

THEOLOGY

who is God?

1

THEOLOGY

[Greek: **theos (God) + logos (word)**]

the study of the
existence, nature,
and attributes of God.

2

THE COSMIC BATTLE
KEY VERSES

“...**Christ Himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.**”

Colossians 2:2-3 (NAS)

3

ULTIMATE SOURCE
OF TRUTH

the ultimate **source of all truth** is
the nature, character, being and
attributes of **God Himself**

nothing that is **true** can **contradict**
the Nature of God

4

WESTMINSTER CONFESSIO

“There is but one only living and true God,
who is infinite in being and perfection, a
most pure spirit, invisible, without body
parts, or passions, immutable, immense,
eternal, incomprehensible, almighty, most
wise, most holy, most free, most absolute,
working all things according to the
counsel of his own immutable and most
righteous will, for his own glory;

5

The Westminster Confession of Faith (1646).

WESTMINSTER CONFSSION


...most loving, gracious, merciful, long-suffering, abundant in goodness and truth, forgiving iniquity, transgression, and sin; the rewarder of them that diligently seek him; and withal most just and terrible in his judgments; hating all sin, and who will by no means clear the guilty."



6

THE ENDZONE

John 3:16



7


another **simple** question...

what is

ETERNAL LIFE?

why did Jesus come?

what is **Truth?**




8

"ETERNAL LIFE"

Luke 18:18 John 4:13-14

John 5:24 John 5:39-40 John 6:27

John 6:54 John 17:1-3



9

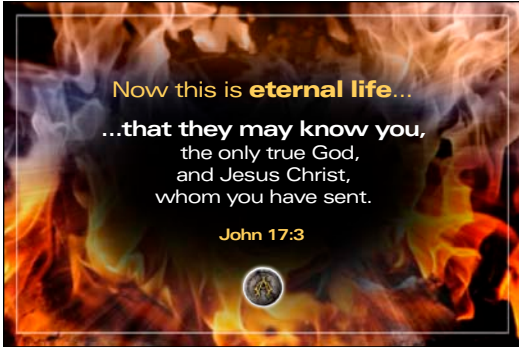
JOHN 17:1-3

After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you.

For you granted him authority over all people that he might give **eternal life** to all those you have given him.

Now this is eternal life..."

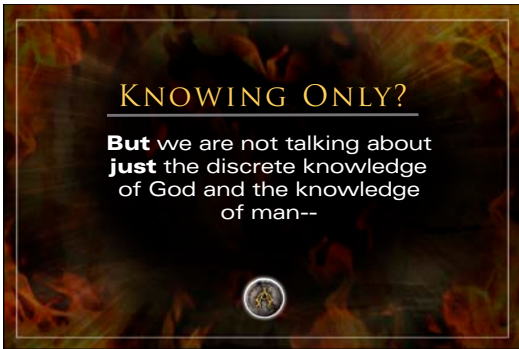
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Now this is **eternal life**...
...that they may know you,
the only true God,
and Jesus Christ,
whom you have sent.

John 17:3

11



KNOWING ONLY?

But we are not talking about
just the discrete knowledge
of God and the knowledge
of man--

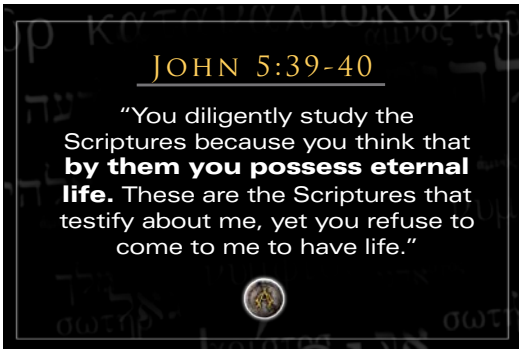
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KNOWING ONLY?

we are talking about the **relationship**,
the **social** order,
the **personal** communion
and the objective, **real relationship**
that **exists** between God & man.

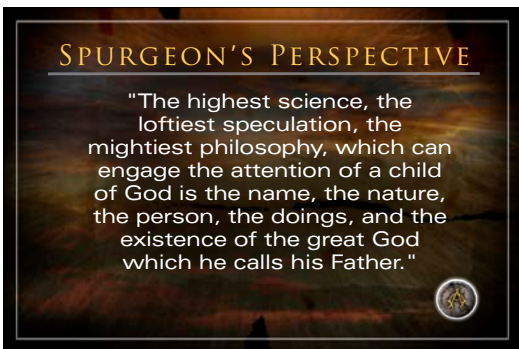
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JOHN 5:39-40

"You diligently study the
Scriptures because you think that
**by them you possess eternal
life**. These are the Scriptures that
testify about me, yet you refuse to
come to me to have life."

