship with God requires obedience (Lev. 19:2; 2 Chr. 34:32; Job 41:11; 1 Pet. 1:13-16)
- ▶ Relationship with God requires worship (2 Sam. 6:5; Pss. 105:4; 147:1; John 4:24)
- God accepts us through Christ (Ps. 62:9; Matt. 26:69-75; John 14:6; Rom. 5:1-2; Heb. 8:1-13)
- ▶ God provides for maintenance of our relationship with Him (Rom. 8:12-15)

BARRIERS

Barriers to a relationship with God

- Disobedience (Gen. 3:1-13; 1 Sam. 7:2; Jer. 11:15)
- Pride (Deut. 9:5; Judg. 8:22; 2 Sam. 18:9; 2 Chr. 26:16; Job 35:12; Prov. 13:10; 16:18; Isa. 39:6; Ezek. 30:18; Dan. 4:30, 35; Luke 18:9-14; John 5:31-47; Jas. 4:6)
- Unconfessed transgressions (1 Sam. 15:15; Pss. 60:1; 66:18; Isa. 30:18; Luke 5:31-32)
- Demonic influence (1 Sam. 28:14; Acts 10:38)
- ▶ Refusing to honor God as God (Ps. 20:7; Rom. 1:21)
- Sin (Hab. 1:13)

- Deep-seated grudge against another (Eph. 4:26-27)

GOD'S NATURE

The Nature of the Trinity: How is the triune God different from false gods?

▶ ALIVE

The Triune God is alive

- The Living One endures forever (Dan. 6:26)
- ▶ The Living One is the source of all life (John 5:25-26)

▶ DIVINE

The Triune God has a divine nature

- ▶ Three persons (Father, Son, Holy Spirit) (Gen. 1:26; Matt. 28:19)
- Done being (Deut. 6:4-5)
- ▶ God is Spirit (John 4:24)
- Done essence (John 10:30; 14:9)

▶ ETERNAL

The Triune God is eternally existent (See God> God's

Attributes> Self-existent)

- Assumed throughout Scripture (Gen. 1:1; Exod. 3:15;
 Ps. 41:13; Eccl. 3:11; Isa. 9:6; 40:28, 57:15; Jer. 10:10;
 Rom. 1:20; 1 Jn. 1:2; 5:20; Rev. 1:8)
- ▷ God's eternity expressed in His name (Exod. 3:6; 13-15)
- b He precedes all else that exists (Ps. 41:13; Rom. 4:17; Rev. 4:11)

▶ PERSONALITY

The Triune God has a personality

God's Emotion

- →God jealously desires exclusive worship (Exod. 34:14; Deut. 4:24; Hos. 2:6-8; 1 Cor. 10:21-22)
- ∇Rebellion rightly angers God (Num. 20:10-17; Deut. 1:37; 1 Sam. 6:6; Ezek. 20:7-8; Amos 1:8)
- →God executes vengeance on all disobedient nations (Judg. 16:28; Mic. 5:15)
- →God can be moved to grief (1 Sam. 15:10-11; Isa. 15:5; John 11:35)
- ¬God loves the whole world (Isa. 66:18; John 3:16)
- ¬The disobedient will ultimately fall under wrath (Rev. 6:15-17)

▶ Intellect

God's Intellect

- God knows everything there is to know (Ps. 61:2; Col. 2:3)
- God needs no teachers (Isa. 40:14)
- ¬God's thoughts surpass people's (Isa. 55:8-9)

▶ Relationships

God's Relationships

- ¬God has always dialogued with people (Gen. 3:8ff)
- →God wants a relationship with His people (Gen. 17:7-8; Rev. 21:7)
- →He wants to be known (Ruth 1:16; 1 Sam. 6:13; Ezek. 34:30; 39:28)
- God walks and lives with His people (Ps. 63:8; 2 Cor. 6:16)

Will

God's Will

→He accomplishes His purposes and good pleasure (2 Chr. 10:15; Eccl. 3:11; Isa. 46:5-11)

- →No one obstructs God or can question His actions (Job 12:23; Isa. 47:8; Dan. 4:35)
- ¬God does whatever He pleases (Ps. 115:3; Jon. 1:14)

▶ UNIQUE

The Triune God is unique (none like Him)

