



Major Bible Themes

52 VITAL DOCTRINES OF THE SCRIPTURE
SIMPLIFIED AND EXPLAINED

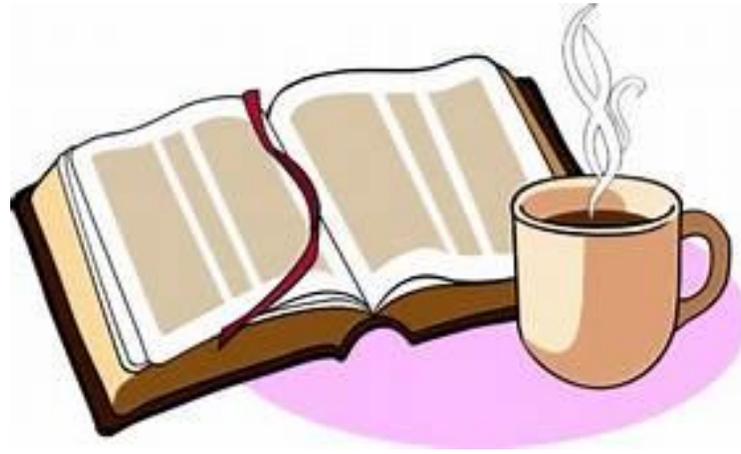
Lewis Sperry Chafer

REVISED BY

John F. Walvoord

Chapter Five: God the Trinity

Devotional Thought...



Jehovah-rapha, "the LORD who healeth"

Exo 15:26 ... *I will put none of the diseases on you that I put on the Egyptians, for I am **the LORD, your healer.**"*

Review Chapter One: The Bible

A. Internal Evidence

2Tim 3:16 *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God...*

The Word of God



B. External

S Subject

L Literature

I Influence

C Continuity

E Extent

S Supreme

U Unprejudiced (Gives the weakness of men)

S Science (Confirms the Bible)



...ory about people
(changed lives)

...ok)

Review Chapter Two: The Bible

Inspired of God

Important Passages on Inspiration

2Pet 1:20-21 *knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.*

Testimony of Christ

Qualifying Considerations

Theories of Inspiration



T
's
Q
T

Review Chapter Three: The Bible

It's Subject and Purpose

The Bible is a Ship carrying the...



S

Subject

Christ

H

History

of Man

I

Incarnate

Word who is: (Creator, Ruler, Savior)

P

Purpose

Glorify God

The Bible

As a Devine Revelation

The Bible is a...



S Special Revelation

I Interpretation

D Divine Revelation

1. In Creation
2. In Christ
3. In the Word

1. Purpose of the Bible as a whole
2. Message of each book
3. To who it was addressed
4. Context
5. Similar Teaching
6. Accurate Exegesis
7. Guard against Prejudice

Step # One

Find the Outline



MBT Chapter Five Outline

A. Belief in the Existence of God

B. Unity of the Divine Trinity

C. Names of God

D. Attributes of God

E. Sovereignty of God

F. The Decree of God

Understand It



MBT Chapter Five Outline

A. Belief in the Existence of God

The belief that a divine being exists greater than man has been common to all cultures and civilizations. This has been due in part to the fact that man reasons there must be an explanation for our world and for human experience, and that a being greater than man would serve to explain this. Man seems intuitively, by his very religious nature, to reach out to some sort of higher being.

Understand It



MBT Chapter Five Outline A. Belief in the Existence of God

Various systems of thought have evolved:

- (1) **polytheism**, the belief in many gods;
- (2) **hylozoism**, that identifies the life principle found in all creation as being God Himself;
- (3) **materialism**, which argues that matter is self-functioning according to natural law and no god is necessary to its functioning, a theory supporting modern evolutionism
- (4) **pantheism** which holds that God is impersonal and identical with nature itself, that God is immanent but not transcendent.

Understand It



MBT Chapter Five Outline

A. Belief in the Existence of God

In arguing for the existence of God from the facts of creation apart from the revelation of Scripture, there are four general classes of reasonings:

- (1) The **ontological argument** holds that God must exist because man universally believes that He exists.
- 2) The **cosmological argument** holds that every effect must have its sufficient cause and, therefore, the universe, which is an effect, must have a Creator as its cause.

Understand It



MBT Chapter Five Outline

(3) The **teleological argument** points out that every design must have its designer, and as the whole creation is intricately designed and interrelated, creation must have a great designer

(4) The **anthropological argument** argues from the nature and existence of man as being unexplained apart from creation by God who has a nature similar to but greater than man's.

