

AGREE / DISAGREE

*Disclaimer: the following statements are purposefully ambiguous and/or controversial for the purpose of generating thought and discussion. Please do not assume that they necessarily reflect the beliefs, values, or feelings of the presenter.

AGREE / DISAGREE

1. We can fully comprehend God.
2. We can truly know God.
3. We can define God.
4. Defining God is putting God 'in a box.'

AGREE / DISAGREE

5. We can accurately describe God.
6. To believe things that are not true of God brings Him more glory.

DEFINING GOD?

- Why would people try to define God?
 - “Dad, what’s that?!”
 - To distinguish Him from false gods or false views of God
 - “And by God I mean Father, Son, and Holy Spirit”



WHICH GOD IS THE GREAT GOD?

Acts 17:22-34

WHICH GOD?

- World View
 - *Identity*: “Who am I?”
 - *Origin*: “Where did I come from?”
 - *Purpose*: “Why am I here?”
 - *Destiny*: “Where am I going?”
- Biblical vs Athenian

WHICH GOD?

- **Creator** - The God who made the world and all things in it (24)
 - Sets God apart from all other gods
 - Gen. 1:1; Acts 14:15; Heb. 11:3
 - Demands recognition – Rom. 1:18f; 1 Chron. 16:24-29; Rev. 14:6-7

WHICH GOD?

- **Sovereign** - He is Lord of heaven and earth (24)
 - *Master, owner, potentate*
 - Matt. 20:8; Acts 25:26
 - Demands respect
 - Acts 25:26; Matt. 13:27 ('Sir')

WHICH GOD?

- **Immense** - does not dwell in temples made with hands (24)
 - Transcends the material/physical
 - 2 Chron. 2:5-6; John 1:3
 - Demands careful consideration
 - *Holy – set apart*

WHICH GOD?

- **Self-Sufficient** - nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything (25)
 - Independent; self-existent
 - Demands proper worship
 - Ps. 50:8-12; 51:16-17

WHICH GOD?

- **Benevolent** - since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things (25)
 - Source; Sustainer; actively involved
 - Demands acknowledgement
 - Rom. 1:21; Acts 14:16-17

WHICH GOD?

- **Intentional** - ...having determined their appointed times and the boundaries... (26)
 - Interested in all; available to all
 - Demands unity in humanity
 - E.g. – Rom. 10:12; Gal. 3:26-29

WHICH GOD?

- **Wise** - ... that they would seek God ...
(27)
 - There is purpose to our existence
 - Demands submission
 - Rom. 1:20

WHICH GOD?

- **Immanent** - though He is not far from each one of us (27)
 - Beyond yet near; omnipresent
 - Demands pursuit
 - Heb. 11:6
 - Israel – Deut. 4:29; Jer. 29:13

WHICH GOD?

- **Ineffable** - we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like... (29)
 - Any image is an idol
 - Demands reverence
 - Ex. 20:4-6; Rom. 1:21-23

WHICH GOD?

- **Forbearing** - having overlooked the times of ignorance (30)
 - Mercy, long-suffering, patience
 - Demands repentance
 - Rom. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9

WHICH GOD?

- **Just / Righteous** - He will judge the world in righteousness (31)
 - His right: Creator, Owner, Planner
 - Gen. 18:25; Ps. 89:14; Heb. 9:27
 - Demands *fear* and obedience
 - Eccl. 12:13-14; Prov. 3:7

WHICH GOD?

- **Powerful** - by raising Him from the dead (31)
 - Only the real God can do that
 - 'Proof'
 - Demands respect
 - Gen. 17:1; Rev. 11:16-17

WHICH GOD?

- **So What?**

- We need know the one, true God
 - Pursue Him (search, seek, etc.)
 - Grow in grace and knowledge

WHICH GOD?

- **So What?**

- Accurately portray God to the world
- Encourage others to pursue Him
- Call the world to repentance
 - Surrender and submit to the one, true God