

Is God Real?

January 12, 2025

We are going to open in Hebrews 11. Today the title of this teaching which is: "Is God Real?" This is a very important question. Why is it important? Let's look at Hebrews 11.

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

This verse emphasizes the necessity of believing in God's existence in order to build a relationship with Him. It also promises rewards to those who seek Him diligently. Look at Jeremiah.

Jeremiah 29:13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Psalms 14:1 The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.

According to the Bible, the primary "proof" of God's existence lies within the text itself, where God reveals Himself through his words and actions, essentially stating his own existence as a self-evident truth throughout the Scriptures; this is often referred to as "**revelation**," or God's revealing.

II Peter 1:21: For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

The word, "prophecy" is uniquely used in this verse of Scripture. Thayer's Bible Dictionary and Lexicon defines this word as either **1) a discussion emanating from divine inspiration and declaring the purposes of God or, 2) of the prediction of events**. In the case of this word being used here in II Peter, it refers to that which is "forth told," (the declaration) or that which is "foretold," (the prediction) of future events. In other words, it refers to both definitions.

So this verse describes how Scripture, God's Word, came about. "**Not by the will of man,**" which means it wasn't dreamed up by someone. But it came about as "**Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.**"

There are direct statements in the Bible that describe God doing things, and things that He is going to do. The Bible begins with "**In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth**" (Genesis 1:1), God...directly asserting HIS existence as the Creator. It is laid out, (in this case in plain English). This is what He did! He created heavens and the earth.

In addition from that starting point, there is basic firm consistency throughout Scripture. The Bible consistently presents God as an active and present being, interacting with humanity and illustrating to people that He is the true God, and His Word is real and can be listened to, read, verified and believed. It describes His nature, His characteristics, i.e. love, light, goodness, gentleness, kindness, his steadfastness etc. With these are example after example, showing these truths time and again.

Malachi 3:6: For I am the LORD, I change not...

God is not going to contradict Himself. He doesn't change from one day to the next. What He said that He has done, He has done. What He says He will do, He will do, and what He says will happen in the

future, will happen. Come hell or high water! He is not love one day, and hate the next! He is not light one day and darkness the next. He does not change.

I recently listened to a pod-cast where a famous movie actor was talking with the moderator about Jesus Christ, and whether or not he exists or not. Does God exist... and did God really raise Jesus from the dead (the resurrection). One guy said he believed, the other said he wasn't sure if there was proof to believe or not. So, does there have to be some arm-twisting to get people to come around?? HEAVENS NO! Some will eventually believe if they hear enough of the Word of God. We don't have to twist anyone's arm! Our job is to simply speak the Word to folks. Again, let's go to the Word and see what it says about this.

Romans 10:11 For the scripture saith, Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. 12 For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. 13 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. 14 How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

When it is referring to a preacher here, it is not referring to someone who has gone to four years of seminary, got ordained, and wears his collar backwards. It is referring to anyone who heralds forth the Word of God. And this can be one verse at a time. For instance, when you are at work, and you are on a 15 minute lunch break, you bring up **Romans 10:9** to someone. Surprisingly, they believe it! That is preaching the Word! That person has passed from death unto life because of what you did for them in speaking ONE verse to them! They may not believe what you have told them, but they could after a few more 15 minute discussions about it.

There are two types of unbelief referred to in the Bible. The first is the word, "**apistia**," which means someone who has not heard enough to believe. The second word referring to unbelief is, "**apeitheia**," which means someone who has heard the Word but refuses to believe. Both of these conditions... both of these characteristics of unbelief (**apistia**, **apeitheia**) can be remedied. Here in Romans 10 it describes the remedy.

15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! 16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel [good news]. For Esaias saith (Isaiah 52:7), Lord, who hath believed our report? 17 So then faith [pistis**=believing] cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**

Wayne Gretzky, referred to in hockey parlance as "the great one," once said, "you will miss 100% of the shots that you don't take." He was referring to all of the **894** goals that he had recorded in his career. Other than Alex Ovechkin (now has 872), no one else had come close to that number! If you don't take a chance on getting the puck into the net, you will never know what it is like to score a goal.

Similarly, we must take opportunities to share God's Word. The Word of God needs to be spoken at whenever and wherever. After all, it's God who must supply the results of His Word being spoken and not us. We speak it, then God will bring it to pass.

Isaiah 55:8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways (Heb. *derek* = methods, or roads), saith the LORD. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways (*derek*) higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. 10 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and

maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: 11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.

It is up to God to work within the heart of man, both, to listen and believe; and to receive what God is offering. God shows Himself to mankind in so many ways.

Romans 1:20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead [*Divine Nature*]; so that they are without excuse.

This verse presents creation itself as evidence of God's existence. The order, beauty, and complexity of the universe reflect a Divine Designer.

Psalm 19:1-2 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.

Isaiah 40:26 Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things.

God has done His part to present Himself to mankind in so many different ways.

Hebrews 1:1(WT) God, Who spoke in various stages and in various ways to the fathers by the prophets in past times, 2 has spoken to us in the last of these days by *His Son*, whom He appointed heir of all *things*, and through whom He also prepared the ages.

Very simply, God has presented Himself to the human race in so many different ways, and has pronounced all of the things that He has done through the annals of time. In the earth, in the cosmos, in life. Now, with all of that, it's up to the humans to respond!

Psalm 34:8 O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him."

Let's break these statements down here, starting with the phrase "**taste and see**". It is an invitation to experience God firsthand. It's not enough to hear about God's goodness from others—a person must personally engage with God Almighty to truly understand how good He is. "**Taste**" implies a personal, sensory experience. Just as you wouldn't know the flavor of food like chocolate ice cream, until you taste it, you won't know God's goodness until you experience Him for yourself.

The word, "**See**" suggests spiritual perception—opening your eyes to recognize God's presence, His provision, and His care in your life. This isn't a passive command. It's an **active call to engage** with God's Word, His promises, and His works. Along these lines, let's take a peek at I Peter. Keep your finger here, but go to I Peter.

1 Peter 2:3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

This verse echoes this same sentiment, urging believers to **experience God's grace personally**. Back to **Psalm 34: "That the LORD is good"** The goodness of God is a central theme throughout Scripture. It's not just that God does good things—it's that His very nature is good. God's goodness is demonstrated in His provision, protection, and faithfulness to His people. Goodness is also an inherent quality of God. He doesn't just do good things occasionally—everything He does flows from His goodness.

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights.

To finish in studying **Psalm 34:8 ... “Blessed is the man that trusteth in him...”**

The word “blessed” means happy, content, and fulfilled. True blessedness comes from trusting in the LORD. To trust in God means to rely on Him fully—not just intellectually agreeing that He exists, but actively depending on His guidance and provision in your daily life. The verse implies that those who trust in God will experience His goodness in a way that brings lasting joy and peace.

Just like someone must taste food to know if it’s good, a person must trust God to fully experience His blessings. Trust requires action—it’s not enough to merely acknowledge God’s existence. The act of trusting opens the door to experiencing God’s goodness in a real and tangible way. It works for anybody!

This verse in Psalm 34 is a call to action and personal experience. Many people hear about God’s goodness but never take the step to “taste” it for themselves.

Have you tasted and seen that the LORD is good?

Have you placed your trust in Him to experience His blessings?

God’s goodness isn’t just theoretical—it’s real and tangible, but you won’t know it unless you take that first step of trust.

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Ultimately, God’s plan is unshakable, and His Word will accomplish all that He has intended. Our task is simple: trust in Him, share His Word, and watch His promises unfold. Let us continue to speak God’s Word boldly, trusting that He will bring it to pass.