Understand It



MBT Chapter Five Outline

B. Unity of the Divine Trinity

In general, the Old Testament emphasizes the unity of God, a fact which is also taught in the New Testament. Both the Old Testament and to a greater extent the New Testament, however, also indicate that God exists as a Trinity - God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit.

Understand It



MBT Chapter Five Outline C. Names of God

In the Old Testament, **three** principal names are ascribed to God. The **first** name, "Jehovah" or "Yahweh" is the name of God applied only to the true God. The **second** name for God in the Old Testament is elohim, a word which is used both for the true God and for gods of the heathen world. The **third** name for God in the Old Testament is adonai, which commonly means "master" or "lord" and is used not only of God as our Master but also of men who are masters over their servants. Many combinations of these names of God are found in the Old Testament.

Understand It



MBT Chapter Five Outline

D. Attributes of God

In the essential being of God, there are certain inherent attributes or essential qualities of God. These attributes are eternally held by the Triune God and are equal for each person of the Godhead.

E. Sovereignty of God

The attributes of God make clear that God is supreme over all. He yields to no other power, authority or glory, and is not subject to any absolute greater than Himself

Understand It



MBT Chapter Five Outline

F. The Decree of God

The sovereign purpose of God is defined theologically as the decree of God, referring to the comprehensive plan that includes all events of every classification which will occur.

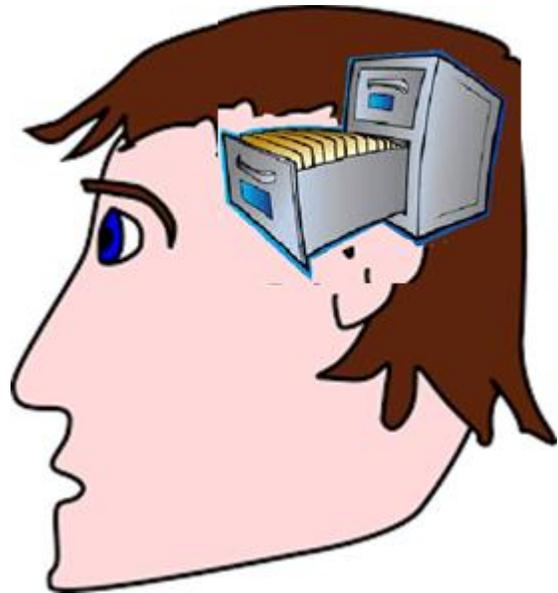
Write it Down



MBT Chapter Five Outline

- A. Belief in the Existence of God**
- B. Unity of the Divine Trinity**
- C. Names of God**
- D. Attributes of God**
- E. Sovereignty of God**
- F. The Decree of God**

Memorize it



MBT Chapter Five Outline

A. Belief in the Existence of God

B. Unity of the Divine Trinity

C. Names of God

D. Attributes of God

E. Sovereignty of God

F. The Decree of God

Here is an Acrostic to help you...

God the Trinity ...

B Belief in the Existence of God

A Attributes of God

N Names of God

T The Decree of God

U Unity of the Divine Trinity

S Sovereignty of God



Step # Two

Read the Section and look up the passages



A. Belief in the Existence of God

Psalm 14:1 *The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."*

Rom 1:18-20 *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.*

B. Unity of the Divine Trinity

The Old Testament emphasizes the unity of God

Exo 20:3 *"You shall have no other gods before me.*

Deut 6:4 *"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.*

Isa 44:6 *Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god.*

The New Testament emphasizes the unity of God

John 10:30 *I and the Father are one.*"

John 14:9 *Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.*
How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?"

John 17:11 *And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.*

John 17:22 *The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one,*

John 17:23 *I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.*

Col 1:15 *He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.*

Old Testament distinctions within the nature of God:

Plural personal pronouns are used for God

Gen 1:26 *Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.*

Gen 3:22 *Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil.*

The Spirit of God is distinct:

Gen 1:2 *... And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.*

Gen 6:3 *Then the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years."*

Psalm 104:30 *When you send forth your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.*

The Son is distinct from the Father and the Spirit but is called God

Isa 7:14 *Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.*

Isa 9:6 *For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

The New Testament gives additional distinctions.

