

Foundation Study 03: GOD

What do the following verses say about God?

1) Psalm 14:1

God Exists. The existence of God is evidential. He is a Spirit being (John 4:24) and His existence is attested by...

The blessing of God (Acts 14:17). The basic provisions of food, clothing, and shelter as well as loving family and caring friends are evidence of His existence.

The work of God (Romans 1:20; Psalm 19:1-6). In the same way that the order and complexity of a watch points towards the existence of a watchmaker, the order and complexity of creation points towards the existence of God.

The names of God (Genesis 2:4; Exodus 3:14). The terms "LORD" and "I AM" communicate self existence.

The idea of God (Ecclesiastes 3:11). God places the general idea of Himself in every human soul. The one constant in every people group is worship. The adoration of something or someone greater than themselves.

The enemies of God (James 2:19). The fact of demons acknowledging the existence of God. They even ascend to His superiority and righteousness ("*tremble in terror*" NLT).

Note: Atheism is not an intellectual issue but rather a moral issue (Psalm 14:1). Those who deny the existence of God are attempting to cut the umbilical cord of accountability between their immoral lifestyle and One who might act as Judge. There is no evidence there is no God. Only evidence of man's sinful freewill and God's providential oversight.

2) Psalm 90:2

God is eternal (Genesis 21:33; Psalm 102:27; Isaiah 40:28; Jeremiah 10:10; 1 Timothy 1:17; 6:16). He is spoken of as being "eternal," without beginning or end and existing before "the beginning" (Genesis 1:1). He is not defined by space or limited by time. He created time and space as a means by which we could comprehend Him. He is due all glory and honor by virtue of His eternal nature.

3) Revelation 4:11

God is the creator (Genesis 1:1; 14:22; Psalms 24:1; 33:1-6; 139:13; Isaiah 42:5; 45:18; Jeremiah 27:5; Acts 14:15; Ephesians 1:4). God created everything. The heavens, the earth, humanity (Zechariah 12:1). All that lives and is. He did so by simply speaking it into existence. He gives life and breathe to every living creature. He created order and uniformity not empty chaos. Our very existence was a planned creative work. We are not a surprise, unplanned accident. He is the Creator and therefore the owner of all things. Worship and adoration are due Him because of His creative works.

4) **Malachi 3:6**

God is unchanging (Numbers 23:19; James 1:17). God is immutable. He doesn't change His ways. He was, is and will always be the same. This is encouraging news for those who rely upon His faithfulness and patience but sobering news for those who neglect His righteousness.

5) **Psalm 103:19**

God is sovereign (Psalm 22:8; 33:11; 37:23; 47:8; 115:3; Proverbs 16:9; Isaiah 14:24; 46:10; 19:211; 20:24; Jeremiah 10:23; Ezekiel 12:28; Daniel 4:17; Acts 4:24). God reigns supreme. He rules over all. His authority covers both the nature of all things and the affairs of mankind. He does as He pleases. He guides man while at the same time preserving His free will. Nothing happens without His awareness. He authors or approves all that occurs. He rules over the activity of Satan (Job 1:12). All that He authors or allows is designed to bring salvation to the lost (2 Peter 3:9) and conformity to the image of His Son among the redeemed (Romans 8:29). God does not waste any event or occurrence in our lives. While on the front end things can appear random and chaotic, everything eventually settles out to be divinely purposed and intended.

6) **Psalm 7:11**

God is righteous (Psalms 50:6; 75:7; 96:13; Acts 17:31). He is just and the judge of all humankind. He rightly punishes the wicked and holds the redeemed accountable (2 Corinthians 5:10). He both actively judges now and will one day judge both the living and the dead at the end of the ages with an eternal declaration (Revelation 11:18; 20:11-15). He is jealous for His own and judges them if they wander. His judgment flows from His zealous desire to possess what is rightfully His (Deuteronomy 4:24; 5:9). His judgment (or rewardings) should prompt reverent living and respectful attitude (1 Peter 1:17; Revelation 14:7).

7) **Psalm 99:9**

God is holy (1 Samuel 2:2; Psalms 22:3; 99:3,5; Isaiah 6:3; 1 Peter 12:15; 1 John 1:5). He is incomparably pure and completely separate from all that is unclean. His holiness implies the complete absence of any intent or presence towards sin. Such holiness deserves exaltation, displays glory, and prompts worship, praise, and fear. It requires that those aligned with His name live lives of purity as well. Charles Ryrie says, *"This should put an end to the often useless discussions over what is permitted and what is not in the Christian life. Proper conduct can be tested by the simple question, 'Is it holy?' This is the believer's standard. Although he does not always measure up to it, he must never compromise it."* (Basic Theology, page 43)

8) **Psalm 86:5**

God is good, forgiving, and loving. God is personable. He is not static and distant. He does not observe creation from afar. He is individually involved with each person He has created (Luke 12:7). He is involved in a personal manner providing what is need most; compassion, forgiveness, and love.

- a. God is good. He is compassionate and merciful (Psalms 86:15; 25:8; James 5:11). He has pity on man's desperate plight, understanding his hopeless situation and awareness of his despairing circumstances (Psalms 34:18; 147:3).

- b. God is forgiving. He stands ready to remove the sinner's guilt and restore the relationship between them and Himself (Exodus 34:7; Nehemiah 9:17; Psalm 130:4; Isaiah 55:7; Daniel 9:9; 1 John 1:9).
- c. God is loving. He is loving because He is love (1 John 4:8). It is as much a part of His nature and being as all other attributes. It is not wrong to say that because He is love, He is loving.
 - i. His love is gracious. It is undeserved, unconditional, unstoppable, unending, and unequalled. The fullest expression of His gracious love is demonstrated by His sending Jesus Christ to save us (John 3:16; 15:13; Romans 3:23-25; 5:6,8; 8:39; Ephesians 2:4-8; 1 John 4:10).
 - ii. His love is fatherly. He loves as a father loves His children. With tenderness, abundance, and when necessary, with firmness and discipline (Hebrews 12:5-11).
 - iii. His love is patient (Romans 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9). God does not immediately punish our sinfulness but waits for us to respond to His offer of forgiveness and restoration to Himself. His patience should prompt a grateful and thankful heart not one that delays and is slow to respond (2 Corinthians 6:2; Hebrews 3:15).

9) **1 Samuel 2:2**

God is matchless (Exodus 15:11; Deuteronomy 32:39; 2 Samuel 7:22; 1 Kings 8:23; Psalms 145:3; 86:8; Isaiah 40:25; 44:8; Jeremiah 10:7). God is supreme and above all other beings (Joshua 2:11; Psalms 83:18; 97:9). His glory, majesty, and power is incredible, unequalled, unparalleled, immeasurable, and incomparable. God's uniqueness extends to His majesty (Psalms 104:1,2; 93:1; 1 Timothy 6:16), knowledge (Romans 11:34-36), power (2 Chronicles 20:6), and presence (Psalm 139:7-12; Jeremiah 23:24).

10) **Psalm 145:18**

God is near and knowable (Deuteronomy 4:7,29; Psalms 85:9; 119:151; Proverbs 8:17; Acts 17:26,27). God is not far off or distant but close and knowable to those whose hearts are: broken (Psalm 34:18), genuine (Jeremiah 29:11-13), repentant (Psalm 51:17), seeking (Matthew 7:7,89), and centered on Jesus Christ (John 3:16; Romans 10:13).

What was the most significant verse in this study to you? Explain.