

God Is and He Has Spoken

*A doctrinal study of
the Triune God and His written Word*



*Hillcrest Bible Church
Sunday School
Summer 2021*

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the Triune God and His written Word*

*And this is life eternal,
that they might know thee
the only true God,
and Jesus Christ,
whom thou hast sent.
John 17:3 (KJV)*

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INTRODUCTION

Theology proper and Bibliology are the subjects in our doctrinal series for the summer. Some might wonder if this is an appropriate course for Sunday school and especially for children. It almost seems too technical. Sunday school should be simple and possibly even entertaining. Above all, it should be practical. Theology sounds too intellectual to be useful to the average Christian today. The church should be meeting the needs of the people. Theology and doctrine are the activities of seminaries or universities. Besides, they only seem to generate arguments and divide people. We need less of this and more practical teaching about being Christians.

Theology Proper

But wait! Before you turn away, consider what is behind these long words. First of all, theology proper is the study of God Himself. It is a systematic or orderly study which takes the teachings of the Bible about the Triune God from various passages and organizes them to help us understand our God. Jesus Himself showed us the importance of such a study when he prayed in John 17:3. Here, He defined salvation as the knowledge of the *“only true God and Jesus Christ whom thou hast sent.”* To seek and to obtain salvation is to seek and to know God as He is revealed in Scripture. Later, Peter told us that God has provided us all things concerning life and godliness through the knowledge of God (2 Peter 1:3). However foreboding the label “theology” proper may seem, the study of God is properly the lifelong task of all believers. The danger is not that we will be too intense in our study of God, but that we will be negligent or too superficial.

Therefore, with pleasure and great expectation, we will study some of the great truths about God. We will begin by examining how we can know of the existence of God. We will look at the nature of the One True God Who exists as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We will consider the incommunicable and communicable attributes of God. The former are those characteristics which are unique to God and the latter are those which are found in some measure in man. We will then consider the works of

God, especially those which are unique to each Person of the Trinity in the great work of salvation.

Bibliology

The second part of our study is Bibliology. This is a study of the Bible. It is a study of how we got the Bible, its truthfulness, and its authority. This study is especially important to us today because of many attacks upon the reliability and authority of the Bible. We must understand the nature of this wonderful Book or else we will not truly appreciate its message as the very Word of God. If we fail to understand what the Bible is, we will more likely neglect its message, with dire consequences for our souls. We must know what God says about this very important Book so we will have confidence in its authority and reliability as the only source of information about God and salvation.

However, the Bible is more than a Book of information about God. It is vital to Christian life. In 1 Peter 1:23, Peter said that the Word of God is the instrument used by the Holy Spirit to bring about our new birth. In John 17:17, Jesus asked the Father to sanctify us through the Word of God. Therefore, the written Word of God is the means used by God to bring us salvation and sanctification. Our study of the Bible will show us that the Word of God is fully sufficient for all that Christians need for the life of holiness to which they have been called. This will perhaps be the most practical lesson of the entire series, and should cause us to be more diligent in reading and studying God’s Word. This is the instrument of God’s blessing in our daily lives.

The shortness of the time will require us to only survey our subjects. Books have been written on both of these subjects which actually involve a study of the entire Bible. Hopefully, this introduction to these subjects will encourage each of us in our duty to increase daily in the knowledge of our Triune Creator Redeemer and His Word. We will make no pretense of being exhaustive, but even a limited study of God and His Word is certain to bring blessing. More than that, God is glorified as His people seek to know Him.