14



SPURGEON'S PERSPECTIVE

"The highest science, the
loftiest speculation, the
mightiest philosophy, which can
engage the attention of a child
of God is the name, the nature,
the person, the doings, and the
existence of the great God
which he calls his Father."

15

Spurgeon, Charles H. (1855). *The immutability of God*.
Southwark: New Park Street Chapel.

PAUL'S PERSPECTIVE

"What is more, **I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord**, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law...

16

PAUL'S PERSPECTIVE

...but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. **I want to know Christ** and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death..."

Philippians 3:8-10

17

GOD'S PERSPECTIVE

For I delight in loyalty rather than sacrifice, and in the **knowledge of God** rather than burnt offerings.

Hosea 6:6 (NAS)



18

GOD'S PERSPECTIVE

Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, **that he understands and knows me...**"

Jeremiah 9:23-24 (ESV)



19

MY JOURNEY

Jehovah Shalom

Jehovah Jireh

Sovereign

Holy, Holy, Holy

Immanuel

The Vine

El Qanna

...

20

EL QANNA

"Be careful not to forget the covenant of the LORD your God that he made with you; do not make for yourselves an idol in the form of anything the LORD your God has forbidden. For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a **jealous** God."

Deuteronomy 4:23-24



21

EL QANNA

This is what the LORD Almighty says:
"I am very **jealous** for Zion;
I am burning with **jealousy** for her."

Zechariah 8:2



22

EL QANNA

"Do not worship any other god, for the LORD, **whose name is Jealous**, is a jealous God."

Exodus 34:14



23

NAMES MEAN SOMETHING

Jacob (supplanter)
changed to **Israel** (strives with God)
Genesis 32:28

Abram (father of height)
changed to **Abraham** (father of a multitude)
Genesis 17:5

Moses (taken out of the water)

24

NAMES MEAN SOMETHING

Simon (hearing) changed to **Peter** (rock)

Saul (demanded) changed to **Paul** (little)

You shall name the child **John**
(God is Gracious)
Luke 1:13

You shall name Him **Jesus** (Savior)

25

what is
Your name?

26

HUNGERING FOR GOD
As the deer pants for streams
of water, so my soul pants for
you, O God. My soul thirsts
for God, for the living God.
Psalm 42:1-2

27

EL QANNA
Gazing on the face of God...
this is what **transforms**
us...and it came through
the **Word of God**
Should we be surprised that
it is here we find the focus of
the attack?

28

THE ATTACK
"The weapons we fight with are not the
weapons of the world. On the contrary,
they have divine power to demolish
strongholds. We demolish arguments
and every pretension **that sets itself
up against the knowledge of God,**
and we take captive every thought to
make it obedient to Christ."
2 Corinthians 10:4-5

29

THE ATTACK ON GOD
His Nature...
twisting, distorting, denying, ignoring
and His Word
accusing, demeaning

30

ATTACK ON GOD'S WORD

All attempts to... By all the powers...

extinguish, suppress, discredit, destroy, dilute, deny, ignore ...	empires, religion, philosophy, science, academia, judiciary ...
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--All have failed--


31

ATTACK ON GOD'S WORD

Voltaire (1776)

"100 years from my day there will not be a Bible in the earth except one that is looked upon by an antiquarian curiosity seeker."

"It took 12 men to start Christianity; one will destroy it."



32

ATTACK ON GOD'S WORD

Robert Ingersoll:

"In 15 years I will have **this book** [the Bible] in the **morgue**."

Fifteen years later,
Ingersoll was in the **morgue**.

A pastor purchased Ingersoll's desk and spent his life writing sermons on it.

33

ATTACK ON GOD'S WORD

All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but **the Word of the Lord stands forever.**

1 Peter 1:24-25



34

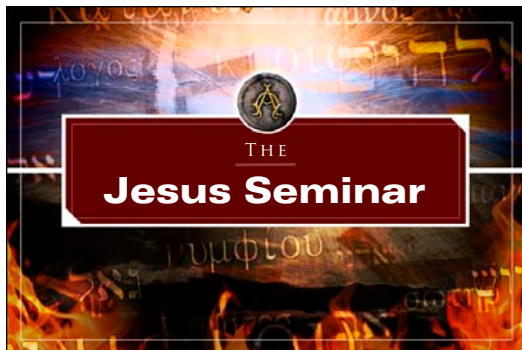
JULIUS WELLHAUSEN

Father of "Higher Criticism"

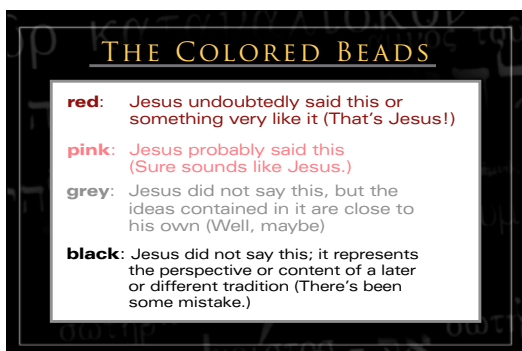
Documentary Hypothesis: "JEDP"



