

“The Grace of Revelation”

The Revelation of God - Week 1 - Summer 2019

- What is the Revelation of God?

- It is God’s self-disclosure.
- To talk about God’s revelation is to talk about God’s willingness to give us access to His person, His nature, His opinions, His declarations, His actions, etc.

- The Grace of Revelation

- *A foundational truth of the Christian faith (of a Biblical worldview) is that God has revealed Himself to humanity.*
 - ▶ Self-disclosure is a fundamental part of God’s Triune/Relational Being.
 - ▶ Example of passages that highlight include:
 - ❖ *John 5:20 - For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself is doing; and the Father will show Him greater works than these, so that you will marvel.*
 - ▶ God’s own internal self-revelation has spilled over into creation.
 - ❖ The eternally self-disclosing God discloses Himself to His creation.
 - ❖ Scripture provides us with a Trinitarian emphasis related to God’s self-disclosure to humanity:
 - ➔ It is a particular role of God the Son to reveal God the Father to us:

John 1:18 - No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.
 - ➔ In addition, it is a special role of the Spirit to reveal the Son to us:

John 16:12–15 - 12 “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. 13 But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. 14 He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make

Psalm 19:1–3 - *The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. 2 Day to day pours forth speech, And night to night reveals knowledge. 3 There is no speech, nor are there words; Their voice is not heard.*

Romans 1:20 - *For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.*

- ❖ Do we get creation's message?
 - No. Romans 1 goes on to say that fallen humans naturally *twist* the knowledge of God that creation beings.
 - For us to know anything truly about the Lord, He must reveal Himself another way.

▶ Special Revelation

- ❖ Special revelation (to humans) is when God speaks to mankind directly.
- ❖ This category includes:
 - Any time God spoke audibly to an individual (Abraham; Moses, etc.)
 - The 10 Commandments (written by the very finger of God - Ex. 31:18)
 - Visions and/or Dreams
 - Revelations given to Biblical prophets (Old or New Testament)
 - Revelations given to the Apostles (recorded in Scripture or not)
 - Every word Jesus spoke to anyone.
 - Christ Himself

Hebrews 1:1–2a - *Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son...*