SCHEDULE

June 6, 2021	Lesson 1: God Is Acts 17:16-34; Romans 1:18-32
June 13, 2021	Lesson 2: God Is One Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 3:13-17; John 1:29-34; John 5:16-27; Romans 8:1-11
June 20, 2021	Lesson 3: There Is None Like God 2 Kings 6:8-23; Psalm 139; Psalm 90:1-2; Isaiah 40:9-31; Psalm 102:26-28; Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8
June 27, 2021	Lesson 4: God Made Man in His Own Image Exodus 33:7-34:9; Colossians 3:9-15
July 4, 2021	Lesson 5: Our God Is a Consuming Fire Habakkuk 1-3
July 11, 2021	Lesson 6: God Is Sovereign Daniel 4; Proverbs 16:33; Ephesians 1:3-14; Romans 8:28-30
July 18, 2021	Lesson 7: Jesus Is the Son of God John 1:1-18; Hebrews 1:1-4
July 25, 2021	Lesson 8: The Exalted Savior 1 Corinthians 15:20-28; Philippians 2:5-11; Revelation 5
August 1, 2021	Lesson 9: Baptized with the Holy Spirit Acts 1:4-8; Acts 2
August 8, 2021	Lesson 10: The Holy Spirit in the Believer John 3:1-10; Galatians 5:16-26
August 15, 2021	Lesson 11: The Holy Spirit Gives Gifts in the Church 1 Corinthians 12
August 22, 2021	Lesson 12: God Has Spoken Luke 16:19-31; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21; Hebrews 1:1-3
August 29, 2021	Lesson 13: The Sufficiency of the Word of God 2 Peter 1:2-4; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; John 17:17; Psalm 19:7-11; Psalm 1

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION

Isaiah 44:6

⁶ Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel,
and his redeemer the LORD of hosts;
I am the first, and I am the last;
and beside me there is no God.

Romans 11:33-36

³³ O the depth of the riches
both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!
how unsearchable are his judgments,
and his ways past finding out!

³⁴ For who hath known the mind of the Lord?
or who hath been his counsellor?

³⁵ Or who hath first given to him,
and it shall be recompensed unto him again?

³⁶ For of him,
and through him,
and to him, are all things:
to whom be glory for ever. Amen.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

¹⁶ All scripture
is given by inspiration of God,
and is profitable
for doctrine, for reproof, for correction,
for instruction in righteousness:

¹⁷ That the man of God
may be perfect,
thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

BE THOU EXALTED

Fanny J. Crosby & A.B.S.

Alfred B. Smith

1. Be Thou ex - alt-ed, for ev - er and ev - er, God of e - ter - ni - ty, The An - cient of
 2. Be Thou ex - alt-ed, O Son of the High - est Gra - cious Re - deem - er Our Sav - iour and
 3. Be Thou ex - alt-ed, O Spir - it e - ter - nal! Dwell in our hearts, keep us Ho - ly with -

Days! Won - drous in Maj - es - ty, so migh - ty in wis - dom, per - fect in
 King! One with the Fa - ther, co - e - qual in glo - ry, Here at Thy
 in; Feed us each day with Thy Heav - en - ly Man - na "Heal - er of

ho - li - ness, and wor - thy of praise.
 foot - stool our hom - age we bring. Be thou ex - alt - ed by ser - aphs and
 wound - ed hearts" Thy prais - es we sing.

an - gels, Be thou ex - alt - ed with harp and with song; Saints in their

an - thems of rap - ture a - dore thee, Thine be the glo - ry for - ev - er A - men!

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Lesson 1: God Is Acts 17:16-34; Romans 1:18-32

MEMORY: Isaiah 44:6

HYMN: "Be Thou Exalted"

SUMMARY: *God does not argue for His existence. Neither does He conceal it. He has clearly revealed Himself in His creation. Therefore, every man is under solemn obligation to glorify Him. Through the ages, man has despised and corrupted this revelation of God by making and serving images of created beings, and has not served his omnipotent Creator, Who is also his Judge.*

Acts 17:16-34

1. What provoked Paul when he went to Athens?

2. What led Paul to notice that the men of Athens were very religious?

3. How did Paul describe God to the men of Athens?

4. What was God's intention in making men, and setting their times and their dwelling places?

5. Since we are the "offspring of God," how should that affect our thinking about Him?

Romans 1:18-32

6. What may be known of God from creation?

7. What does man do with the understanding of God which he has from creation?

8. In bringing the Gospel to men, do we first need to prove the existence of God? Why or why not?

Lesson 2: God Is One
Deuteronomy 6:4; Matthew 3:13-17; John 1:29-34;
John 5:16-27; Romans 8:1-11

