

Theology Proper—Doctrine of God

Important Considerations Regarding God

I. Important distinctions of the Father

The Son and the Holy Spirit are considered in detail later, but we need to add a word here regarding the particular works of the Father.

Almost everything God does involves, in some way or other, all the Members of the Trinity. So when we speak of the particular works of the Father we are not excluding the other Persons, but simply delineating those things which seem to be the prerogative of the Father in a special way.

- The Father is the Author of the decree/plan of God (Ps 2:7–9).
- The Father is the Author in the act of election (Eph 1:3–6).
- The Father sent the Son to this world (Jn 5:37).
- The Father is the disciplinarian of His children (Heb 12:9).

II. Important ramifications of the Doctrine of God

There is no other God but the one we have been describing. Gods of our making, whether radically different from the God of the Bible or akin to Him, are false. Even good Christians can fall into the trap of trying to mold God according to their own thinking or wishes or pleasure. The result may be a god not dissimilar to the God of the Bible, but it will not be the true God.

We know God not because we can initiate or generate such knowledge, but because He has revealed Himself. Therefore, what we know does not come from our minds but from His revelation.

III. Important questions concerning the Doctrine of God

- Does God care?
- If God is good, why does He allow evil in this world?
- If God could prevent suffering, why does He allow it?
- Is one of God's attributes more prominent than others?

- Is God fair?
- Why would a good God condemn ignorant, unbelieving people to an eternity in hell?
- How do we reconcile the justice of God's judgment with His love?
- To what degree is God involved in our daily experiences as Christians?
- If God is absolutely sovereign over us, shouldn't He take responsibility for our sins and mistakes?
- If God is all-powerful and unrelenting in His love, why doesn't He answer my prayers?