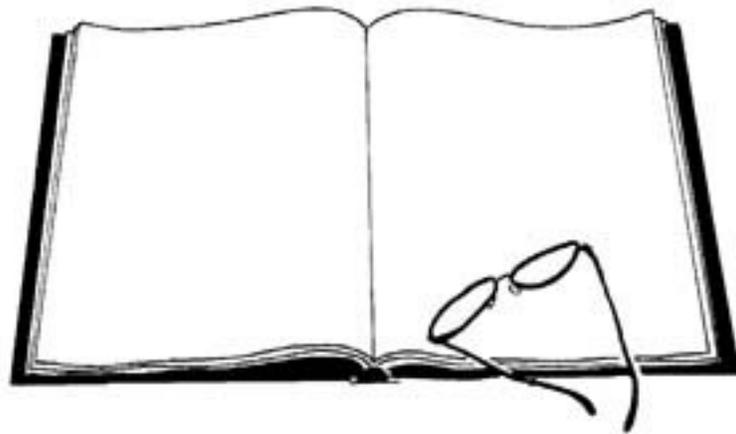


# **Alamo City Apostolic Church**

**The “What the Bible Says” Discipleship Series**

## **Unit 1**



**What the Bible Says About**

# **GOD**

**BY PASTOR KELLY NIX**

## WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT GOD

### ***Lesson objective:***

To familiarize the student with what the Bible, God’s Word, has to say about the existence and nature of the one true God. To familiarize the student with God’s Word, the Bible. To introduce the student to a personal relationship with God.

### ***Key verse:***

#### **Deuteronomy 6:4-5**

4. Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God is one Lord:
5. And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

### ***Introduction:***

Contrary to what many believe, the Bible states with clear authority that there is only one God. Furthermore, it introduces this one true God to us through a process of progressive revelation. In the beginning, we see Him simply as the mighty Creator of the universe; by the end of the Scriptures, we know Him in an intimate and personal way, as our Savior and our Father. Through the different lessons of this study, we will explore the nature and attributes of God, His dealings with mankind, His plan for man’s redemption (and the wonderful way in which He fulfilled this plan), and the awesome power contained in His name.

## SECTION 1: GOD IS

The Bible, God’s Word, is a fascinating book. It carries us back to the very beginning of the universe, describes to us in detail its creation, and then launches us into a compelling account of the history of man and the development of civilization. It presents us with a legal system upon which mankind has never been able to improve, introduces us to beautiful oriental prose and poetry, and presents us with amazingly detailed genealogical records. It carries us into kings’ courts and teaches us civics. It also presents to us, in language simple enough for a child to understand, a fail-proof set of instructions on how to find salvation and deliverance from sin.

There is one thing, however, that the Bible does not do. The Bible never attempts to prove the existence of God. Why? Simply because it advances on the principle that only a fool could look at the wonders of nature all around us and doubt that God exists.

**“The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God” (Psalm 14:1).**

**“Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse” (Romans 1:19-20).**

That’s why, instead of launching into an argument on the existence of God, the Bible simply starts this great account out by saying,

**“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth” (Genesis 1:1).**

Before a man or a woman can successfully approach God, he or she must be fully convinced of the following two things: 1) God exists, and 2) He will reward those who earnestly seek Him.

**“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him” (Hebrews 11:6).**

If you can believe these two concepts, you will have great success in your quest for spiritual fulfillment.

## GOD IS THE CREATOR

The theory of evolution asserts that the world (and the whole universe) is not the result of a creative act by God (in fact, it denies the existence of God), but rather the result of a set of accidental circumstances. While the purpose of this lesson is not to go into a scientific discussion of creation versus evolution, suffice it to say that the mathematical probability of any one of the many “accidents” required to validate the theory of evolution actually happening is not even remotely possible. The Word of God declares that the universe and everything in it is the result of God’s conscious design and handiwork.

**“For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also. The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land” (Psalm 95:3-5).**

**“Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear” (Hebrews 11:3).**

Ask yourself this question: What are the chances that, should all of the different gears, springs, and parts already *happen* to have *spontaneously* come into existence, being of *precisely* the proper measurements, if you were to take all of these parts, place them in a jar, and shake them vigorously, they should *by themselves* unite into a working wristwatch, already set to the proper time? Even if you should attempt this process **millions of times over**, the chance of a working wristwatch being born of parts randomly shaken together is **less than nonexistent**. *And yet, the theory of evolution, which teaches that this is precisely the type of process that brought the universe into existence, is called a “science”, and the Biblical teaching of an intelligent Creator is dismissed as fiction...*

**“Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools... (Romans 1:21-22).**

The Bible declares that God is the sole Creator of the universe; no other divine being existed or was present with Him at creation.

**“Thus saith the Lord, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the Lord that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself” (Isaiah 44:24).**

**“For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the Lord; and there is none else” (Isaiah 45:18).**

Everything that exists, be it plant, animal, mineral, or human, is the handiwork of God. He made it all by Himself, and He made it for His pleasure.