MEMORY: Romans 11:33 and review

HYMN: "Be Thou Exalted"

SUMMARY: *There is only one eternal God. Yet, He exists as three distinct Persons, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. They are equal in all the Divine attributes but have unique operations with regard to each other and with regard to creation. This great mystery of the unity and trinity of God is clearly displayed in the Scriptures and especially in the work of redemption.*

Deuteronomy 6:4

1. How is God described here?

Matthew 3:13-17

2. What happened when Jesus was baptized?

John 1:29-34

3. How did John describe Jesus when he saw Him?

4. Who told John how to recognize Jesus?

5. How was John to recognize the Son of God?

John 5:16-27

6. What claim did Jesus make that caused the Jews to desire His death?

7. How is the equality of Father and Son seen in this passage?

Romans 8:1-11

8. What names are given to the Holy Spirit in this passage?

9. Why is the Holy Spirit important to the believer?

Lesson 3: There Is None Like God
2 Kings 6:8-23; Psalm 139; Psalm 90:1-2; Isaiah 40:9-31;
Psalm 102:26-28; Malachi 3:6; Hebrews 13:8

MEMORY: Romans 11:33-34 and review

HYMN: “Be Thou Exalted”

SUMMARY: *Theologians speak of the attributes of God. These are the characteristics that God has revealed about Himself. The incommunicable attributes of God are those characteristics that are true of God alone and not His creatures. These include His self-existence, His eternity, His unity in trinity, His immutability, His omniscience, and His omnipotence.*

2 Kings 6:8-23

1. Why was the king of Syria not able to be successful in his warfare against Israel?

2. What lesson did the servant of Elisha learn about God?

Psalm 139

3. What does this Psalm teach us about the knowledge of God?

4. What does this Psalm teach us about the presence of God?

Psalm 90:1-2

5. How is the existence of God described in Psalm 90?

Isaiah 40:9-31

6. What illustrations are used to teach the “size” of God?

7. What do these texts teach about God?

Psalm 102:26-28

Malachi 3:6

Hebrews 13:8

Lesson 4: God Made Man in His Own Image

Exodus 33:7-34:9; Colossians 3:9-15

MEMORY: Romans 11:33-35 and review

HYMN: “Be Thou Exalted”

SUMMARY: *The communicable attributes of God are those characteristics which are true of Him but are also found to some extent in His creatures who were made in the image of God. These include His truth, His wisdom, His goodness, His righteousness, and His holiness. They are seen imperfectly in fallen man. They are perfected in all who are united to Christ in salvation.*

Exodus 33:7-34:9

1. How did God speak with Moses?
2. Moses asked God to show him His way. Why did he make this request?
3. How did Moses think it would be known that he and the people of Israel had found grace in the sight of God?
4. Why did God agree to go with the people of Israel?
5. Moses asked to see the glory of God. How did God answer this request?
6. When Moses went up into the mountain with the two new tablets of stone, what did God proclaim to him?
7. What was Moses' understanding of the grace of God?

Colossians 3:9-15

8. What is the “new man,” and what is he like?

Lesson 5: Our God Is a Consuming Fire

Habakkuk 1-3

MEMORY: Romans 11:33-36 and review

HYMN: "Be Thou Exalted"

SUMMARY: *God is the Judge of all the earth and a God of wrath. While He now tolerates sinners, there will come a day when He will judge the wicked according to the standard of His Own righteousness and pour out His eternal wrath upon sinners. The just shall live by faith.*