John 14:16 *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,*

Mat 3:17 *and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."*

Mat 28:19 *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,*

C. Names of God

"Jehovah" or "Yahweh"

First appears in connection with the Creation

Gen 2:4 *These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.*

The name is defined as the "I am that I am," that is, the self-existent, eternal God.

Exo 3:13-14 *Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"*

Elohim

The "strong one" and being one to be feared or revered.

Gen 1:1 *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.*

Adonai

Means "master" or "lord" and is used not only of God as our Master but also of men

It is frequently joined to Elohim...

Gen 15:2 *But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"*

Jehovah-jireh, meaning "the LORD will provide"

Gen 22:14 *So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."*

Jehovah-rapha, "the LORD who healeth"

Exo 15:26 *... I will put none of the diseases on you that I put on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, your healer."*

Jehovah nissi, "the LORD my banner"

Exo 17:15 *And Moses built an altar and called the name of it, The LORD Is My Banner,*

Jehovah-shalom, "the LORD our peace"

Judges 6:24 *Then Gideon built an altar there to the LORD and called it, The LORD Is Peace...*

Jehovah-tsidkenu, "the LORD our righteousness"

Jer 23:6 *In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.'*

Jehovah-shammah "the LORD is present"

Eze 48:35 *... And the name of the city from that time on shall be, The LORD Is There.*

D. Attributes of God

God is a Spirit

John 4:24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

God is life

John 5:26 For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself.

God is self-existent

Exo 3:14 God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM."

God is immutable or changeless

Psalm 102:27 *but you are the same, and your years have no end.*

Mal 3:6 *"For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.*

God is truth

Isaiah 65:16 *So that he who blesses himself in the land shall bless himself by the God of truth,...*

God is love

1Jn 4:8 *Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.*

God is eternal

Psalm 90:2 *Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.*

God is holy

1Peter 1:16 *since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy."*

God is omnipresent

Psalm 139:8 *If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!*

God is omniscient

Psalm 147:4-5 *He determines the number of the stars;* *he gives to all of them their names. Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.*

God is omnipotent

Mat 19:26 *But Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."*

E. Sovereignty of God

Sovereign in Salvation

John 6:44 *No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him.*

Sovereign in His plan

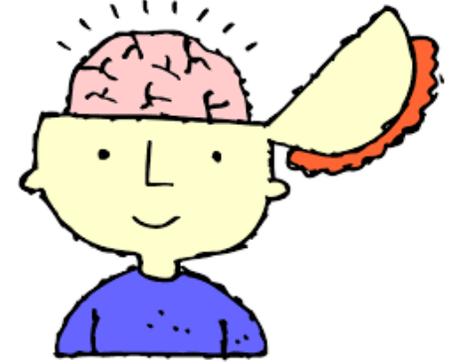
Act 2:23 *this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.*

Sovereign over men

Dan 4:32 *... until thou know that the most High rules in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.*

Step # Three

Memorize one Passage per section



Learn general and specific later.

- Highlight key words
- Understand difficult words and the meaning

A. Belief in the Existence of God

Psalm 14:1 *The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."*

Read out loud 5 times what you are trying to memorize



Write the verse on paper or put the verse into you phone



B. Unity of the Divine Trinity

Mat 28:19 *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the **Father** and of the **Son** and of the **Holy Spirit**,*

Read out loud 5 times what you are trying to memorize

Write the verse on paper or put the verse into you phone



C. Names of God

Gen 22:14 *So Abraham called the name of that place, "**The LORD will provide**"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided."*

Read out loud 5 times what you are trying to memorize

Write the verse on paper or put the verse into you phone



D. Attributes of God

1Peter 1:16 *since it is written, "You shall be holy, for **I am holy.**"*

Read out loud 5 times what you are trying to memorize



Write the verse on paper or put the verse into you phone



E. Sovereignty of God

John 6:44 *No one can come to me **unless the Father who sent me draws him.***

Read out loud 5 times what you are trying to memorize



Write the verse on paper or put the verse into you phone



Step # Four Take the Test at the end of the chapter

Chapter Five: God the Trinity



1. How can we account for the common belief in the existence of God?

The belief that a divine being exists greater than man has been common to all cultures and civilizations. This has been due in part to the fact that man reasons there must be an explanation for our world and for human experience, and that a being greater than man would serve to explain this. Man seems intuitively, by his very religious nature, to reach out to some sort of higher being.

