

God

Is God Dead?

Is God Dead?

- 1) Today we live in world in which millions of individuals whose answer to that question would be, “Yes, God is dead”. Others would deny His existence; others are unsure if there is a Divine Being called God; others say that there was once a God who created everything and then stood back to see what would happen and does not control or permit anything now; others say that we can be gods or we are god just not fully manifested yet; and others that God is just one of many gods. In this paper our consideration will consider the twin questions, “Is God dead?” and “How do we know He exists and is alive?”
 - a) Approximately 60 years ago there grew a great interest in the teachings of the German philosopher, Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche (October 15th 1844 to August 25th 1900), who wrote, “We have killed God”.
 - b) That Satanic teaching that God was dead became a rallying cry among many of the “way out” young crowd and with its philosophy, the sexual revolution began. I am sure vast numbers of those who espoused that teaching did not know they were fulfilling, in part, the words of Paul. To Timothy he wrote, “Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils” (doctrines originating from demons) (1 Tim. 4:1).
- 2) My suggestion is not to prove God is, but since belief is ideally based on facts, then those who believe there is no God or that God is dead, what are the evidences they can produce? The evidence presentable for God is beyond question. The possible reason for our unbelief in His existence or being alive is at least twofold:
 - a) Is because He is far beyond the abilities of our comprehension. Let it be stated without reservation or apology, the God of the Bible is beyond all man’s designed measurements and estimates of time, space and matter. He is eternal, omnipresent and spirit, consequently, He never had a beginning or end. The creature with the shortest lifespan is a Mayfly. Their existence at the most is a scant twenty-four hours. This little insect is only approximately one inch long. How could a creature with so short a lifespan understand me being seventy-six years, that is 27,770 days, or how could it being one inch understand me being 65 inches? It is something its brain could not compute, yet it is only a comparison of creation with creation. It is the same with our understanding of God.
 - b) Man does not want to retain the God of the Bible in their minds, therefore deluding themselves into thinking that if they deny Him etc., then there will be no resurrection, no judgment and no consequences for their rebellion against Him (Rom. 1:28).

I Know God Is, Therefore Is Alive

- 1) I start with the understanding that the readers accept the truth that the scriptures are the word of God, not that they just contain the words of God, but from Genesis 1:1 to Revelation 22:21 they are the inspired, infallible word of the Living God. When it stands written that fire came down from Heaven and consumed Elijah’s sacrifice, I believe it (1 Kgs. 18:19-40). When it is recorded that a great fish swallowed Jonah, I believe it (Matt. 12:40); when it stands forever written, Christ is “the propitiation for our sins; and not for our’s only, but also for the sins of the whole world” (1 Jn. 2:2), I believe it; and when it says He is the “Living God” (Deut. 5:26; Josh. 3:10; 1 Sam. 17:26; Jer. 10:10; Jn. 6:69; Acts 14:15), “In Him we live, and move, and have our being” (Acts 17:28), that He is Prince (Source) of all life (Acts 17:28; Jn. 1:4) I believe it.
- 2) I know God is alive because death is the direct result of sin.
 - a) The Holy Spirit makes it very clear in Romans that death is the result of sin (Rom. 5:12; 6:3; Jam. 1:15). Even after man sinned his mortal life would not have ended, and the Lord in mercy stopped man from entering the Garden of Eden, thus preventing him from eating the fruit of the tree of life, for God said, “Lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live for ever” (Gen. 3:22-24).
 - b) “Can God sin and reaping the consequences die?” The answer is a resounding “No,” for sin begins with lust, or longing. How could God lust/long to have that which belongs to another since He is the

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“Possessor of heaven and earth” (Gen. 14:19; Psa. 24:1; 50:10)? It is impossible for Him to lust after anything that belongs to another, for nothing belongs to any other. Furthermore, He is holy, and that is the only attribute of deity mentioned in triplicate. Both Isaiah and John are witnesses to events in Heaven where celestial beings cry, “Holy, Holy, Holy” (Isa. 6:3; Rev. 4:8). Since God cannot sin and cannot change (Mal. 3:6), it means His attributes are immutable, therefore, sin never can come into the equation. Consequently, God can never die.