- ▶ God sent plagues to show Pharaoh no one is like Him (Exod. 8:10; 9:14)
- He is the final lawgiver and judge (Num. 15:32; 35:33; Job 21:22; Isa. 51:7; Jas. 4:12)
- His miracles show that He alone is God (Deut. 4:32-35; 2 Kgs. 4:36)
- No one else is holy like He is (1 Sam. 2:2)
- ▶ There are no other gods (2 Sam. 7:22)
- b He alone is completely wise (2 Sam. 20:22; Rom. 16:17)
- b He's the only Creator and God over the nations (1 Kgs. 19:15, 19)
- ▶ God alone possesses immortality in Himself (Job 7:6; 1 Tim. 6:16)
- b He alone is God, the only sovereign (Ps. 11:4; Luke 16:13; 1 Tim. 1:17; 6:15)
- All will worship the only real God (Ps. 86:8-10)
- b "I am God, and there is none like Me" (Isa. 46:9)
- There is none like Him (Jer. 10:6; Nah. 1:2)
- ▷ No one is good like He is (Matt. 19:17; Mark 10:18)

- b He alone is holy (Rev. 15:3-4)

SALVATION

The Trinity and Salvation: What do the three persons of the Godhead do in salvation?

▶ FATHER

The Father and salvation

- Sent His only Son (Num. 11:8: Ps. 144:3: John 3:16-18)
- Delian Commands all to repent (Isa. 20:6; Acts 17:30)
- ▷ Gives a new heart (Ezek. 11:19)
- Draws the unbeliever (Ezek. 37:23; John 6:44)
- ▷ Loves the world (Amos 1:8; Rom. 5:8)
- ▷ Provides mercy (Luke 18:13)
- ▶ Bestows the Spirit (John 15:26)
- ▶ Raised Jesus from the dead (Rom. 10:9)
- ▶ Plans salvation (Eph. 1:4-5)

▶ SON

The Son and salvation

- Only bridge between God and man (Gen. 28:12-13; Num. 7:89; Acts 4:12; Rom. 2:28-29)
- Removes God's wrath (Num. 21:8; Ezek. 21:14; Hab. 2:16; Rom. 3:25: Heb. 2:16)
- ▶ Reconciles us to God (Mic. 5:5: Rom. 5:1, 10)
- ▶ Sanctifies and cleanses the church (Zech. 13:2; Eph. 5:25-27)
- ▶ Baptizes with the Holy Spirit (Matt. 3:3-11; Mark 1:8)

- ▶ Forgives sins (Matt. 9:2)
- Came to save what was lost (Matt. 11:2-6; Luke 19:10; John 4:4)
- ▶ Died to deliver believers from this evil age (Gal. 1:4)
- ▶ Redeemed us from the curse of the law (Gal. 3:13-14; Heb. 7:19)
- ▶ Provides redemption (Eph. 1:7)
- Came into the world to save sinners (1 Tim. 1:15)
- ▶ Redeems and purifies believers (Titus 2:14)
- ▶ Pours out the Spirit (Titus 3:6)
- Obtained eternal redemption (Heb. 9:12)

▶ HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit and salvation

- ▶ Helps put to death the deeds of the body (Deut. 22:13-25; Rom. 8:11-13; Col. 3:5-9)
- ▶ Those who walk in the Spirit are led by the Spirit (1 Sam. 11:6; Acts 22:30; Gal. 5:16-18)
- Sealed by the Holy Spirit (1 Sam. 16:14; Ezek. 9:4; Eph. 1:13-14; Col. 3:8-14)
- ▷ Convicts of sin (Jer. 47:7; John 16:8)
- ▶ Provides new life (Ezek. 47:2-9; John 6:63)
- ▶ Promise of the Father (Luke 24:49)

- ▶ Renewing of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:11; Titus 3:5-7)
- ▶ Baptizes into the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13)

GOD'S ATTRIBUTES

The Attributes of God: What is God like?

