

Can We Chat?



The Bible - Part IV

"You don't know what you don't know"

Pastor Craig Sweeney

Topic: Nature of God

Key Thought: God is what He is, not what I imagine Him to be.

Common non-Biblical views of God found in our culture.

- **God is a force** - Not a distinct God with personification, but a spiritual force spread throughout the universe and nature.
- **God is the "divine within you"... "inner light"** - Not a distinct God with personification. Instead a spiritual force or reality that dwells within your soul or spirit.
- **God is any higher power we choose** – We choose whatever we desire.
- **There are many gods competing with one another** – Each god has his/her own truth and they compete with one another for big "T" truth. A person chooses one or many.
- **God is not masculine, or God is a Goddess** – This has various forms: from it being incorrect to refer to God in the masculine "He". Or, in order to stay balanced, we should refer to God as "She".
- **You will become a God** – This could mean that we are evolving into gods or, if we believe the right ways we will, eventually become gods of our own planets.
- **God is far off, personally uninvolved** – God created you, but is uninvolved in your life.
- **God is a cosmic vending machine** – If you trust God, you will never have hard times and God will give you any material thing you ask for.

God is revealed as...

Creator

Genesis 2:7-9, Genesis 1:1

Trinity

- **Old Testament** - *Genesis 1:26, Deuteronomy 6:4*
- **New Testament** - *Matthew 3:13-17, Matthew 28:19, John 15:26, II Corinthians 13:14*

God is a unity of One - *Ephesians 4:5-6, James 2:19*

The Trinity is important to us because of what it reveals of God...among many things

1. **Father** – Why He loves, how He loves...as a Father.
Matthew 6:9
2. **Son** – One who truly understands my life. Empathy, compassion. Sacrifice for forgiveness. Perfect example.
John 1:1-18
3. **Holy Spirit** – The true presence of God indwelling our hearts. *Romans 8:11*

Study Helps:

Harper Collins Bible Dictionary
The Liquid Bible, Paul Thome
How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth, Gordon Fee
Searching the Scriptures, Charles R. Swindoll
Life Application Study Bible
The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict, Josh McDowell

Quick Overview of the Bible:

- The Big Picture.
- Why Should I read the Bible?
- Overview of the Old Testament.
- Overview of the New Testament.

LINK: www.dougbrittonbooks.com/bible-overview

How to Study the Bible:

- Make a plan.
- Be an active reader.
- Open your heart.
- Bring the Bible into your daily life.

LINK: www.dougbrittonbooks.com/bible-how-to-study

Suggested books of the Bible to read first:

John, Luke, Matthew, Mark, Phillipians, Ephesians, Colossians, Romans, Genesis, Psalms