**Systematic Theology I**

Doctrine of God – Part I

Jotham Manoranjan and Lukus Counterman

**LESSON OVERVIEW**

Lecture Topics: the attributes and works of God – with a special focus on creation, providence, and prayer.

**The existence of God:**

the cosmological argument - cause and effect

the teleological argument- design implies a designer

the moral argument- moral law implies a Lawgiver

the ontological argument- existence is implied in the idea of God

These arguments can be used to strengthen the faith of believers and respond to the objections of non-believers, but it is neither necessary nor possible to prove the existence of God.

The decision to believe in the non-existence of God is also a decision of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: God is not within creation, or part of it, but is above it.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: God is thoroughly involved with His creation.

**God is Spirit**

**Unity and Tri-unity:**

**THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD**

We will follow most theologians in dividing the attributes into \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ attributes.

**Incommunicable Attributes** - attributes that make God unique and different from all other beings.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Attribute** | **Description** | **Significance**  **(How does this apply to you?)** | **Importance**  **(What is the danger of taking away from this doctrine)** |
|  | By definition, there can only be one infinite being, and that being is God  Our life is a derived existence; God has life in himself (John 5:26).  Sometimes referred to by words like fidelity or constancy |  |  |

**The Communicable Attributes** - These are the attributes that not only tell us more of what God is like, but also give us a pattern for life, for these are the ways in which God wants us to be like Him.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Attribute** | **Description** | **Significance**  **(How does this apply to you?)** | **Importance**  **(What is the danger of taking away from this doctrine)** |
|  | This word, in both noun and adjective form, is clearly fundamental to the biblical view of God, especially in the OT. There are perhaps four branches from the root of holiness  The quality most associated with God is love, (but it must not be disassociated from holiness). From the root of love, we see 4 branches. |  |  |

**Conclusion:** All these attributes and more than we can describe are all found marvelously harmonized in the character of God. As God's people, we are called to be like Him, especially in showing **His love (John 13:34) and His holiness (I Pet. 1:15).** May God plant these two roots deep in our hearts to produce Christlike character in our lives.