

Do You Believe?

SEROMON TEXT

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV) 6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

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Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

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Thesis:

Men must come to obediently accept that God is and rules in the affairs of men.

Objectives:

- I. God's Existence
- II. God's Attributes
- III. God's Sovereignty
- IV. God's Unity

INTRODUCTION

"The history of mankind will probably show that no people has ever risen above its religion, and man's spiritual history will positively demonstrate that no religion has ever been greater than its idea about God. Worship is pure or base as the worshiper entertains high or low thoughts of God." A.W. Tozer

"A nation never rises above its religion and idea of God. People's view of their ultimate destiny and their view of authority comes from their view of God." Elmer Towns

There are a lot of false and substitute Gods Today. What you believe about God is important and has eternal ramifications attached to it.

We are essential playing a very dangerous game of Truth or Consequences...

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Sermon Outline:

I. GOD'S EXISTENCE

It is impossible to generate proof of His existence, so we must look for evidence of His existence.

God's existence seen in Nature

Romans 1:20 (NIV)

²⁰ For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

God's existence seen in Man

Genesis 1:27 (NIV)

²⁷ So God created mankind in his own image,

in the image of God he created them;

male and female he created them.

God's existence seen in His Word

The Word Assumes God's existence

Hebrews 11:1-6 (NIV)

11 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. ² This is what the ancients were commended for.

³ By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

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⁴ By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.

⁵ By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away." For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

II. GOD'S ATTRIBUTES

The fundamental characteristics of God

1. Divine Attributes - Unique to God

Omniscience - Knows all things

Psalm 139:4 (NIV)

⁴ Before a word is on my tongue you, LORD, know it completely.

Omnipresence - Present everywhere simultaneously.

Psalm 139:8 (NIV)

8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

Omnipotence - All powerful

Job 42:2 (NIV)

² "I know that you can do all things; no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

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2. Personal Attributes - Man can posses these

God is holy - without evil is only good

Psalm 111:9 (NIV)

⁹ He provided redemption for his people;

he ordained his covenant forever-

holy and awesome is his name.

Isaiah 5:16 (NIV)

¹⁶ But the LORD Almighty will be exalted by his justice, and the holy God will be proved holy by his righteous acts.

God is love - seeks the best for others

1 John 4:8 (NIV)

⁸ Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

God is just - applies righteous consequences equally to everyone

Exodus 34:7 (NIV)

⁷ maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation."

III. GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY

God can do whatever He wills

Psalm 135:5-6 (NIV)

⁵ I know that the LORD is great,

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

that our Lord is greater than all gods.

⁶ The LORD does whatever pleases him,

in the heavens and on the earth,

in the seas and all their depths.

Is consistent - it will always be in harmony with His Nature and Attributes

Is absolute - nothing is outside His control

Is complete - He has determined everything that has or will happen, yet has done so in such a way that man has true choice.

IV. GOD'S UNITY - THE TRINITY

Deuteronomy 6:4 (NIV)

⁴ Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

2 Corinthians 13:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Three eternal persons

Each equal in nature

Distinct in person

Submissive in duties.

Not three gods

Not three manifestations of God

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Conclusion:

- God's Existence You will never rise above your idea of what God is. Our creator and redeemer lives. Understand who and what He is so that you can become who and what you can be.
- God's Attributes There are attributes that are unique to God. There are attributes of God that we can take on ourselves. Without believing in God, we will never take on those attributes in a matter that will reflect Him back into this world.
- **God's Sovereignty** You cannot escape God. There is nothing that is outside of His reach. Everything is under His watchful eye and nothing is outside of His authority.
- God's Unity The Lord is one! He is not different God's with different agendas. He is not split in purpose. He is so united that scripture can reveal Him as one. We can be one with Him.

Have you found the one God?

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Romans 10:17 (ESV)

¹⁷ So faith comes from **hearing**, and **hearing** through the word of Christ.

Hebrews 11:6 (ESV)

⁶ And without <u>faith</u> it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must **believe** that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Acts 17:30 (ESV)

³⁰ The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to **repent**,

Acts 26:20 (NIV)

²⁰ First to those in Damascus, then to those in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and then to the Gentiles, I preached that they should **repent** and turn to God and demonstrate their repentance by their deeds.

1 Timothy 6:12 (ESV)

¹² Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good **confession** in the presence of many witnesses.

Acts 2:38 (ESV)

³⁸ And Peter said to them, "Repent and be **baptized** every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

1 Peter 3:21 (NIV)

²¹ and this water symbolizes **baptism** that now saves you also—not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a clear conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

Revelation 2:10 (ESV)

¹⁰ Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be **faithful** unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.