▶ ALL-KNOWING

God is all-knowing (omniscient)

- His wisdom and knowledge are way beyond us (2 Sam. 17:14; 2 Kgs. 2:10; Job 12:13; Rom. 11:33)
- ▶ God misses nothing about us (2 Kgs. 20:19; Job 7:17;
 Ps. 33:13-15; Jer. 1:5)
- ▶ God's unfathomable knowledge of His people (Ps. 139:1; Rom. 11:33)
- Done cannot escape God (Ps. 139:7)

- Done cannot hide from God (Jer. 23:23-24; Ezek. 8:12)
- ▶ God knows all things perfectly (Heb. 4:13)

▶ ALL-POWERFUL

God is all-powerful (omnipotent)

- ▶ Reveals Himself as the almighty God (Gen. 17:1)
- b He has power over death (Josh. 23:14; Job 24:22-25; Isa. 57:2; Rev. 1:18)
- His creation reflects His power (1 Chr. 16:32; Pss. 19:1; 93:4; 136:7; Rom. 1:19-22)

- ▶ God has the power to create anything from nothing (Job 26:14: Ps. 33:6-9)
- ▶ God's creative power is beyond our comprehension (Job 38:4; Ps. 96:12)
- No one can challenge what God does (Job 40:4; Isa. 37:5-6; Dan. 4:35)
- b His resurrection power is immeasurably great (Dan. 6:17; Matt. 28:5, 10; Eph. 1:19-20)
- b His powerful word sustains everything (Heb. 1:3)

▶ ALL-PRESENT

God is all-present (omnipresent)

- ▶ All creation is dependent upon His presence (1 Sam. 4:22; Col. 1:17)
- ▶ God's continual presence brings contentment (2 Kgs. 2:14; Job 10:15; Eccl. 6:9; Lam. 3:22-23; Heb. 13:5)
- Done cannot hide from God (Jer. 23:23-24)
- No task is too large or too difficult for Him (Jer. 32:17, 27)

▶ ETERNAL

God is eternal

- ▶ God is eternal (Gen. 21:33; Eccl. 3:11)
- ▶ The eternal God is the believer's source of security (Deut. 33:27; Ps. 125:1; Prov. 14:26; Isa. 25:1; Rom. 8:38-39)

- The Son's reign will have no end (Ps. 132:11; Isa. 16:5; Luke 1:32-33; Rev. 11:15-17)
- The Living One endures forever (Dan. 6:26)

▶ FAITHFUL

God is faithful

- ▶ God is faithful to fulfill His promises (Lev. 26:42; 1 Sam. 4:11; Ps. 12:6; Heb. 10:23)
- ▶ God is faithful to the faithful (Deut. 7:7-11)
- ▶ God deserves thanks for His constant faithfulness (Judg. 16:17; 1 Sam. 15:12; Pss. 92:2; 100:5; 138:1; Isa. 38:16; Luke 1:68-79)
- ▶ God faithfully matures believers (2 Sam. 21:15; Ps. 66:10; Rom. 4:18-25; 1 Thes. 5:24)
- His faithfulness endures (1 Chr. 28:20; Pss. 48:14; 119:90; Jer. 2:3-8; 51:5)
- ▶ God forgives the repentant (2 Chr. 6:24; Lam. 2:17; 1 Jn. 1:9)
- b God is faithful through calamity (Job 3:25; Ps. 44:26; Jer. 20:11-18; Lam. 3:22-23)

▶ FORGIVING

God is forgiving

▶ God's forgiveness clears one's record (Lev. 4:2; 5:18; Ps. 130:3; Jer. 50:20)

- ▶ God's forgiveness leads believers to forgive others (Lev. 14:23-34; 1 Sam. 24:10; Col. 3:13)
- ▶ God is ready to forgive (Num. 14:5; Ps. 86:5; Mic. 7:18-20; Heb. 8:12)
- b God forgives His people when they repent (Deut. 30:1-3; 2 Chr. 7:14)
- ▶ God forgives those who repent (2 Sam. 12:13; Ps. 85:2; Jon. 3:5-10; Rom. 1:26-27; 1 Jn. 1:9)
- ▶ Those forgiven much will love much (Luke 7:36-50)

▶ G00D

God is good

- ▶ God creates only good things (Deut. 2:30; 1 Tim. 4:4)
- ▶ All are invited to experience the goodness of God (Ps. 34:8)
- ▷ God is good to His covenant people (Ps. 73:1; Jer. 32:40)
- ▶ God deserves thanks for His goodness (Pss. 79:13; 100:5)
- ▶ All good comes from God (Ps. 112:5-7; Ezek. 27:3; Jas. 1:17)
- ▷ God is good to all (Ps. 145:9)
- No one is good except God (Mark 10:18; Luke 18:19)

