

About God

What We Believe

Throughout history, the questions "Is there a God?" and "of the gods, which are real?" have been asked. From the evidence on the temple walls, the Egyptians had difficulty deciding who or what the gods were. Myths and legends arose to explain conditions and events observed but not understood in the East. The Greeks borrowed from the religions of the East. Romans changed their ideas to absorb the beliefs of the Greeks. National gods were invented to explain how one people could dominate others. In time, beauty and wealth became the standard for choosing a god to worship. A god with desirable physical attributes became the idol of people who accepted only a physical existence.

There are two main thoughts concerning the existence of a superior being in modern times. Both depend upon how the presence of the Earth is understood. Some say there is no God, and the Earth either always existed or developed naturally along with the Universe. Some say the Earth shows evidence of planning and design and therefore had a superior being as a creator. Here people divide into two groups. One group says a knowledgeable and all-powerful being created everything and allowed it to continue independently. The other group argues that the God of the Bible created and still controls the Universe.

The idea that the Earth has always been or came from nothing but natural happenings does not agree with nature's laws. Nothing comes from nothing, and matter must come from some resource. Only one conclusion is possible after all arguments are laid open for examination. Only an unlimited power source can direct the energy necessary to produce the Universe and all matter it contains. The God described in the Bible is such a source. The Bible describes a dedicated plan to bring material into existence then reshape and animate that material into the Heavens and Earth as we know them today. *"Ah Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for You"* (Jeremiah 32:17). Living forever, He ensures that all things continue until His entire plan is complete. *"Of old You founded the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands. Even they will perish, but You endure; And all of them will wear out like a garment; Like clothing You will change them and they will be changed. But You are the same, And Your years will not come to an end"* (Psalms 102:25-27).

People use three primary methods to defend their position that the God of the Bible, The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, is the only All-Powerful living God and the creator of all material and life. There are philosophical arguments that discuss the possibilities and probabilities of creation and a designer-engineer capable of creating. There is internal evidence, using Bible passages to explain that God planned and created the Universe and everything in it. There is external, outside the Bible evidence that a designer conceived and created them and employed by both sides of an argument. The two sides are creationists who argue that God was the creator and evolutionists who say that all things came through natural causes. Only the internal evidence, written in the Bible, identify the God of Heaven as the creator. In its final form, the question becomes, "Is there one opinion on the existence of the Universe that we must believe?"

With all the books and lectures available, and the positions supporting each view considered, there is only one book that says, *"Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near when you will say, I have no delight in them"* (Ecclesiastes 12:1). That

book further says, *"Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the Earth Does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable"* (Isaiah 40:28). Only one book says this about those who deny that God is the creator, *"For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever"* (Romans 1:25).

Only one book offers reasonable evidence, not guesses or theories, to back up its claim. The facts in that book reveal that the God of Heaven is the first and only cause. The cause of everything seen, touched, or otherwise sensed by people. The one God who says to those that do not worship Him, *"Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD*" (Isaiah 1:18). And to Job who questioned Him, God answered, *"I will ask you, and you instruct Me. "Will you really annul My judgment? Will you condemn Me that you may be justified? "Or do you have an arm like God, And can you thunder with a voice like His?"* (Job 40:7-9). No person or other being is like or has the capabilities of The God of The Bible.

We are the beneficiaries of God's grace. Do we give Him the honor He deserves (Malachi 1:6)?