



**BIBLE  
DOCTRINE  
STUDIES #2**

By J. PAUL RENO



**WHO IS GOD?**  
**Bible Doctrine Studies #2**

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Published by  
Blessed Hope Publishers  
Hagerstown, Md.

All Scripture quotations in this book are taken  
from the *King James Version* of the Bible.

# **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

## **Who is God?**

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# **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

## **Who is God?**

### **GOD**

#### **I Cor. 2:9-16**

1. God nor His things are understood by the human mind (**11**)
2. God nor His things are understood naturally (**14**)
3. The Holy Ghost must teach us of God (**13**)
4. It takes a knowledge of the spiritual to learn of a spiritual God (**13, 14**)
5. God is greater than His creation
  - ~ infinite God
  - ~ finite man

#### **Heb. 11:5, 6**

1. Two conditions must be met before we can come to God ...
  - ~ belief in His existence
  - ~ belief in His nature as a “rewarder of them that diligently seek Him”



## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

2. God cannot be pleased unless we exercise faith in Him

#### **Rom. 10:17**

1. We do not naturally have the necessary faith
2. We cannot earn, buy, deserve, or produce the needed faith
3. Faith must come to us
4. Faith comes to us by a specific process
5. God's Word is necessary for faith and therefore for a knowledge of God
6. It is not hearing of the Word of God, but the hearing by the Word of God, – God speaks through His Word! We must listen for God to speak.

#### **Rom. 1:18-32**

1. God has revealed Himself  
~ truth had but held wrong (18)

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

- ~ inward manifestation by God Himself **(19)**
- ~ creation demonstrates outwardly His power and Godhead for all to see **(20)**
- 2. Man has rejected the true God and changed to a weak false god **(21-23)**
- 3. God releases us to go deeper into sin as we reject the truth **(24-25) (26-27) (28-32)**
- 4. Mankind and individuals are without excuse for not worshipping God **(20b)**

#### **Psm. 14:1-3**

1. Fool says in heart – no God
  - ~ may not say it with mouth
  - ~ may not be “there is no God”, but “no God” in this part of my life, or “no God” will tell me what to do, etc.
2. Avoiding or denying God is foolish
3. Leaving God out of our thoughts is a mark of the wicked **(Psm. 10:4, 53:1)**

# **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

## **Who is God?**

### **Gen. 1:1**

1. When Time began (at the beginning) God already existed. He pre-dates Time.
2. Bible does not try to prove God's existence
3. Bible starts with God, and then with Time

### **John 17:3**

1. Eternal life involves a personal knowing of God
2. No knowing, no salvation
3. God has many unique traits or attributes

# **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

## **Who is God?**

### **ETERNAL**

#### **Gen. 21:33**

1. Everlasting God
2. Will never come to an end

#### **Ex. 3:13, 14**

1. Constantly existing
2. Always in the present, – never past or future tense
3. He created us to live where He does – present tense

#### **Deut. 33:27**

1. Called the “eternal” God
2. Neither beginning or ending

#### **Psm. 90:2**

1. Always been and shall be God

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

2. From everlasting to everlasting – infinite distance to past and future
3. From everlasting to everlasting – simple definition of eternity

#### **Psm. 102:24-27**

1. God has no end
2. Heaven and earth are temporary in time and shall be treated like worn out clothes
3. God's being a refuge keeps us from thinking in an earth-bound fashion

#### **Heb. 1:10-12**

1. God started the beginning by creating the earth and the heavens
2. God maintains His sameness through all eternity

#### **Isa. 44:6**

1. First and last

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

2. Redeemer is eternal in being
3. Nothing before Him and nothing after Him
4. He encompasses all of time

#### **Isa. 57:15**

1. Eternity is God's dwelling place
2. Time without limit is filled by God
3. God is not bound by time but lives in all of it at once

i.e., To God, the flood is happening, Israel is leaving Egypt, Goliath is being defeated, Paul is preaching, you are studying, and the Rapture is occurring, etc.

Surely our God is beyond our understanding time-wise, and worthy of our worship and awe!

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

#### **GOD IS SPIRIT**

##### **John 4:23, 24**

1. God, by nature, is a spirit
2. Our ties to the physical, sensual, and emotional will not touch God
3. We must operate in the spiritual realm if we are to contact God in worship
4. Only actions in the spiritual which are controlled by truth will succeed. Error will make even spiritual acts fail to produce right worship.