▶ HOLY

God is holy

- His holiness is the standard for believers' behavior (Lev. 11:45; 19:2; Mark 10:17-21; 1 Pet. 1:15-16)
- b His holiness demands exclusive worship (Josh. 24:19; Ezek. 43:12; Acts 9:31)
- No one else is holy like He is (1 Sam. 2:2)
- b The Most Holy One deserves constant honor (2 Kgs. 16:18; Rev. 4:8)
- ▶ His holy presence rejects impurity (Isa. 6:3-5)
- ▶ God guards His holy reputation (Ezek. 35:11; 36:21-23)
- ▶ He disciplines believers to impart His holiness to them (Heb. 12:10)

▶ INFINITE

God is infinite

- \triangleright He has no limits, boundaries, or end (1 Sam. 4:12; Isa. 40:12-14)
- ▶ God, who exists before and after time, deserves honor (2 Kgs. 20:11; Jude 1:25)
- Heaven and earth cannot contain Him (2 Chr. 6:18; Ps. 76:4)
- ▶ He is at the beginning and the end of all things (Rev. 22:13)

▶ JUST

God is just

- → He exercises justice toward all humanity (Gen. 18:25)
- ▶ God judges all people with justice (Exod. 21:24; Job 18:8; Ps. 9:8; Prov. 21:15; Ezek. 30:3; Rom. 2:3)
- ▶ God's law and judgments are completely righteous (Lev. 17:4; 2 Sam. 6:8; Ps. 19:7-9)
- All God's ways are righteous and deserve praise (Deut. 8:19; Ps. 148:1; Rev. 15:3)

- ▶ God rightly judges heart, mind, and deeds (Ruth 4:13;
 1 Sam. 12:19; Eccl. 8:13; Jer. 7:14; 17:10)
- ▶ The Messiah will judge all with complete justice (Ps. 58:1; Isa. 11:4-5)
- The righteous Messiah will establish a righteous people (Jer. 33:16)
- The righteous God justifies those who believe in Jesus (Mic. 6:10-12; Rom. 3:25-26)
- A day is fixed for His righteous judgment of the world (Mal. 4:1-3; Acts 17:31)

LOVING

God is loving

- To love enemies and the wicked is to be like God (Exod. 23:5; Job 31:29; Ezek. 32:18; Luke 6:35)
- ▶ God loves His people, even when they are faithless (Num. 13:33; Hos. 3:1; Mark 16:7)
- ▶ God deserves thanks because of His perpetual love (Pss. 42:4; 100:5)
- Nothing can separate the believer from His love (Ps. 136:1; Rom. 8:38-39)
- As a father, God corrects His beloved children (Prov. 3:12)
- ▶ Eternal plans are motivated by His love (Jer. 31:3-4; Eph. 1:4-5)
- ▶ Believers should imitate God's universal love (Matt. 5:44-45)
- ▶ God loved the world enough to send His Son to die (Luke 23:33-49; John 3:16)
- b His love is poured into believers' hearts (Rom. 5:5)
- b God is love, and those who know God love others (1 Jn. 4:7-8, 9-10, 20-21)

▶ MERCIFUL

God is merciful

- ▶ God is merciful according to His own purposes (Exod. 7:14; 33:19; 1 Kgs. 14:13; Rom. 9:15)
- ▶ God is merciful to sinners (Judg. 15:18; Zeph. 1:12; John 8:1-11)
- God gives mercy to those who are merciful (1 Sam. 11:13; 24:4; 2 Kgs. 6:22; Matt. 5:7)
- ▶ God's mercy endures through trials (1 Kgs. 19:4; Job 16:17; Lam. 3:22)
- Salvation and new life come through His mercy (Isa. 24:16; Titus 3:5)
- ▷ In Christ God kept His promise of mercy to His people (Luke 1:54-55)
- ▶ God's rich mercy gives believers new life in Christ (Eph. 2:4)
- ▶ He causes believers to be born again by His mercy (1 Pet. 1:3)

▶ PATIENT

God is patient

- ▶ God patiently awaits repentance (2 Sam. 12:1-7; Jon. 4:2)
- ▷ Believers can appeal to their patient God (Ps. 86:15; Zech. 1:12)
- ▶ God delays punishment as he awaits repentance (Jer. 16:10-13; 2 Pet. 3:9, 15)
- ▷ God is patient—but he will not wait forever (Joel 2:12-17)