**“Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.” (Revelation 4:11).**

## THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

God possesses a number of attributes or qualities that, together, make Him what He is. The following lists have been adapted from the book *The Oneness of God*, by Rev. David K. Bernard:

### God’s Personal Attributes

1. God is a *Spirit*  
**“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth” (John 4:24).**
2. God is *invisible*  
**“Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen” (I Timothy 1:17).**
3. God is *omnipresent* (present everywhere)  
**“That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: For in him we live, and move, and have our being...” (Acts 17:27-28).**
4. God is *omniscient* (knows all things)  
**“I know that thou canst do every thing, and that no thought can be withholden from thee” (Job 42:2).**
5. God is *omnipotent* (has all power)  
**“... Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth” (Revelation 19:6).**

6. God is *eternal* (without beginning or ending)  
**“I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty” (Revelation 1:8)**
7. God is *immutable* (unchanging)  
**“... I am the Lord, I change not...” (Malachi 3:6).**

### **God’s Moral Attributes**

1. Love  
**“...God is love” (I John 4:8).**
2. Light  
**“...God is light...” (I John 1:5).**
3. Holiness  
**“...I am holy” (I Peter 1:16).**
4. Mercy  
**“The Lord is merciful...” (Psalm 103:8).**
5. Gentleness  
**“...thy gentleness hath made me great” (Psalm 18:35).**
6. Righteousness  
**“The Lord is righteous...” (Psalm 129:4).**
7. Goodness  
**“...the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance...” (Romans 2:4).**
8. Perfection  
**“...your Father which is in heaven is perfect” (Matthew 5:48).**
9. Justice  
**“...a just God...” (Isaiah 45:21).**
10. Faithfulness  
**“...God is faithful...” (I Corinthians 10:13).**
11. Truth  
**“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth” (John 17:17).**
12. Grace  
**“The Lord is...gracious...” (Psalm 103:8).**

### **THE WORD OF GOD**

It would not be proper to close out this lesson without taking a brief look at the means by which God has chosen to communicate with humanity. His thoughts, commandments, counsel, and instructions are delivered to us through the pages of His Word, the Bible.

The Bible is actually a collection of different books: to be exact, 66. These 66 books were written by different men, and most of them never knew each other. The Bible covers over 4,000 years of the history of the world, and also provides prophetic insight into our day and beyond. It has two major divisions, the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Old Testament has 39 books, and the New Testament has 27.

## Books of the Bible

### Old Testament

Genesis	I Kings	Ecclesiastes	Obadiah
Exodus	II Kings	Song of Solomon	Jonah
Leviticus	I Chronicles	Isaiah	Micah
Numbers	II Chronicles	Jeremiah	Nahum
Deuteronomy	Ezra	Lamentations	Habakkuk
Joshua	Nehemiah	Ezekiel	Zephaniah
Judges	Esther	Daniel	Haggai
Ruth	Job	Hosea	Zechariah
I Samuel	Psalms	Joel	Malachi
II Samuel	Proverbs	Amos	

### New Testament

Matthew	II Corinthians	I Timothy	II Peter
Mark	Galatians	II Timothy	I John
Luke	Ephesians	Titus	II John
John	Philippians	Philemon	III John
Acts	Colossians	Hebrews	Jude
Romans	I Thessalonians	James	Revelation
I Corinthians	II Thessalonians	I Peter	

Between the Old and New Testaments are 400 years of silence, during which God is not recorded as speaking to man.

The Old Testament consists of 5 major divisions: Law (Genesis – Deuteronomy), History (Joshua – Esther), Poetry (Job – Song of Solomon), Major Prophets (Isaiah – Daniel), and Minor Prophets (Hosea – Malachi). The terms “Major Prophets” and “Minor Prophets” have nothing to do with the importance of the writers, but simply refer to the size of the books they wrote.

The New Testament has 4 major divisions: the Books of the Gospel (Matthew – John), History (Acts), the Epistles (Romans – Jude), and Prophecy (Revelation). The Epistles are letters written to the church by the apostles.

Even though these books had many writers, they have only one author – God Himself. According to the Bible, the Scriptures are inspired by God, and are not to be interpreted to suit our own desires. They are His Word, and must be interpreted in the light of His nature, His identity, His will, and His purpose.

**“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness” (II Timothy 3:16).**

**“We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For**

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**the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of  
God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost” (II Peter 1:19-21).**

### CONCLUSION

The only way for a man or woman to find true happiness is by establishing a deep, loving, and obedient relationship with his or her Creator, God. He is the source of our lives, and He holds the answers to our personal happiness. If you will approach Him in faith, believing that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him, you can enjoy all of the blessings contained in His many attributes, and can find sound direction for your life in His Word.

**Student Exercises – Unit 1**

(Please complete, detach, and give to teacher)

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_

1. Name three of God's moral attributes:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. How many books make up the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_

- How many in the Old Testament? \_\_\_\_\_
- How many in the New Testament? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Does the Bible attempt to prove the existence of God? \_\_\_\_\_  
Why, or why not?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. When God created the universe, was He alone, or was there another divine "person" or "persons" with Him? \_\_\_\_\_

Give a verse of the Scripture to support your answer: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Write the books of the Old Testament, in order:

- |           |           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____  | 11. _____ | 21. _____ | 31. _____ |
| 2. _____  | 12. _____ | 22. _____ | 32. _____ |
| 3. _____  | 13. _____ | 23. _____ | 33. _____ |
| 4. _____  | 14. _____ | 24. _____ | 34. _____ |
| 5. _____  | 15. _____ | 25. _____ | 35. _____ |
| 6. _____  | 16. _____ | 26. _____ | 36. _____ |
| 7. _____  | 17. _____ | 27. _____ | 37. _____ |
| 8. _____  | 18. _____ | 28. _____ | 38. _____ |
| 9. _____  | 19. _____ | 29. _____ | 39. _____ |
| 10. _____ | 20. _____ | 30. _____ |           |

6. Write the books of the New Testament, in order:

- |          |           |           |           |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 8. _____  | 15. _____ | 22. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 9. _____  | 16. _____ | 23. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 10. _____ | 17. _____ | 24. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 11. _____ | 18. _____ | 25. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 12. _____ | 19. _____ | 26. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 13. _____ | 20. _____ | 27. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 14. _____ | 21. _____ |           |