##### **Luke 24:39**

1. A spirit is different from a body
2. Bodies can be seen and touched
3. God's presence is not seen nor felt by the physical senses

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

4. Jesus, as eternal God and Spirit in being, took on a physical body for our sakes at a given point in time

#### **John 1:18**

1. God, by nature a spirit, cannot be seen, and therefore has never been seen
2. God, embodied in human form was not seen, but the human form was seen, touched, etc. (**I John 1:1, 2**).

#### **John 14:7-10**

1. God is seen, not in His being (spirit), but as manifested in life, action, deeds, and works
2. Jesus is the great demonstration of God to an unseeing world
3. All to be seen of the Father is seen in Jesus the Son



## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

4. The spirit (invisible) is shown through the outworking in the flesh (visible). This is true in Jesus, and also applies to the Christian.

# **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

## **Who is God?**

### **GOD HAS ALL KNOWLEDGE**

(Omniscience)

#### **Rom. 11:32-36**

1. God's knowledge runs deep
2. God's knowledge is unsearchable, beyond our learning

#### **I John 3:20**

1. God knows "all things"
2. "Knoweth" is continual, always has and always will know everything

#### **Psm. 147:4, 5**

1. God has numbered all the stars
2. He even has names for each star
3. Understanding is without limits - infinite

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

#### **Psm. 139:1-4**

1. God knows even such insignificant things like our sitting down and getting up
2. God keeps track even of our fleeting and distant thoughts
3. God knows all our paths, habits, and ways of doing things
4. God knows even the unspoken words that never leave our tongue

#### **Prov. 15:3**

1. God sees everywhere
2. God keeps track of both good and evil

#### **Acts 15:18**

1. God not only knows everything about the Universe and us, – He also knows all of His own actions from creation forward
2. God is never caught by surprise

# BIBLE DOCTRINE

## Who is God?

1. God's complete foreknowledge does not remove man's responsibility

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

#### **GOD NEVER CHANGES**

**(Immutability)**

##### **Mal. 3:6**

1. God doesn't change
2. Our future security rests on God's staying the same

##### **James 1:17**

1. God doesn't vary or turn in nature, even a little
2. God's gifts to us and our salvation rest on God's consistency

##### **Num. 23:19**

1. God is vastly different from mankind
2. God neither lies nor repents
3. God always keeps His Word

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

#### **Heb. 6:13-20**

1. Promises will be fulfilled though we may need to be patient (**vs. 15**)
2. "Immutable" means no change
3. This is a basis for consolation to the believer

#### **Heb. 13:8**

1. Jesus is the same always
2. This makes for a consistency of doctrine and practice (**vss. 7, 9**)

#### **Jonah 3:9, 10**

1. God's turning and repenting here is evidence of the consistency of His nature
2. He is consistently against the wicked
3. Their repentance with suitable fruits meant they were no longer rebels, and thus were removed from those whom God was against.

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

4. Thus, God's change toward them was His staying the same towards sin and righteousness – consistency in nature. The real change was in the people who moved from those appointed to wrath over to those appointed to mercy.

#### **Gen. 6:5-7**

1. This is again evidence of the unchangeableness of God
2. Man created (**Gen. 1:26, 27, 31**) in the image of God had been pronounced good
3. Now man is debased in image and pronounced wicked
4. Man, by sin, has turned his back on the place of blessing and chosen the place of judgment. Man has changed places while God stays the same towards obedience and disobedience. For God not to change His

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

dealings with changed men would be inconsistent with His nature and justice.

**Example:** The government is to honor the good and punish the evil. If a good man becomes evil, he should expect a change of treatment from the unchanging law. He has changed, – the gov't remains the same.



## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

#### **God Has All Power**

**(Omnipotence)**

#### **Matt. 19:16-26**

1. Man is limited – some things are impossible to him (**26**)
  - ~ salvation is beyond man's power
2. God is not limited
  - ~ all things are possible to Him
  - ~ He can and does save

#### **Jer. 32:27, 17**

1. Some would ask if anything is too hard for the Lord (**Gen. 18:14**)
2. Nothing is beyond His power
3. Creation is an example of His power

#### **Gen. 17:1**

1. One name for God is “the Almighty God”

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

2. God's might should help us
  - ~ In our daily walk
  - ~ In perfecting those areas we lack in
  - ~ In trusting His covenant promises

#### **Job 42:1, 2**

1. God has no limits
2. He not only can do anything, but even more – everything
3. We should learn this as it will humble us

#### **Dan. 4:35**

1. God is so powerful that no one can stop Him or hold Him back
2. His power allows Him to do all His will in heaven and earth
3. Even the heathen need to see this truth and may go on through difficult times to learn this lesson (see the context)

# **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

## **Who is God?**

### **Rev. 19:6**

1. Omnipotent means all-powerful
2. His power is the basis of His reigning in the future

### **Examples of His Power:**

- Creation of the Universe
- Events of men
- Events in Heaven
- Control of Satan
- Prophecy fulfilled

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

#### **GOD IS ALL PRESENT**

(Omnipresent)

- **Main residence in heaven, but spirit being everywhere**

#### **Psm. 139:7-11**

1. God's existence reaches from heaven to hell
2. There is nowhere we can go to escape God's presence
3. Distance and time cannot remove us from God's presence
4. Anywhere He is well able to lead, protect, and hold us!

