

INTRODUCTION: WHY STUDY THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD?

READ SELECTIONS FROM R.C. Sproul – The Holiness of God – introduction

Over the next few weeks, I want us to just think about this God that spoke the universe into existence. What is he like? Where does he live? What does he look like? What does he think about? Did you ever wonder - can God think new thoughts? I hope by thinking about God and meditating on what he is like, that you will have a renewed appreciation for this God that we worship, and that you might even have the kind of deep “conversion” to the holiness of God that R.C. Sproul experienced.

We can speculate about God, or we can meditate on those things God told us about himself when he revealed himself to us. The Bible mentions at least four different ways God has told us about himself. What are they?

1) Creation (General Revelation) – SEE ROMANS 1:20

ILLUS: DNA, “Intelligent Design”

DISCUSSION: Most beautiful place you’ve ever been

2) Heart / Conscience of Man – SEE ROMANS 2:14-15

ILLUS: Hellen Keller – blind, deaf, thinking about God (couldn’t experience the world or read Bible)

QUOTE: Personal God-shaped vacuum

QUOTE: Man is incurably religious

C.S. Lewis – Hunger = food; desire for God = God

DISCUSSION: Without the Bible, what would you know of God?

3) Spoken Word / Special Revelation (Bible) – EX 3:14-15; ISAIAH 45:24-28

Define "hayah" – Hebrew word for "be" Yhwh = "the self existing one."

EX. 34:5-9

4) Incarnation – SEE JOHN 14:5-11

NOTE: Sane people don't say these things.

ILLUS: "The Three Christs of Ypsilanti" (Ortberg, The Life You've Always Wanted, 97.)

ILLUS: Faces of Christ – pictures of Father and Jesus

CONCLUSION: MABEL – I THINK ABOUT MY JESUS (Ortberg, The Life You've Always Wanted, p. 27)