Habakkuk 1:1-4

1. What complaint did the prophet make to God?

Habakkuk 1:5-11

2. How did Yahweh answer the prophet?

Habakkuk 1:12-2:1

3. How did Habakkuk respond to this answer from Yahweh?

Habakkuk 2:2-4

4. What did Yahweh tell the waiting prophet?

Habakkuk 2:5-20

5. What are some of the sins for which Yahweh pronounces, "Woe!"?

Habakkuk 3:1-16

6. What did the prophet ask God to do?

7. How did Habakkuk describe God in this prayer?

Habakkuk 3:17-19

8. What was the prophet's conclusion?

Lesson 6: God Is Sovereign

Daniel 4; Proverbs 16:33; Ephesians 1:3-14; Romans 8:28-30

MEMORY: 2 Timothy 3:16 and review

HYMN: "Be Thou Exalted"

***SUMMARY:** God reigns sovereignly over heaven and earth. His sovereignty includes all aspects of His creation including the natural realm, the nations of the earth, and the personal affairs of men. His sovereign dominion especially includes His great work of redemption. From before the foundation of the world, He chose those whom He would save and actually saves them in Christ.*

Daniel 4

1. What was the purpose of the humiliation of Nebuchadnezzar?

2. After his restoration, what view of God did Nebuchadnezzar have?

Proverbs 16:33

3. What does this proverb teach us about chance or "luck"?

Ephesians 1:3-14

4. What choice did God make?

5. When did God make this choice?

6. Why did God save us?

7. How did God save us?

Romans 8:28-30

8. What do we know about those who love God?

Lesson 7: Jesus Is the Son of God

John 1:1-18; Hebrews 1:1-4

MEMORY: 2 Timothy 3:16-17 and review

HYMN: "Be Thou Exalted"

SUMMARY: *The Only Begotten Son of God is co-equal with the Father and the Holy Spirit in all the divine attributes. The second Person of the Trinity is distinguished from the Father and the Spirit in His work. He was sent by the Father to become a man. As truly man and truly God, He revealed God to us and offered Himself as a sacrifice for our sins that we might become the sons of God.*

John 1:1-18

1. What is the relationship between the Word and God?
2. What is the relationship between the Word and creation?
3. Who was John, and what was his work?
4. Who is the Light?
5. What happened when the Light came into the world?
6. What happened to those who received the Light?
7. What testimony did the Apostle John give about the Word?
8. What testimony did John the Baptist give about the Word?

Hebrews 1:1-4

9. What does this passage tell us about the Son of God?

Lesson 8: The Exalted Savior

1 Corinthians 15:20-28; Philippians 2:5-11; Revelation 5

MEMORY: Review

HYMN: "Be Thou Exalted"

***SUMMARY:** Having obtained eternal salvation for His people by His death, Jesus was raised from the dead. He is now exalted above all in heaven and earth at the right hand of the Father where He awaits the day when all things will be made subject to Him to the glory of God.*

1 Corinthians 15:20-28

1. What is the comparison between Adam and Christ?

2. Why did Paul speak of Christ as the firstfruits?

3. What will happen when the end comes?

4. How will God be exalted in the end?

Philippians 2:5-11

5. What did Jesus do about His equality with God?

6. What did Jesus do after He became a man?

7. What has God done for Jesus?

Revelation 5

8. Who was found worthy to open and read the scroll?

9. Who receives worship in heaven, and how is He worshiped?

Lesson 9: Baptized with the Holy Spirit

Acts 1:4-8; Acts 2

MEMORY: Review

HYMN: "Be Thou Exalted"

SUMMARY: *The Holy Spirit is co-equal with the Father and the Son in all the divine attributes. The third Person of the Trinity is distinguished from the Father and the Son in His work. He was sent by the Father to indwell all believers. This work began on the Day of Pentecost. In us, He teaches of Jesus Christ and enables us to be witnesses of Jesus Christ.*

Acts 1:4-8

1. What did Jesus tell the disciples to do in Jerusalem?
2. How did Jesus describe the coming of the Holy Spirit?
3. What did Jesus say would be the result of the coming of the Holy Spirit?