#### **I Kings 8:27**

1. God is too big to be contained in a building, on the earth, or even in the heavens

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

2. God is not like man in size or limitations, He has no physical limits, but fills all space that exists
3. The “bigness” of God is beyond our minds’ ability to grasp

#### **Jer. 23:23, 24**

1. No one can hide from God (Jonah tried and failed)
2. There is nowhere on earth but what our God is God
4. This should encourage us in witnessing, sending missionaries, and praying for the lost

#### **Matt. 18:20**

1. God’s presence is assured for Believers gathered in Christ’s Name without limits on location or number meeting at one time.

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

2. God is able to be in the midst many places at once
3. While everywhere in a general sense, He is especially present in particular places

#### **John 14:23**

1. God dwells with individuals (**17 and 20**)
2. The special sense of abiding, indwelling is for those who meet God's conditions
3. This is different from His general presence everywhere; in nature, blessing, intensity, purpose, protection, etc.

#### **Acts 17:24-28**

1. God by nature is close at hand to the lost
2. Our lives are surrounded by His existence as well as evidence of His being

# **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

## **Who is God?**

### **John 20:17**

1. Father's main location is heaven
2. Jesus has joined Him there

#### **Results:**

- Comforting truth of His presence
- Holy Spirit's indwelling
- Ease of detection of good and bad

# **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

## **Who is God?**

### **GOD IS HOLY**

#### **I Pet. 1:16**

1. God claims to be holy (**Lev. 19:2**)
2. God commands us to be holy because He is holy

#### **Isa. 6:3-7**

1. God is thrice Holy – fully so and each member of the Trinity
2. God's holiness is perhaps His leading or most emphasized trait (attribute)
3. God's holiness is related to His glory and our cleansing

#### **Rev. 4:8**

1. God's holiness is emphasized in both Old Testament and New Testament
2. God's holiness is emphasized in heaven and should be on earth



## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

#### **Heb. 12:14**

1. Holiness is expected in mankind
2. Without holiness we shall never see God

#### **Lev. 11:43-45**

1. God's holiness is the basis of His demands for holiness in our lives
2. Our separation from the World (Egypt), from the flesh (the unclean), and to serve God (sanctification), are all based on God's holiness.

#### **I John 1:5**

1. Holiness is likened to light
2. No unholiness or darkness in God
3. Basis of fellowship with man (**vss. 6, 7**)

#### **Psm. 99:9**

1. God's holiness should lead us to worship

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

2. Worship is tied to exalting God

#### **John 17:11**

1. Holy is part of the Father's Name
2. God's holiness is related to His keeping power
3. Perfect holiness makes for permanent keeping of the saints!

#### **Acts 3:14**

1. "Holy One" is one of the names of Jesus
2. Jesus' holiness is related to why He was rejected and crucified
3. Men today still choose murderers over holy people for friends

#### **Eph. 4:13**

1. We are to be changed into "the stature of the fullness of Christ"

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

2. Such practical holiness is a product of a local church operating properly

#### **Rom. 1:4**

1. Holy Spirit is called the “Spirit of holiness”
2. One of His Ministries is to produce holiness in believers

#### **Hab. 1:12, 13**

1. God is eternal, almighty, and holy
2. His holiness will not let Him look, stare, behold, gaze, or absorb that which is evil.
3. We are also to be holy (**Job 31:1**)

# **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

## **Who is God?**

### **GOD IS A TRINITY**

- **tri-unity, three in one, one in three**

This is not based on reason, but on revelation

#### **I John 5:7**

1. Three in heaven
2. "Three are one", yet obviously also three
3. God is beyond our intelligence (**Rom. 11:33**)
4. This truth is denied by several heresies

Unitarians	Mormons
Apostolics	Jehovah's Witnesses
Liberals	Tritheism
Polytheism	Swedenborgianism