2. Why is atheism unreasonable?

The modern phenomenon of many who claim to be atheists arises from the perversion of man's mind and the denial that any rational explanation of the universe is possible. Accordingly, the Bible declares an atheist to be a fool (Ps. 14:1).

3. How clear is the revelation of God in nature?

Enough to Condemn Man "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."

4. Define four systems of thought which attempt to explain the universe on the basis of a higher being.

(1) The **ontological argument** holds that God must exist because man universally believes that He exists.

2) The **cosmological argument** holds that every effect must have its sufficient cause and, therefore, the universe, which is an effect, must have a Creator as its cause.

(3) The **teleological argument** points out that every design must have its designer, and as the whole creation is intricately designed and interrelated, creation must have a great designer

(4) The **anthropological argument** argues from the nature and existence of man as being unexplained apart from creation by God who has a nature similar to but greater than man's.

5. What is the ontological argument for the existence of God?

(1) The **ontological argument** holds that God must exist because man universally believes that He exists.

6. What is the cosmological argument for the existence of God?

2) The **cosmological argument** holds that every effect must have its sufficient cause and, therefore, the universe, which is an effect, must have a Creator as its cause.

7. What is the teleological argument for the existence of God?

(3) The **teleological argument** points out that every design must have its designer, and as the whole creation is intricately designed and interrelated, creation must have a great designer

8. What is the anthropological argument for the existence of God?

(4) The **anthropological argument** argues from the nature and existence of man as being unexplained apart from creation by God who has a nature similar to but greater than man's.

9. To what extent does the Old and New Testament emphasize the unity of God

In general, the Old Testament emphasizes the unity of God

10. To what extent does the Old Testament teach the doctrine of the Trinity?

Both the Old Testament and to a greater extent the New Testament, however, also indicate that God exists as a Trinity

11. To what extent does the New Testament teach the doctrine of the Trinity?

In the New Testament there is additional revelation. Here in the Person of Jesus Christ is God incarnate, conceived by the Holy Spirit and yet Son of God the Father. At the baptism of Jesus, the distinctions in the Trinity are evident with God the Father speaking from heaven, the Holy Spirit descending like a dove and lighting upon Him, and Jesus Himself being baptized

12. Distinguish the doctrine of the Trinity from Tritheism

Trinity is 3 in one. Tritheism is 3 separate Gods

13. Why is the Trinity not to be explained as three modes of existence of God?

The Trinity must not be explained as three modes of existence, that is, one God manifesting Himself in three ways. God exists in 3 distinct persons

14. Explain how the Trinity is distinguished by certain properties.

It is best defined as holding that, while God is one, He exists as three persons. These persons are equal, have the same attributes, and are equally worthy of adoration, worship, and faith. It is not three Gods.

15.State and define the three most important names for God in the Old Testament.

The **first** name, "Jehovah" or "Yahweh" is the name of God applied only to the true God. The **second** name for God in the Old Testament is elohim, a word which is used both for the true God and for gods of the heathen world. The **third** name for God in the Old Testament is adonai, which commonly means "master" or "lord"

16.What are some of the compound names for God in the Old Testament?

Jehovah-jireh, meaning "the LORD will provide"

Jehovah-rapha, "the LORD who healeth"

Jehovah nissi, "the LORD my banner"

17. What are the distinguishing titles of the three persons of the Trinity in the New Testament?

Father, Son, Holy Spirit

18. Name some of the important attributes of God as revealed in Scripture.

God is self-existent

God is love

God is a Spirit

God is truth

God is life

God is immutable

19. What is meant by the sovereignty of God?

God is supreme over all. He yields to no other power, authority or glory, and is not subject to any absolute greater than Himself.

20. What is meant by the decree of God?

The sovereign purpose of God is defined theologically as the decree of God, referring to the comprehensive plan that includes all events of every classification which will occur.

21. How can the decree of God be subdivided?

The decree of God may be divided into subdivisions such as His decree to create, His decree to preserve the world, His decree of providence, or His wise guidance of the universe. His decree includes the promises or covenants of God, the dispensations.

22. How can the decree of God be distinguished from fatalism?

The decree of God is not fatalism - a blind, mechanical control of all events - but is an intelligent, loving, and wise plan in which man, responsible for his choices, is held accountable for what he does and rewarded for his good works.

23. Why does the biblical revelation of God demand our submission, love and adoration in relation to Him?

In God's purpose, His grace manifested toward man. Before such a God who possesses such magnificent attributes, man can only bow in submission, love and adoration.