

DEFINITION AND IMPORTANCE OF THEOLOGY



**Theology is
the study of
GOD**

- 1 we learn about God
- and then...
2 we can respond in worship to the one true God

we learn about God

we will never fully understand God, however we can learn *some* things about Him that He revealed through His Word

God wants us to understand as much about Him as we can

just as we desire to learn about our friends and family, we want to learn about our Creator



we can worship the true God

remember: worship should be our natural and authentic response to learning about the one true God

the more we discover about God, the more we are compelled to worship Him

if we fail to learn about God, then we will be worshipping a god of our own design... an idol

studying theology leads to WORSHIP

“

Kelly M. Kopic¹

Christians must care deeply about theology. If the true God is renewing our lives and calling us to worship him “in spirit and truth” (Jn 4:23), then such worship includes our thoughts, words, affections and actions. Do we want to worship Yahweh or waste time and effort on a deity we have constructed in our own image?

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DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN THEOLOGY

Soteriology

the study of salvation

- conversion
- justification
- sanctification
- election



Ecclesiology

the study of the Church

- the unity of the Church
- leadership of the Church
- ordinances of the Church
- worship

Theology Proper

the study of God the Father

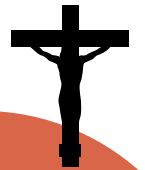
- the existence of God
- the providence of God
- the attributes of God
- God's creation
- miracles



Eschatology

the study of the future

- the return of Jesus
- the tribulation period
- the Millennium Kingdom
- final judgment
- heaven and hell



Christology

the study of Jesus Christ

- the deity of Christ
- the humanity of Christ
- atonement
- the resurrection of Christ



Anthropology

the study of man

- the creation of man
- the fall of man
- the nature of man



Bibliology

the study of the Bible

- the inspiration of the Bible
- the adequacy of the Bible
- the clarity of the Bible
- the need for the Bible
- the inerrancy of the Bible



Pneumatology

the study of the Holy Spirit

- the work of the Spirit
- the filling of the Spirit
- the fruit of the Spirit
- the gifts of the Spirit



Angelology

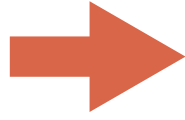
the study of angels

- the creation of angels
- the purpose of angels
- fallen angels (demons)
- spiritual warfare



THEOLOGY AND ITS RELIANCE ON SCRIPTURE

HOW
can we learn about
GOD?



GOD has
revealed Himself to us through
the Bible

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Wayne Grudem²
Even though we cannot know God exhaustively, we can know true things about God. In fact, *all that Scripture tells us about God is true.*

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1

the Bible is adequate

- the Bible contains all of the information God intended to give us
- the Bible contains enough information for us to learn about God
- the Bible contains enough information for us to obey God

2

the Bible is inerrant

- the Bible is the perfect Word of God that contains no errors
- the Bible paints an accurate picture of who God is
- everything found in the Bible is true