



“In the Beginning God”

Psalm 19:1–4
October 2, 2011

Naturalism commonly refers to the philosophical belief that only natural laws and forces (as opposed to supernatural ones) operate in the world and that nothing exists beyond the natural world.

What is the difference between Theists and Atheists?

God wants you to search for Him: *“Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.”* **Isaiah 55:6**

How Does Man Search for God? Theologian Karl Barth says:

1. Our Perspective - beginning with us and reasoning upward.
2. God’s Perspective - beginning with Him, accepting His revelation to us.

A.W. Tozer: *“Left to ourselves we tend immediately to reduce God to manageable terms. We want to get Him where we can use Him, or at least know where He is when we need Him.”*

This bottom up approach leads to idolatry. In his book *“Ten Lies About God”*, **Erwin Lutzer** says: *“Idolatry is giving respectability to our own opinions of God, formed after our likeness.”*

Turn to Psalm 115:3-8.

How does man deal with God? We invent new R_____.

1. THEISM - the belief in the existence of a divine being.
2. DEISM - The view that God exists but is not involved in the world and does not perform miracles.
3. PANTHEISM - The view that all is God. Most Eastern religions – Hinduism, Taoism and some forms of Buddhism are pantheistic.

4. FINITE GODISM - The view that God exists but is limited in power. God isn’t able to stop evil and therefore isn’t all-powerful.
5. POLYTHEISM - The view that many finite gods rule over the various realms of the universe i.e. Ancient Greece and Rome.
6. ATHEISM - The view that there is no God.

“Can you fathom the mysteries of God? Can you probe the limits of the Almighty? They are higher than the heavens--what can you do? They are deeper than the depths of the grave--what can you know? Their measure is longer than the earth and wider than the sea.” **Job 11:7-9**

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.” **Isaiah 55:8-9**

Turn to Psalm 19:1–4.

Three Truths from this Passage:

1. I Can See Signs of God’s E_____ in Creation.

“The heavens declare the glory of God.”

“What may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. 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 men are without excuse.” **Romans 1:19–20**

2. I Can See Signs of God’s I_____ in Creation.

*“The word *glory* encompasses not only the beauty of God but also His wisdom, His knowledge, His intelligence, His skill, His attention to detail, His mathematical, scientific, and architectural precision ...”* (*The GodQuest*)

3. I Can See Signs of God’s C_____ in Creation.

Turn to Psalm 8:1-9.

My Next Steps

- Memorize Psalm 19:1, *“The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.”*
- Read and meditate on Romans 1:18-32.
- I will not turn God into an idol of my own making. I will worship and follow the true God of the Bible.
- I will seek God while He may be found.