

**Study Guide for *Systematic
Theology, The Doctrine of God,*
by Charles Hodge**

**Extra Reading for the course:
"We Believe in God"**

ACADEMIC
PACKET

**RESOURCES FOR GROUPS
USING THE ACADEMIC PACKETS**



Read Charles Hodge, *Systematic Theology*, vol. 1, Part 1 (Theology Proper), chapters 1-5.

Answer the review questions. The first number of the question indicates the chapter.

1.1 According to Hodge, do all men have some knowledge of God?

1.2. What is meant by "innate knowledge" of God?

1.3. "...Men no more need to be taught that there is a God, than they need to be taught that there is such a thing as ____."

1.4. According to Hodge, is the universal knowledge of God the result of a reasoning process, by natural deduction?

1.5. Does Hodge believe that we should use arguments to prove the existence of God?

1.6. According to Hodge, what does each argument for the existence of God prove? Which element of the doctrine of Theism?

2.1. Describe each argument for the existence of God:

The ontological argument

The cosmological argument

The teleological argument

The moral or anthropological argument

2.2. Name key authors who used each argument:

The ontological argument

The cosmological argument

The teleological argument

The moral or anthropological argument

2.3. When Hodge argues that "every animal is a complete whole," that "each part has a designed and predetermined reference to every other part," which kind of argument is he using?

3.1. Describe each school of thought:

Atheism

Polytheism

Hylozoism

Materialism

3.2. What school of thought is represented by Locke, Hartley, Comte, and Priestly?

3.3. What are the intellectual consequences of materialism, according to Hodge?

3.4. What is "Positivism" (or "Positive Philosophy")?

3.5. What word is used to identify the idea that there is only one real Being, that there is no distinction between matter and mind, body and soul, God and the world?

3.6. What word is used to identify the idea that the whole universe is God?

3.7. The polytheistic system of Hinduism is founded on what philosophy?

3.8. Was Hinduism originally monotheistic?

3.9. "The fundamental principle or idea, therefore, of the Grecian philosophy was _____, either in its materialistic, spiritualistic, or hylozoistic form."

3.10. Did Plato believe in a personal God who was the creator and governor of the world?

3.11. Did Aristotle believe in a personal God who was the creator and governor of the world?

3.12. "It is no extravagance to say that _____ is the worst form of atheism."

4.1. What does Hodge mean when he says that God is "incomprehensible"?

4.2. Hodge teaches that the revelation of God in the external world agrees with what other revelation?

4.3. "It is one of the distinguishing doctrines of Protestants that _____ is essential to faith."

5.1. "In revealing, therefore, to us that God is a Spirit, it reveals to us that no attribute of _____ can be predicated of the divine essence."

5.2. Does saying that "God is infinite" mean the same as saying that "God is all"?

5.3. According to Hodge, is there a distinction between present, past, and future with God?

- 5.4. Hodge says that with God, "duration is an eternal ____."
- 5.5. What does it mean that God is "immutable"?
- 5.6. "This knowledge of God is not only all-comprehending, but it is _____ and immutable."
- 5.7. What is meant by some theologians, like Fonseca and Molina, when they speak of "scientia media"?
- 5.8. Does Hodge accept the idea of "scientia media," as theologians such as Fonseca and Molina understood it?
- 5.9. Would the Ten Commandments be considered God's "decretive" will or His "preceptive" will?
- 5.10. The Hebrew word for "justice" means _____ in a physical sense.
- 5.11. What is the primary purpose of God's punishment?
- 5.12. What is Hodge's answer to the question of how to reconcile the existence of evil with the concept of a holy all-powerful God?
- 5.13. The primary meaning of the Greek word for "truth" is _____.