
THEISM

LESSON 5: CHRISTIANITY: GOD



GOD IS TRANSCENDENT AND IMMANENT

- Christianity is an open system
- There is a transcendent God acting on the world
- Transcendent: God who is beyond and separated from time and space
- Immanent: God who is with us in the world

GOD IS PERSONAL

- The universe we experience suggests an intelligent, purposeful, and personal designer
- The biblical God created humans in “His own image.”
- We cannot bend God to our expectations

PSALM 50:21

- *You have done these things and I kept silent; you thought I was just like you. But I will rebuke you and lay out the case before you.*

GOD HAS MADE HIMSELF KNOWN

- God is transcendent: beyond and separated from the world
- God is immanent: in the world
- God made Himself visible in the person of Jesus Christ

JOHN 14:6-9

- *Jesus told him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. If you know me, you will also know my Father. From now on you do know Him and see Him.” “Lord,” Phillip said, “Show us the Father, and that’s enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been among you all this time without you knowing Me, Phillip? The one who has seen Me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’*

GOD HAS MADE HIMSELF KNOWN

- God sustains the world
- *For everything was created by Him, in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities- all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and by Him all things hold together. Colossians 1:16-17*

GOD HAS CREATED

- Because God is our creator, human life has special meaning.
- We were created for a purpose
- The creation was “meab tob” immeasurably good in all ways. (Genesis 1:31)