▶ RIGHTEOUS

God is righteous

- ▶ People must declare humbly that God alone is righteous (Exod. 9:27; 2 Chr. 12:6)
- → His righteousness is absolute (Ps. 71:19)
- ▶ He is righteous in everything He does (Ps. 145:17)
- b The Lord's name: "The LORD Is Our Righteousness" (Jer. 23:6; 33:16)
- ▶ In the end, the righteous Judge will judge righteously (2 Tim. 4:8)

▶ SELF-EXISTENT

God is self-existent (independent and uncreated)

- We have nothing materially that God needs or wants (Ps. 50:12; Luke 21:1-4)
- The King is before and after everything (Isa. 6:1-4; Rev. 21:6)
- ▶ The Creator is completely independent (Isa. 40:12-31)
- > The living God is the source of life (John 5:26)

▶ SELF-SUFFICIENT

God is self-sufficient (has no needs)

- ▶ God supplies all things their life and breath (2 Chr. 23:21; Job 14:2, 5; 34:14-15; Acts 17:25)
- b The One Creator originates and controls His creation (Job 9:9; Eccl. 12:1; Jer. 10:6-14)
- We need the Creator, but He's entirely independent (Isa. 40:12-31)
- ▶ He does things simply because He wants to (Dan. 4:34-35)
- The Source of all life needs no one to give Him life (John 5:25-26)

SOVEREIGN

God is sovereign

- God powerfully delivered His people from Egypt (Exod. 12:29-32; 13:13-31)
- He raises and removes rulers (Deut. 2:33; Eccl. 4:1; Isa. 45:11-13; Jer. 25:9; Dan. 2:21)
- b He is the only Sovereign (Deut. 4:32; Ezek. 29:6-7; 1 Tim. 1:17; 6:15)
- He has a plan for His people and will carry it out (Judg. 14:4; Ps. 138:8; Joel 3:16; Eph. 1:5, 11)
- ▶ God is in control of all things (2 Sam. 24:1; 2 Chr. 18:21, 33)
- God has dominion over the affairs of people (1 Kgs. 19:13; Job 12:16; Eccl. 9:11; Isa. 41:26; Amos 1:4-5; Acts 23:10-11)
- ▶ The Creator looks after His creation (Ezra 5:5; Ps. 104:9)
- ▶ God controls nature for His purposes (Job 37:2-13; Isa. 10:15; Matt. 8:23-27)

- ▶ God controls time and seasons (Job 38:33; Ps. 148:8; Dan. 2:21; Zeph. 1:5)
- The powerful Creator reduces human rulers to nothing (Isa. 40:24)
- > God chose His people to become like Christ (Rom. 8:28-30; Phil. 2:5-11)
- ▶ God chose His people before He made the world (Eph. 1:4)
- ▶ God's eternal purpose is to make His wisdom known (Eph. 3:10-11)
- ▶ He chose His people to save and purify them (2 Thes. 2:13)

▶ TRUE

God is true/truthful

- b His Spirit guides believers into all truth (Lev. 5:1; 2 Chr. 35:19; John 16:13)
- ▶ God follows through on His promises (Lev. 5:4; Num. 11:22-23, 31-34; Ps. 65:5; 2 Cor. 5:6-8)
- God doesn't lie but keeps His word (Num. 23:19;
 2 Sam. 1:10; Pss. 3:5; 19:7; 21:2, 5; 22:1, 18; 23:1, 4;
 27:4, 10; 37:25)
- God's words are faithful and true (Job 29:23; Ezek. 2:8–3:4; Rev. 21:5; 22:6)
- God's words are true and completely righteous (Ps. 19:9; Matt. 15:12-14)
- b He is "the God of truth" (Ps. 31:5; Isa. 65:16)
- ▶ God's truth is everlasting (Ps. 117:2; Jer. 40:2)
- God's truth can be suppressed to our peril (Prov. 9:10; Rom. 1:18ff)
- ▶ Believers know that God is true (John 3:33)
- ▶ True freedom comes from abiding in God's truth (John 8:31-32; Gal. 5:13-15)
- ▶ The Holy Spirit is characterized by truth in every way (John 14:17; 15:26; 1 Jn. 5:10-11)
- ▶ Eternal life is knowing the only true God (John 17:3)
- ▶ Even if all humanity lies, God remains true (Rom. 3:4)

UNCHANGING

God is unchanging

- ▶ God is consistent throughout all time (Num. 23:27; Heb. 13:8)
- ▶ Though the universe will change, God never will (Ps. 102:25; Heb. 1:10-12)
- ▶ His love is never-ending (Song 5:1; Lam. 3:22-23; Mal. 3:6)
- ▶ God is good—all the time (Jas. 1:17)

GOD'S NAMES

The Names and Nature of God: Who is God?

