



The Issues of Life – God Is Foundation 2

Key Verses – Psa 111:10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.

Isa 38:3 And said, Remember now, O LORD, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.

God (standard) / Truth (source) / perfect heart (motive) / do good (action)

Fear God: Walk before God – seek first His kingdom – set affection on things above – do all to His glory (1 Cor. 10:31)

- God is the source of right
 - God -> Man/Woman -> Family -> Marriage
 - God -> Man -> World -> Food
 - God -> Man -> Politics -> Roommate (chores, clothes/jewelry, cheating, pornography)

Reflection Questions

- Is there anything about the character of God that would help us discern a difference between: a soldier throwing himself on a live grenade, a criminal shooting himself to avoid consequences, a person with an agonizing disease or in a difficult circumstance ending their own life? What does it say about God?
- What does homosexuality say about God? His holiness as a boundary to our desires? His wisdom in the creation of gender?
- What does cheating on a test say about God?

The perfections of God (partial listing and their moral implications)

- God is **living** (Jn. 6:57-58) – active, powerful, real, makes promises, gives life, wills, thinks – What is life, and life abundantly? He has breathed into us the breath of life
- God is **personal** (Heb. 1:3) – mind, will, self-aware/conscious, self-choosing, autonomous moral agent – I am! What is personhood? He has made us moral, choosing, knowing, willing creatures – declared worth
- God is **Trinity** – (1 Cor. 11:3) – order, roles, headship, authority, love, honor, submission ... He has placed me in this world with a role to play

- God is **Holy** – (1 Pet. 1:14-16) – light and no darkness – totally separate from sin ... He has revealed His will so I can be holy as He is holy – not fashioned according to former lusts/ignorance – marriage sacred – boundary to desires
- God is **Good** – (Ps. 119:68) – beauty, worth, value, benefits, right ends and means... I was created for His pleasure, I find pleasure in knowing Him & His will – no sorrow attached to His pleasure unlike the pleasure of sin
- God is **Just and Righteous** (Ps. 92:15; 97:2) – His is equitable in His dealings with Himself and with all creation ... His righteousness is our standard. Am I equal minded, and treating others as I wish they would treat me?
- God is **Love** (1 Jn. 4:7-8) – affection, desire, grief, tenderness, compassion, jealousy, grace, truth, mercy, vengeance... He shows me what, when, and how to love.
- God is **wise** (Rom. 16:27) – best means & best ends – What is the best choice and action? What is prudent, appropriate, and efficient?
- God is **omnipotent** (Matt. 19:26) – How does God restrain the use of His power and remain good? God doesn't do everything He could. I don't have all power – I am not responsible for what is beyond my power. Might doesn't make right.
- God is **omnipresent and immanent** (Jer. 23:23-24) – He is near, present influence – He is still just – even when wrong is done in His presence – I am not responsible for someplace my influence has never touched; but my influence can extend beyond my presence (words, texts, lives, etc...). I am not morally responsible for everything that happens in my presence, or to control everything in my presence, but am responsible for my actions, reactions, and influence.
- God is **omniscient** (Ps. 147:5) – knows all things actual and potential – I am not responsible for what I don't know. I am responsible for what I do and should know. I am not always obligated to reveal or act upon what I know.
- God is **sovereign** (Deut. 4:39) – authority and rights come from God
- God is **merciful** (Ps. 103:8-17) – we should show mercy b/c we have received mercy
- God is **gracious** – (1Pet. 5:8) – Kind and giving
- God is **faithful** – trustworthy. Keeps promises
- God is **true** – the grand reality – He hates lying
- God is **blessed** – He is happy of Himself – true pleasure.

Key Verse – Pro 14:2 He that walketh in his uprightness feareth the LORD: but he that is perverse in his ways despiseth him.

Pro 22:4 By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches, and honour, and life.