#### **I Cor. 13:12**

1. Some matters are not clear to our present understanding

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

2. This doesn't change them, but does let us know there will be better understanding later
3. Several illustrations of the Trinity are helpful, but inadequate:
  - egg – shell, white, yolk
  - triangle – three sides
  - government – judicial, legislative, executive
  - matter – gas, liquid, solid
  - dimensions – height, length, breadth
  - fire – heat, fuel, air
  - man – spirit, soul, body
  - offices of a man – father, husband, son
  - authority – family, local church, government
  - ministries – prophet, priest, king

#### **Matt. 28:19, 20**

1. Only Bible picture of the Trinity to the best of my knowledge

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

2. One baptism, three persons, and three dips
3. Thus three are one and one is three
4. Each member of the Godhead is honored equally, jointly, yet separately for their part in redemption
5. The two aspects of the Trinity and here combined in picture, i.e. unity and three being one

(Historically, single immersion was introduced in the 4<sup>th</sup> century by the Eno-meons, an Arian sect, who denied the Trinity and wanted to destroy the picture. Unfortunately, this form has been copied by many well-meaning Christians of the West who are ignorant of its origin.)

#### **I. Unity**

##### **Deut. 6:4, 5**

1. We only have on God, not three

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

2. He is to be loved heart (spirit), soul, and might (body) (**Mark 12:29, 30**)

#### **Isa. 44:6**

1. Only one God
2. Both King and Redeemer are LORD
3. Both King and Redeemer are one "I AM"
4. First and Last (**Rev. 1:17; 22:13**)
5. There is no other God  
(**Isa. 44:8; 45:5, 6, 18, 21, 22; 46:9**)

#### **John 10:27-33**

1. Jesus taught the unity of the Godhead  
(**vs. 30**)
2. The Jews rejected a Godhead for a single personhood of God. They rejected Jesus' being God.

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

#### **I Tim. 2:5**

1. Jesus was God and a mediator between God and man
2. Yet God is only one - unified

#### **Mark 10:17, 18**

1. The rich young ruler needed to grasp, by revelation, that Jesus was God also, yet, there is only one God.

#### **II. Three in One**

##### **Gen. 1:26, 27**

1. God speaks among Himself
2. He uses words such as "us" and "our" to express His plurality (**vs. 26**)
3. Creation in His likeness was both "Him and "them" at the same time! (**vs. 27**)



## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

#### **Gen. 3:22**

1. God again speaks within Himself
2. He speaks of Himself (singular) as “us” (plural)

#### **Gen. 11:6, 7**

1. God speaks again with Himself
2. He speaks again of Himself as “us” (**vs. 7**)

#### **Psm. 2:7, 12**

1. The Son is begotten of God
2. The Son has the attributes of God (**Heb.1:4-12**) and is spoken to by God as God

#### **Isa. 7:14**

1. The Lord will give a sign – a Son to be born and called Immanuel (means God with us – (**Matt. 1:23**))
2. God sends God, by means of a virgin!

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

#### **Isa. 9:6, 7**

1. God's zeal will have a child born and a Son given
2. The Son is called "the mighty God"

#### **Isa. 6:8**

1. God speaks with Himself
2. He calls Himself "us"
3. Both concepts tied together – "***I send***" and "***... go for Us***"

#### **Isa. 48:16**

1. The "Spirit" is recognized as distinct and yet equal with the "Lord God"
2. The doctrine of the Trinity is not exclusively a New Testament or Christian doctrine. It is clearly in the Old Testament which is foundational to ancient Judaism.

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

#### **Matt. 3:16, 17**

1. Jesus' baptism brings all three members of the Trinity into action
2. Each is distinct, separate, in agreement, and co-operating

#### **John 14:16-36**

1. Jesus prays to the Father for the Holy Ghost to be sent (**vss. 16, 26**)
2. Each is separate in function and inter-relationship
3. Each member of the Trinity is to abide in the believers (**vss. 17, 20, 23**)

#### **II Cor. 13:14**

1. Each of the Trinity has a separate ministry to believers
2. We need all three ministering to us
3. Any one area taken to an extreme at the neglect of others (taken intellectually,

## **BIBLE DOCTRINE**

### **Who is God?**

practically, emotionally, experientially, etc.) and apart from God's working, will end in disaster:

*We end up as:*

- a) Hyper-Calvinists – trusting the grace of God and the doctrines of grace
  - b) Liberals – over-emphasizing God's love and love for others
  - c) Charismatic – trusting communion, gifts, and signs of the Spirit
4. Rejection of the present ministry of one member of the Trinity is disastrous to our soul's health.



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**Hagerstown, MD 21740**  
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