▶ GOD

God has many names and roles in Scripture

- ▶ LORD God (YHWH Elohim; the one existing God of power) (Gen. 2:4)
- ▶ LORD (YHWH; the one true God who exists) (Gen. 12:1)

- ▷ Sovereign LORD (Adonai YHWH; the Lord of all) (Gen. 15:2)
- ▶ Lord (*Adonai*; Ruler or owner of all creation) (Gen. 18:26-27)
- ▶ The Eternal God (El Olam) (Gen. 21:33)
- The LORD, the provider (YHWH Jireh) (Gen. 22:14; Song 1:7)
- Shepherd (Gen. 48:15: Song 1:7: Ezek. 34:12)
- ▶ The LORD, the healer (YHWH Rapha) (Exod. 15:26; Isa. 38:3)
- b The LORD, the banner of his people (YHWH Nissi) (Exod. 17:15)
- ▶ The LORD is peace (YHWH Shalom) (Lev. 3:1; Judg. 6:23-24; Isa. 9:6; Matthew 5:9)
- b Lawgiver (Josh. 2:4; Isa. 33:22; Jas. 4:12)
- ▶ LORD of Heaven's Armies (YHWH Sabaoth; the warrior God) (Josh. 5:13-15; Isa. 6:3; 26:21; 44:6; Nah. 2:13)
- ▶ King (Ezra 1:1; Ps. 47:2; Isa. 6:5; 33:22; 44:6; Jer. 23:5-6)
- ▶ Redeemer (Job 19:25; Isa. 41:14; 63:16)
- ▶ Refuge (Pss. 16:1-11; 46:1; 61:3)
- ▶ Rock (Pss. 18:2; 19:14; 89:26; 92:15)
- > Fortress (Pss. 18:2; 31:3; 59:16)
- The LORD, the Shepherd (YHWH Ra-ah) (Ps. 23:1)
- ▶ Tower (Ps. 61:3; Prov. 18:10)
- Deliverer/Savior (Ps. 79:9; Isa. 11:1; 43:3, 11; Dan. 3:29)
- ▶ LORD GOD (YH YHWH; the one true God who exists) (Isa. 12:2; 26:4)
- The LORD, the righteousness of His people (YHWH Tsidkenu) (Jer. 23:6)
- ▶ The LORD who is there (*YHWH Shammah*) (Ezek. 48:35)
- Dust One (Rom. 3:26)

▶ FATHER

The Father has many names and roles in Scripture: Who is God the Father?

- ▷ Shepherd (Gen. 48:15)
- ▶ Father (2 Sam. 7:14; Ps. 89:26)

- > Sends the Holy Spirit (John 14:26)
- ▶ Holy Father (John 17:11)
- ▶ Righteous Father (John 17:25)
- Abba Father (Rom. 8:15)
- ▶ Predestines (Rom. 8:28-30; Eph. 1:3-6)
- ▶ Father of Compassion (2 Cor. 1:3)
- ▶ Father of Christ (Eph. 1:3)
- ▶ Glorious Father (Eph. 1:17)

▶ SON

The Son has many names and roles in Scripture: Who is God the Son?

▶ Friend of sinners (Gen. 26:30; Ps. 25:14; Prov. 20:6; Ezek. 5:13; Matt. 11:19; Luke 7:34)



- ▶ Redeemer (Job 19:25; 1 Cor. 1:30; Gal. 4:5; Titus 2:14)
- ▶ Advocate/Intercessor (Pss. 43:1; 110:4; Heb. 7:25; 1 Jn. 2:2)

- ∀ Virgin birth (Matt. 1:18-25)
- ▶ Baptism (Matt. 3:13-17)
- ▶ Temptation (Matt. 4:1-11)
- b Healer (Matt. 4:23-24; Luke 5:17-26)
- Son of Man (Matt. 9:6: Luke 19:10)
- Son of God (Matt. 14:33; Mark 15:37-39; John 5:21-22, 26: 7:12)
- Messiah/Christ (note: In the New Testament, one word is translated two ways according to two audiences: Jewish audience/Greco-Roman audience, respectively) (Matt. 16:16, 21; Luke 7:21-23; John 1:41)
- ▶ Ransom (Matt. 20:28)

