



O u t l i n e
Lesson 4 –Theology: Who is God?

I. Introduction – Theology – Who is God?

- A. Theology: The study of the existence, nature, and attributes of God
- B. The Ultimate Source of all Truth is the nature, character, being and attributes of God Himself. Nothing that is true can contradict the nature of God. Colossians 2:2-3 “Christ Himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.”
- C. Westminster Confession – trying to capture the infinite essence of God’s nature

II. What is Eternal Life?

- A. Scriptural emphasis on eternal life – Luke 18:18, John 3:16, John 4:13-14, John 5:24, John 5:39-40, John 6:27, John 6:54, John 17:1-3
- B. John 17:3 “This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.” - Relationship
- C. Spurgeon’s and Paul’s perspective “More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from {the} Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which {comes} from God on the basis of faith, that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;” Phil 3:8-10
- D. God’s perspective – Hosea 6:6, Jeremiah 9:23-24 ” Thus says the LORD, "Let not a wise

man boast of his wisdom, and let not the mighty man boast of his might, let not a rich man boast of his riches; but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises loving-kindness, justice and righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things," declares the LORD."

E. Connection between knowledge of God and knowledge of self

III. Meaning of Names

A. Names of God – El Qanna – A jealous God – Zeal that arises when a relationship is threatened. Deuteronomy 4:23-24, Zechariah 8:2, Exodus 34:14

B. Jacob (Israel), Abram (Abraham), Moses, Simon (Peter), Saul (Paul), John, Jesus

C. Your name – Your identity in Christ and as a child of God

IV. The Attack

A. The Battle – 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 – “We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself against the knowledge of God...”

B. On God – His nature, His character
–Twisting, Distorting, Denying, Ignoring

C. On His Word – Throughout history men have tried to destroy God’s Word – Accuracy, Demeaning, Discredit, Dilute

1. Jesus Seminar – democratic voting process on God’s Word
2. Ezekiel 22:26-28 – “...her priests have done violence to my law...”
3. Joram and Jehoram – Unraveling a supposed conflict – Can you trust the Word of God? – “The Mysterious Numbers of the Hebrew Kings”

V. Conclusion – God’s word can be trusted

A. 1 Peter 1:24-25 “For, "ALL FLESH IS LIKE GRASS, AND ALL ITS GLORY LIKE THE FLOWER OF GRASS. THE GRASS WITHERS, AND THE FLOWER FALLS OFF, BUT THE

WORD OF THE LORD ENDURES FOREVER." And this is the word which was preached to you.”

- B. Hebrews 4:12 “For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ”

13 year old boy “God is a perfect being, a plan for life, resides over all, and has the emotional care about what happens as He presides.”

K e y T e r m s

Lesson 4 – Theology: Who is God?

Deism: The belief that God created the universe and has since assumed no control over life, exerted no influence on nature, and given no supernatural revelation.

El Qanna: A name of God: "For the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God" (Exodus 34:14). See also Deuteronomy 4:23-24 and Zechariah 8:2

Eternal Life: To know the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom He sent to earth. A deeply personal and intimate relationship. See John 17:3.

Jesus Seminar: Started in 1985 in Berkley, California, by Robert Funk and thirty-five other liberal New Testament scholars. The Seminar,--which now includes about 100 members--meets twice a year to debate technical papers. At the close of debate on each agenda item, members vote using colored beads to indicate the degree of authenticity of Jesus' words or deeds.

Julius Wellhausen (1844-1918): A 19 th century German liberal scholar who suggested the Documentary Hypothesis (JEPD), which theorizes that the Pentateuch (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy) was not written by Moses but evolved over time and was compiled from at least four sources written by various authors. Numerous scholars have refuted the theory.

Pantheism: Belief that God and the material world are one and the same thing and that God is present in everything; pantheism sometimes entails belief in many deities. A form of spiritual naturalism.

Theism: Belief that God created and governs humans and the world.

Theology: The study of the existence, nature, and attributes of God.

Westminster Confession of Faith: A confession of faith drawn up by the 1646 Westminster Assembly, which remains a standard of doctrine within many Protestant, churches. The full confession took more than five years to complete and provides advice on issues of worship, doctrine, government, and discipline for the church.