Acts 2

4. What did the disciples hear and see when the Holy Spirit came upon them?
5. What did the multitude hear when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples?
6. When the disciples were accused of being drunk, how did Peter explain what was happening?
7. What did Peter say that the coming of the Holy Spirit showed?
8. What was the effect of the message of Peter?
9. Who receives the "Promise of the Father"?

Lesson 10: The Holy Spirit in the Believer

John 3:1-10; Galatians 5:16-26

MEMORY: Review

HYMN: "Be Thou Exalted"

SUMMARY: *The Holy Spirit is essential in the life of a believer. It is the Holy Spirit Who causes us to be born again. This work of regeneration enables us to believe on Jesus Christ and be saved. In the believer, He is at work producing the fruit of the Spirit which characterizes the Christian life.*

John 3:1-10

1. Why is it necessary to be born again?
2. What is the new birth?
3. Why is the wind a good illustration of the work of the Holy Spirit?

Galatians 5:16-26

4. How can we avoid fulfilling the "lust of the flesh"?
5. What is the relationship between the flesh and the Spirit?
6. What are the works of the flesh?
7. What is the fruit of the Spirit?
8. What is the meaning of Galatians 5:25?

Lesson 11: The Holy Spirit Gives Gifts in the Church 1 Corinthians 12

MEMORY: Review

HYMN: “Be Thou Exalted”

SUMMARY: *The Holy Spirit ministers in the Church by giving gifts to the individual members. These gifts are necessary for the normal function of the Church as the Body of Christ. The gifts differ from member to member but are dispensed according to the will of God for the profit of all.*

1. What does the Holy Spirit have to do with what one says about Jesus?
2. In speaking of spiritual gifts, what things are the same, and what things are different?
3. How does the Spirit determine what gifts to give to each individual?
4. List the spiritual gifts mentioned throughout this passage.
5. How do we become a part of the Body of Christ?
6. What has God done to prevent schism in the Body of Christ?
7. What should our attitude be about gifts?
8. What is the “more excellent way”?

Lesson 12: God Has Spoken

Luke 16:19-31; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21; Hebrews 1:1-3

MEMORY: Review

HYMN: "Be Thou Exalted"

SUMMARY: *The Bible is the Word of God. It was given by God through the Holy Spirit to the many different writers over the course of many years. The end result is that we have the very words of God. They are without error and absolutely reliable for all who would know God and do His will.*

Luke 16:19-31

1. What happened to Lazarus and the rich man when they died?
2. What was the rich man concerned about when he learned that it was not possible for him to get relief from his suffering?
3. What did the rich man think was the best way to warn men concerning their eternal destiny?
4. What did Abraham say was the best way for men to be warned concerning their eternal destiny?

2 Timothy 3:16-17

5. How did we get the Scripture?
6. Why was the Scripture given?

2 Peter 1:19-21

7. How did the "prophetic word" come to us?

Hebrews 1:1-3

8. What does this passage teach us about how God speaks to us?

Lesson 13: The Sufficiency of the Word of God
2 Peter 1:2-4; 2 Timothy 3:14-17; John 17:17; Psalm 19:7-11; Psalm 1

MEMORY: Review

HYMN: "Be Thou Exalted"

SUMMARY: *The Bible is the Word of God and is sufficient for the believer for all that concerns spiritual life and godliness. We ought therefore to study it and to meditate upon it day and night.*

2 Peter 1:2-4

1. How are grace and peace "multiplied" to us?

2. How do we get everything we need for "life and godliness"?

2 Timothy 3:14-17

3. What are the Scriptures able to do for us?

John 17:17

4. What instrument did the Son of God ask the Father to use in our sanctification?

Psalm 19:7-11

5. What words are used to describe the Word of God?

6. What are the things that the Word of God does for us?

Psalm 1

7. What does the man who is blessed do concerning the Word of God?

8. What is the result?