

Overview of the Bible (Lesson #2)

Today's topic: A study of God and His Defining Attributes
Recommended Reading: Chapters 4-8 of Ryrie's *Basic Theology*

1. In today's study of our *Overview of the Bible* series we'll be in Lesson #2:
 - Lesson #1: Basic overview and Authority of the Bible
 - **Lesson #2: A study of God and His Defining Attributes**
 - Lesson #3: The Bible: Inspired Word of God
 - Lesson #4: Angels
 - Lesson #5: The Devil
 - Lesson #6: Demons
 - Lesson #7: Mankind
 - Lesson #8: Sin
 - Lesson #9: Jesus Christ, Son of God, and Savior of the World
 - Lesson #10: Salvation overview (Justification, Sanctification, and Glorification)
 - Lesson #11: The Holy Spirit
 - Lesson #12: The Church
 - Lesson #13: End Time Prophecy
 - Lesson #14: Wrapping it all up and putting it all together...
2. We'll cover three topics taken from Chapters 4-8 of *Basic Theology*:
 - a. The Perfections (Attributes) of God
 - b. The Names of God
 - c. Trinity
3. The Attributes of God are one of the most amazing facets of "what makes God, God". God is unlike any other Being in the Universe (I'm uncomfortable even calling God a Being). It is important in studying the Bible to understand what makes God unique and worthy of our worship. Let's go through the following "catalog" provided by Ryrie and read the provided Bible passages:
 - a. Eternity: Psalm 90:2
 - b. Freedom (God separate from His Creation): Isaiah 40:13-14
 - c. Holiness: Psalm 99:3, Isaiah 6:3-5
 - d. Immutability (unchanging): Malachi 3:6
 - e. Infinity: Acts 17:24-28
 - f. Love: I John 4:48, John 3:16
 - g. Omnipotence (all powerful): Revelation 1:8, Revelation 19:6; although with self-imposed limitations as noted below:
 - i. Cannot lie (Titus 1:2)
 - h. Omnipresence (ever present): Psalm 139:7-11
 - i. Omniscience (all knowing): Psalm 147:4-5
 - j. Righteousness: Psalm 11:7
 - k. Simplicity (God's essence cannot be divided; He is not "compound"): John 4:24
 - l. Sovereignty (God is in complete control): Ephesians 2:8-10 (emphasis on vs. 10)
 - m. Truth: John 17:3
 - n. Unity: Ephesians 4:4-6

4. There are two (2) important questions for us in studying the *Attributes of God*:
 - a. How does a proper view of God impact how we live?

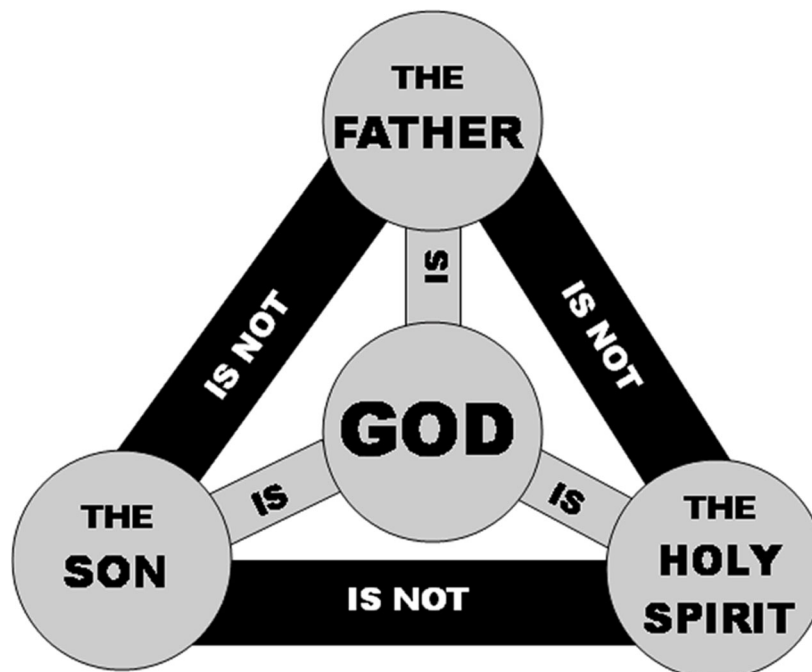
 - b. What are the consequences for us (and perhaps society, in general) when we fail to recognize God's attributes?

5. The Bible provides for us names for God that further explain some of His defining attributes. Look at the chart on the following page for a list of some names of God. Of those that are listed, which one means the most to you?

6. The Trinity is undoubtedly one of the most complicated concepts in the Bible; however, it is an important concept and a defining description of the God we worship. Look at the figure below and be prepared to discuss the three members of the Trinity:
 - a. God the Father: Deuteronomy 6:1-9

 - b. Jesus the Son; John 14:1-14

 - c. The Holy Spirit: John 16:1-15



THE NAMES OF GOD

JEHOVAH
Lord

JEHOVAH-SHAMMAH
"The Lord is there"

JEHOVAH-JIRE
"The Lord my provider"

JEHOVAH-SABAOTH
"The Lord of hosts"

JEHOVAH-ROPHE
"The Lord who heals"

JEHOVAH-NISSI
"The Lord my victory"

JEHOVAH-NISSI
"The Lord our banner"

EL-SHADDAI
"Lord God Almighty"

JEHOVAH-M'KADDESH
"The Lord who sanctifies"

EL-ELYON
"The Most High God"

JEHOVAH-SHALOM
"The Lord our Peace"

ADONAI
"Lord and Master"

JEHOVAH-T'SIDKENU
"The Lord our righteousness"

EL-OLAM
"Everlasting God"

JEHOVAH-RAAH
"The Lord my shepherd"

ELOHIM
"God"