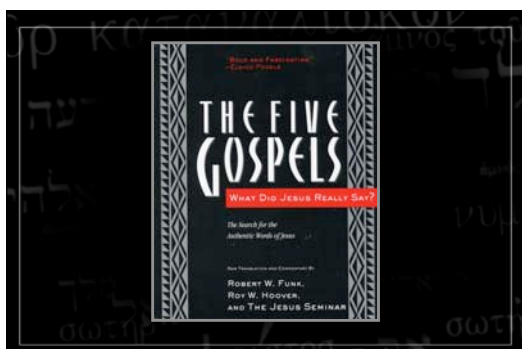
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36



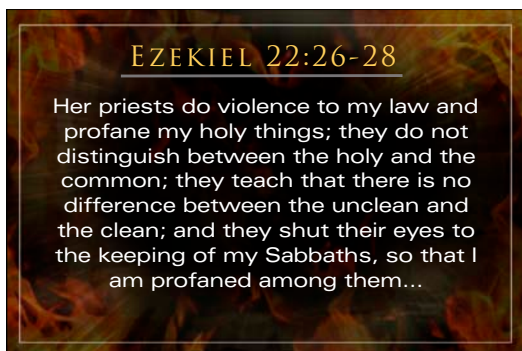
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EZEKIEL 22:26-28

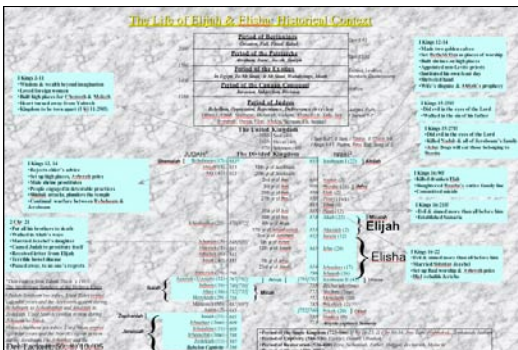
Her officials within her are like wolves tearing their prey; they shed blood and kill people to make unjust gain. Her prophets whitewash these deeds for them by false visions and lying divinations. They say, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says'—when the LORD has not spoken.

41

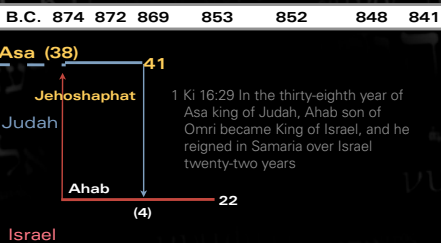
a Personal crisis...

42

The Life of Elijah & Elisha: Historical Context



43



44

JORAM & JEHORAM

2 Kings 8:16

2 Kings 1:17

45

HOW TRUE IS THE BIBLE?

2 Ki 8:16-17 In the fifth year of Joram son of Ahab king of Israel, when Jehoshaphat was king of Judah, Jehoram son of Jehoshaphat began his reign as king of Judah. He was thirty-two years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem eight years.

2 Ki 1:17 So Ahaziah died, according to the word of the Lord that Elijah had spoken. Because Ahaziah had no son, Joram succeeded him as king in the second year of Jehoram son of Jehoshaphat.

Jehoram 2

Joram 5

46

HOW TRUE IS THE BIBLE?

2 Ki 3:1 Joram son of Ahab became king of Israel in Samaria in the eighteenth year of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, and he reigned twelve years.

Jehoshaphat 18

Joram 12

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January 931 BC Tishri accession year Rehoboam
 January 930 BC Tishri 1st year Rehoboam
 January 929 BC Tishri 2nd year Rehoboam
 January 928 BC Tishri 3rd year Rehoboam

Nisan 1st year Jeroboam
 Nisan 2nd year Jeroboam
 Nisan 3rd year Jeroboam
 Nisan 4th year Jeroboam

So, Jeroboam, who actually started to reign after Rehoboam, would be considered to be in his 3rd year when Rehoboam was still in his first year.

48

Thiele, Edwin (1983). *The mysterious numbers of the Hebrew kings*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications (1994 ed.).

B.C. 874 872 869 853 852 848 841

Judah: Jehoshaphat (41), Joram (2), Ahaziah (2)

Israel: Ahab (4), Jehoram (2), Ahaziah (2), Joram (5)

Edwin Thiele, *The Mysterious Numbers of the Hebrew Kings*

49

Thiele, Edwin (1983). *The mysterious numbers of the Hebrew kings*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications (1994 ed.).

do we **really** believe the **Scriptures** to be the **Word of God**?

50

WHY SO FIERCE?

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

Hebrews 4:12 (ESV)



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THEOLOGY

who is God?

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