

THE DEEP THINGS OF GOD

"But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, THE DEEP THINGS OF GOD"
(1st Corinthians 2:10)

1. God's **ETERNAL EXISTENCE**

*Genesis 1:1—"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

*John 1:1—"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

a. The words 'In the beginning was the Word' mean 'Whenever anything else began THE WORD WAS.'

*Exodus 3:13-14—"Then Moses said to God, 'Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, The God of your fathers has sent me to you, and they say to me, What is His name? What shall I say to them?' And God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM.' And He said, 'Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you'."

*John 8:56-58—"Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad. Then the Jews said to Him, 'You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?' Jesus said to them, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM'."

*QUESTION: What happened in the Garden of Gethsemane when Jesus said "I AM?" (John 18:5-6)

2. God's **ATTRIBUTES**

*OMNIPOTENT—Romans 1:20: "For since the creation of the world His INVISIBLE ATTRIBUTES are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His ETERNAL POWER and Godhead."

*OMNISCIENCE—1st John 3:30: "God is greater than our heart, and KNOWS ALL THINGS."

*OMNIPRESENT—Jeremiah 23:23-24: "Am I a God near at hand, says the LORD, and not a God afar off? Can anyone hide himself in secret places, so I shall not see him? says the LORD; Do not I fill heaven and earth?"

*Food for thought—Men have created their own "gods" and "Super Heroes," but their puny imaginations can't conceive of One who is "all powerful...all-knowing....and in all places." Satan will introduce a man with "super powers" (see 2nd Thessalonians 2:8-9 and Revelation 13:11-15), but he will pale in comparison to God.

3. God's **GLORY**

*Exodus 33:18-20—"And he (Moses) said, 'Please, show me Your glory.' Then He said, 'I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you...But He said, 'You cannot see My face; FOR NO MAN SHALL SEE ME, AND LIVE.'"

*1st Timothy 6:15-16—"He who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, Who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, WHOM NO MAN HAS SEEN OR CAN SEE."

*QUESTION: Did Moses see ANY of God's Glory? (see Exodus 33:21-23)

*QUESTION: What effect did this have on Moses? (see Exodus 34:29-35)

*QUESTION: Can we see God's glory today and what effects will it have on us? (see 2nd Corinthians 3:18 with Acts 7: 54-60)

4. God's **WAYS & THOUGHTS**

*Isaiah 55:8-9—"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, says the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts."

*Plan of SALVATION—1st Corinthians 1:17-21: "For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel, not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of no effect. For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.' Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe."

*Plan of THE AGES—Romans 11:33-36: "Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has been His counselor? Or who has first given to Him and it shall be repaid to him? For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen."

*Plan for BELIEVERS' LIVES—Romans 8:28: "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."

5. God's **LOVE**

*Ephesians 3:17-19—"That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in LOVE, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height—to know the LOVE OF CHRIST WHICH PASSES KNOWLEDGE; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

*1st John 4:19—"We love Him because He first loved us." (Our FIRST comprehension of His love was at the cross. We will always be learning of His inexhaustible love, so there will never be a LAST time.)

6. God's **PERSON**

*Matthew 11:27—"All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and NO ONE KNOWS THE SON except the Father. NOR DOES ANYONE KNOW THE FATHER except the Son, and the one to whom the Son will to reveal Him."

*The Son reveals the Father—John 1:18: "No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him."

*The Father reveals the Son—Matthew 16:13-17: "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am? So they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered and said, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' Jesus answered and said to him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.'"

*Our knowledge will always be LIMITED though, for God is INFINITE and we are FINITE! For an example of this, compare 1st Timothy 3:16 with Isaiah 50:4 and Luke 2:52. God is ALL-KNOWING, yet Jesus "grew in wisdom!"

There are many other DEEP THINGS OF GOD (such as THE TRINITY). Though we may never understand these things fully, we can praise God that He "has revealed them (in part) to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches all things, yes the DEEP THINGS OF GOD."

The First Cause Argument

The first cause argument (or “cosmological argument”) takes the existence of the universe to entail the existence of a being that created it. It does so based on the fact that the universe had a beginning. There must, the first cause says, be something that caused that beginning, a first cause of the universe.

The universe consists of a series of events stretched across time in a long causal chain. Each one of these events is the cause of the event that comes after it, and the effect of the event that comes before it. The world as it is came from the world as it was, which came from the world as it was before.

If we trace this series of events back in time, then what do we find? There seems, at first glance, to be two possibilities: either we eventually reach the first event in the series, the cause at the beginning of the universe that set everything going, or there is no first event in the series and the past stretches back into infinity.

The first cause argument tells us that the second of these is not possible, that the past cannot stretch back into infinity but rather must have a beginning. The argument then proceeds by suggesting that if the universe has a beginning then there must be something outside it that brought it into existence. This being outside the universe, this Creator, the first cause argument tells us, is God.

The First Cause Must be Uncreated, Eternal

If this Creator were a being like the universe, a being that exists in time and so that came into existence, then it too would have to have been created by something. Nothing comes from nothing, not even God.

This tells us that the ultimate cause of the universe must never have come into existence; the ultimate Creator must be a being that exists outside of time, an eternal being with neither beginning nor end.

Four Views on the Origin of the Universe

1. PANTHEISM—the universe and God are one.
2. MATERIALISM—matter is eternal and through the working of the forces of physics, mechanics, etc. cosmic bodies were formed, along with vegetable and animal life.
3. DEISM—there was an eternal and infinite mind, but there was also eternal matter, and the two worked together to make the universe.
4. THEISM---an eternal Personality known as God brought all things into existence.

Genesis 1:1 refutes “the eternity of matter” (views #2 and #3) and also the theory that “God and the universe are one” (view #1). See also Hebrews 11:3; John 1:1-3 and Colossians 1:16-17.