- ▶ Incarnation (Luke 2:1-20: Phil. 2:5-11)
- ▶ Forgiver of sins (Luke 5:20)
- ▷ Crucifixion (Luke 23:33-49)
- ▶ Resurrection (historical) (Luke 24:1-12)

- Died for the sins of the world (John 3:16)
- ▷ Bread of Life (John 6:35)
- ▶ Bread of Heaven (John 6:41)
- ▶ Light of the world (John 9:5)▶ Door (John 10:7, 9)
- The Resurrection (John 11:25)
 The Resurrection (John 11:25)
- ▶ Lord (John 13:13; Rom. 1:4)▶ The Truth (John 14:6)
- ▶ True Vine (John 15:1, 5)
- ▶ Revealer (John 15:15)
- Sends the Holy Spirit (John 15:26)
- ▶ Trial (John 18:28-40)
- ▷ Ascension (Acts 1:9)
- ▶ Emptied Himself (Phil. 2:5-11)

- ▶ Brother to His own (Heb. 2:11-12)
- ▶ Tempted/without sin (Heb. 4:15)
- Sinless (1 Jn. 3:5)

▶ HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit has many names and roles in Scripture: Who is God the Holy Spirit?

Empowers (Gen. 41:38; Exod. 31:2-5; Num. 27:16-18; Judg. 14:6; 1 Sam. 10:16; Zech. 4:14; Eph. 3:16)

- ▶ Being filled (Exod. 31:3; 35:31)
- Description Overpowering (Judg. 14:6, 19; 15:14; 1 Sam. 10:10; 11:6)
- ▶ Produces spiritual fruit (Judg. 17:13; Gal. 5:22-23)▶ Guide/Counselor (2 Sam. 13:51; 2 Kgs. 13:14;
- Esth. 1:21; Ps. 57:2; John 14:26; 15:26; 16:13)
- ▶ Enables true worship (2 Chr. 8:14; Phil. 3:3)
- ▶ Gives life (Ps. 104:30; Rom. 8:11)
- ▶ Entering into (Ezek. 2:2; 3:24)
- ▶ Revealer (Hab. 3:19; Luke 2:26; Eph. 3:5; Heb. 9:8)
- → Holy (Matt. 1:18-20; Rom. 14:17)
- ▶ Spirit of God (Matt. 3:16; Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 3:16)
- ▶ Fills (Luke 1:15, 67; Eph. 5:18)
- ▶ Regenerates (John 3:5)

- Sent by the Father and the Son (John 14:26; 15:26; Acts 2:33)
- ▷ Spirit of Truth (John 15:26; 16:13; 1 Jn. 5:6)
- ▷ Convicts (John 16:8-11)

- b Leads (Acts 13:2; 16:6-7; Rom. 8:14; Rev. 2:7, 11, 17, 29)
- Spirit of Christ/Jesus (Acts 16:7; Rom. 8:9; 1 Jn. 4:2)
- ▶ Frees from sin (Rom. 8:2)
- ▶ Applies salvation (Rom. 8:9)
- ▶ Raises the dead (Rom. 8:11)
- Confirms salvation (Rom. 8:15-16; Gal. 4:6)
- ▶ Helper (Rom. 8:26; 2 Tim. 1:14)
- Advocate/Intercessor (Rom. 8:26-27)
- ▶ Fills with hope (Rom. 15:13; Titus 2:12-13)

- ▶ Baptizes (1 Cor. 12:13)
- ▶ Frees (2 Cor. 3:17)
- Dopposes the flesh (Gal. 5:16-17)

- ▶ Inspires the Scriptures (2 Pet. 1:21)
- $\quad \triangleright \ Comes \ Upon$

Comes upon people (Ezek. 11:5)

- ¬Is blasphemed (Matt. 12:31-32)
- ¬Is resisted (Acts 7:51)
- ¬Is grieved (Eph. 4:30)
- ¬Is quenched (1 Thes. 5:19)
- Is insulted (Heb. 10:29)
- $\quad \triangleright \text{Lives In}$

Lives in believers

- →David (1 Sam. 16:12-13; Ps. 51:11)
- ▽Daniel (Dan. 4:8; 5:11-14; 6:3)
- ¬All believers (John 7:37-39; 14:16; Rom. 8:9; Eph. 1:13)