- 3) I know God is alive for He communicates with those who are His children. I am aware that there are those who scoff at such a truth saying that it is all in their heads. However, perhaps an illustration will help. Many years ago there was a man and woman, well advanced in years, to whom God revealed they would have a child. The father to be did not believe and was struck dumb. In the process of time the woman, Elizabeth, had a baby boy and all were expecting his name to be that of his father Zacharias, but Elizabeth said his name was to be John, a matter to which there was astonishment. With the father being dumb they gave him a writing table and he wrote, “His name is John”. It was only writing on a tablet but it was as valuable as if the father had spoken (Lk. 1:59-63). The writing was the revealing of his answer. So when the child of God speaks to God and seeks direction or needs correction, God communicates to them through the written word, the scriptures, and supplies the answer they need. (He also communicates via circumstances etc., but never against the scriptures.)
- 4) If I argue that God is dead then I am left with multiple questions such as: “When in history did He die?”
 - a) It could not be before Adam for He created Adam and Eve and communed with them (Gen. 2:18; 3:8-13).
 - b) He had to be alive when Abram was here for God told him about his family going to Egypt and being afflicted four hundred years (Gen. 15:13)
 - c) He was still alive when the children of Israel were liberated from Egypt (Ex. 12:31-38); and the Egyptians were drowned in the Red Sea (Ex. 14:23-30).
 - d) He was alive at the time when the three men were cast into the furnace (Dan. 3:20).
 - e) When the Lord was here God was still alive for He opened the heavens and spoke and man heard him (Lk. 9:35).
 - f) Later when John was on the Isle of Patmos God revealed to him the things which must come to pass (Rev. 1:1-2).
- 5) So when did God die? How did He die? What is the evidence He is dead?
 - a) I know God is alive because, there has been on this earth a man called Jesus of Nazareth who is the Saviour of the world and who, being Holy, would not deceive. He spoke to God and called Him “Father”. He was the manifestation of God and the Father.
 - b) I know God is alive for Paul preached, “For in Him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring (Acts 17:28).
- 6) The reality is, God is not dead and He is the Moral Absolute of the universe whose ways are always true, unchangeable and eternal. With Him there is no fluctuation regarding man’s earthly status or possessions, there are no “greys” and with whom all is black or white.

Rationale

When one argues that there is no God, they are arguing two points:

- a) There is no absolute right consequently there is no absolute wrong. What may be viewed as wrong in my evaluation may be right in their eyes. This was seen recently when rioters in the USA were breaking and looting multiple stores. That to me is wrong, yet one politician said it was right because they needed the things for their family! This is the result of persons who deny God’s Moral Absolute. The problem is instinctively we all want what is right for one can be sure if I went and stole that which belonged to the politician or rioters, they would be demanding compensation. Why? Because inherently there is in man an awareness of right and wrong. This leads to the question, “Who is there who can be of such a high

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moral character and being unbiased, declare what is right or wrong?” If God is dead then there are no morals for there are no absolutes.

- b) Another has said, If there is no God, no higher authority above mankind, then mankind is free (since there is no one above humanity) to decide what is moral. This leads to nothing more than “acceptable and right” being whatever 51% of a given nation or present government. Since there is nothing higher to appeal to, who is to disagree, and upon what basis can you disagree?

Concluding Thoughts

I quote another, I know not who: “Remove God and morality becomes nothing more than ‘might makes right’--morality being determined by majority rule and nothing more (which means it is entirely relative). Each generation will consider itself good simply because each generation will judge itself by itself. According to this standard, the only way a person could be a good person his/her entire life, would be by being a moral chameleon, ever adapting him/herself to what the majority decides is good at a given time”.

**May God grant us good understanding as He, by His Holy Spirit, deigns to guide us into all truth.
John 16:13**

Rowan Jennings, Abbotsford, British Columbia