

# **The Revelation of the One True God**

## **The Need for Divine Revelation**

### **Lesson 1**

**Genesis 3; Psalm 14; 1 Corinthians 2:6-16**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School  
June 7, 2015*

# TBC Sunday School

- ▶ Survey the Bible and Doctrine
- ▶ Encourage home study
- ▶ Encourage memorization of Scripture and hymns
- ▶ Keep the family together – same lesson for all
- ▶ Old Testament Studies - September to December
- ▶ New Testament Studies - January to May
- ▶ Doctrinal Studies - June to August
  - Part 1: The Bible, God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit
  - Part 2: Man, Sin, Salvation
  - Part 3: Angels, Satan, Demons, the Church, the Last Things

# 2015: The Revelation of the One True God

- ▶ The need for Divine Revelation (1)
- ▶ The vehicles of Divine Revelation (2-3)
- ▶ The content of Divine Revelation (4-11)
- ▶ The power of Divine Revelation (12)
- ▶ The purpose of Divine Revelation (13)

# The Need for Divine Revelation

- ▶ Insurmountable obstacles
  - God is Spirit – outside the human realm – inaccessible
  - Man is a sinner – blocked from access to God
- ▶ God must speak and illuminate

“ We start the study of theology with two presuppositions, namely (1) that God exists, and (2) that He has revealed Himself in His divine Word. ”

BERKHOF, L. (1938). SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY (P. 19)

# The Need for Divine Revelation

- ▶ Are we beginning with the conclusion?
- ▶ How do we know the Bible is a true source?
- ▶ “Jesus loves me, this I know. For the Bible tells me so.”
- ▶ We learn that God exists and reveals Himself in the Bible from the Bible
- ▶ Why is this the only alternative? Lesson #1
- ▶ Why doesn't this make a weak case? Lesson #12

# The Battle for the Bible

- ▶ God reveals Himself to us and illuminates us
- ▶ The Bible is essential for these operations
- ▶ The Bible is under assault by the Devil
- ▶ Jeremiah 36 – the Scroll is burned and replaced
- ▶ RC Church tried to prevent Bible reading
- ▶ Contemporary attacks: science and morality/ethics

# The Need for Divine Revelation

- ▶ Theology proper – the study of God
- ▶ Divine revelation required
  - The nature of God makes revelation absolutely necessary, and makes it happen.
  - Man's nature makes revelation absolutely necessary, and prevents it from happening.



# The Revelation of God

- ▶ Futility of rational arguments (e.g. Intelligent Design)
- ▶ God revealed by His works - creation and salvation
- ▶ God is immense and incomprehensible
  - Job 11:7
  - 1 Timothy 6:13-16
  - Isaiah 55:8-9
  - Isaiah 40:12-26
  - John 1:18
  - Romans 11:33-36
  - Ephesians 1:11
  - John 4:23-25
  - Matthew 11:27
  - Romans 1:20

# The Ignorance of Man

- Ephesians 2:1, 5
- Colossians 2:13
- Romans 3:9-18
- Psalm 14
- 2 Corinthians 4:4
- 1 John 5:19
- 1 Corinthians 1:18-21
- 1 Corinthians 2:6-16
- Romans 8:5-8

# The Great Divide – Genesis 3

- ▶ Adam and Eve – apex of God’s good creation
  - Created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26)
  - Created to have dominion (Genesis 1:26)
  - Not a partaker of the Divine nature (2 Peter 1:3; 1 Corinthians 15:45-47)
  - Not sufficient alone – needed a helper (Genesis 2:18)
- ▶ The tempter – father of lies (John 8:33)
  - No subtlety – direct contradiction (Genesis 3:4)
  - The deception: Genesis 3:5 – eyes opened; like God; know good and evil

# The Great Divide – Genesis 3

## ▶ Human wisdom v. God's wisdom

- Flesh – good for food
- Eyes – pleasurable
- Pride – acquire wisdom

## ▶ The wages of sin is death

- Eyes open – saw themselves as God sees them – shame (Isaiah 57:21)
- They “surely died” (Genesis 2:14) – Ignorant of God – a mighty gulf
- Personal solution for their shame – “fig leaves”
- Servile fear of God – hid themselves
- Self justification – no confession
- Deception

## ▶ The curse – visible reminders of death

- Woman – pain in childbirth and marriage
- Man – futility in dominion; physical death
- Serpent – the long war; termination from God's creation

“ So a fool is one that hath lost his wisdom and right notion of God and divine things, which were communicated to man by creation; one dead in sin, yet one not so much void of rational faculties, as of grace in those faculties; not one that wants reason, but abuses his reason. ”

STEPHEN CHARNOCK

# The Need for Divine Revelation

- ▶ “O the mighty gulf . . .”
  - “Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible . . .”
  - A race of fools who are condemned to their own folly.
- ▶ “. . . that God did span.”
  - Hebrews 11:6
  - Hebrews 1:1-4
  - Luke 19:10
  - Romans 10:17
- ▶ “O the grace that brought it down to man”
  - Beware of those who deny the truth of God’s Word
  - 2 Timothy 2:15
  - 1 Corinthians 1:30