

Week 2: The Nature and Attributes of God (Part 1)

The Existence of God: Biblical and Philosophical Arguments

Understanding the nature of God begins with affirming His existence. Scripture provides clear testimony of God's presence and power, while philosophical reasoning offers additional support for belief in God.

Biblical Arguments

Scriptural Witness: The Bible opens with the declaration, "In the beginning, God..." (Genesis 1:1), assuming His existence as foundational. Throughout Scripture, God's presence is revealed through His works in creation, providence, and redemption (Romans 1:20; Psalm 19:1).

Faith and Revelation: The Bible emphasizes that faith is a response to God's self-revelation, making belief in Him both a spiritual conviction and an intellectual acknowledgment (Hebrews 11:6).

Philosophical Arguments

Cosmological Argument: The existence of the universe points to a cause greater than itself—a Creator who is uncaused and eternal.

Teleological Argument: The order and complexity of creation suggest an intelligent Designer.

Moral Argument: The universal sense of morality and justice reflects a moral Lawgiver.

Ontological Argument: The very concept of a perfect and necessary being implies God's existence.

Attributes of God: Incommunicable Attributes

The attributes of God describe His nature and character. Incommunicable attributes are those unique to God, not shared with His creation, highlighting His transcendence and majesty.

Aseity

Definition: God is self-existent and independent, needing nothing outside Himself for existence or fulfillment.

Scriptural Basis: "I AM WHO I AM" (Exodus 3:14) reflects God's self-sufficiency.

Application: God's aseity assures us that He is the ultimate source of life and sustenance.

Immutability

Definition: God is unchanging in His being, purposes, and promises.

Scriptural Basis: "For I the LORD do not change" (Malachi 3:6); "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8).

Application: God's immutability provides stability and assurance in a world of change.

Omnipotence

Definition: God is all-powerful and able to accomplish His will without limitation.

Scriptural Basis: "For nothing will be impossible with God" (Luke 1:37); "Great is our Lord... His power is infinite" (Psalm 147:5).

Application: God's omnipotence gives us confidence that His promises will never fail.

Conclusion

This week's study has introduced the existence of God and explored His incommunicable attributes, emphasizing His unmatched greatness and glory. These truths deepen our reverence and trust in a God who is entirely sufficient, unchanging, and all-powerful. Next week, we will continue with the communicable attributes of God, exploring how He relates to His creation in personal and intimate ways.