

What Blueprints are we talking about? Blueprints for our lives found in God’s Word. Ten Great Bible Doctrines that help us understand God’s will and purpose for our lives. Simply put doctrine is the principles of our religious beliefs that we embrace, instruct our children, and teach others.

The Great Bible Doctrines we will look at are: 1) The Doctrine of Bible. 2) The Doctrine of God. 3) The Doctrine of Christ. 4) The Doctrine of The Holy Spirit. 5) The Doctrine of Man. 6) The Doctrine of Sin. 7) The Doctrine of Salvation. 8) The Doctrine of Angels. 9) The Doctrine of the Church, and 10) The Doctrine of Future Things. We will also learn how each doctrine has a personal application for our lives as we began with The Doctrine of The Bible and today it’s “The Doctrine of God.”

There are many ways to present or talk about these Ten Great Bible Doctrines, and not near enough time to explore the depth of each. For familiarity and consistency’s sake I’m going to use a pattern that Max Anders used in his book “30 Days to Understand the Bible.” This is the book we use in our Life Group bearing the same name. For each doctrine Max lays out Four Major Subdivisions of each Doctrine.

The Four Major Subdivisions of the Doctrine of God Are:

Existence: God exists.

Attributes: The fundamental characteristics of God.

Sovereignty: God can do whatever He wills.

Trinity: God is three persons, yet one.¹

Existence: God Exists

- David bluntly said... **The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.” Psalms 14:1**
- All Creation Reveals That There Is A God. **Romans 1:20 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 people are without excuse.**

Attributes: The Fundamental Characteristics of God (God’s Nature)

The Natural Attributes of God

A. Omniscience – God is all knowing. (All wise)

Psalms 147:5 Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.

1 John 3:20 ...we know that God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

Romans 11:33 Oh, how great are God’s riches and wisdom and knowledge! How impossible it is for us to understand his decisions and his ways!

- There are no secrets! There is nothing hidden from God’s sight, so just come clean.
Proverbs 15:3 The eyes of the LORD are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good.
Proverbs 28:13 Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

B. Omnipotence – God is all powerful.

- **Jeremiah 32:17 “Ah, Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you.**
- In Genesis when Abraham and Sarah mused at the idea of Sarah giving birth at an old age, the Lord said, **“Is anything too hard for the LORD?” Genesis 18:14**
- Jesus said... **“...with God all things are possible.” Matthew 19:26**

C. Omnipresence – God is present everywhere.

- There is Nowhere to Hide From God. **Jeremiah 23:23-24** “Am I only a God nearby, ” declares the LORD, “and not a God far away? 24 Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them?” declares the LORD. “Do not I fill heaven and earth?” declares the LORD.

Psalms 139:7-8 Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?
8 If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

- Jesus assures us. ... **I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28:20**

God being omnipresent sort of ties all three together and brings us comfort. God is present everywhere; therefore, He has full knowledge of everything situation and has the power to act on our behalf.

Next Step: I will be aware that God is with me everywhere, all knowing, and all powerful to help.

D. God is Eternal – God always was and will always be.

Habakkuk 1:12 LORD, are you not from everlasting? My God, my Holy One, you will never die.

Psalms 90:2 Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Psalms 102:24-27 So I said: “Do not take me away, my God, in the midst of my days;
your years go on through all generations. 25 In the beginning you laid the foundations of the
earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. 26 They will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be
discarded. 27 But you remain the same, and your years will never end.

E. God is Immutable – God doesn’t change.

Malachi 3:6 “I the LORD do not change...

Numbers 23:19 God is not human, that he should lie, not a human being, that he should change
his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?

James 1:17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the
heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

Next Step: This week I will remind myself that God doesn’t change and his promises never fail.

The Moral Attributes of God

A. Holiness

- **Psalms 99:9** Exalt the LORD our God and worship at his holy mountain,
for the LORD our God is holy.
 - God the Father is Holy (Isaiah 41:14)
 - God the Son is Holy (Acts 4:30)
 - God the Spirit is called the “Holy” Spirit (Ephesians 4:30)
- We are called to be A Holy God’s Holy People. **1 Peter 1:15-16** But just as he who called you
is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

B. Righteousness and Justice

Psalms 145:17 The LORD is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does.

Psalms 89:14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;
love and faithfulness go before you.

Deuteronomy 32:4 He is the Rock, his works are perfect, and all his ways are just. A faithful God
who does no wrong, upright and just is he.

C. Mercy and Loving Kindness

Psalms 103:8 (NKJ) The LORD is merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.

Ephesians 2:4-5 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, 5 made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions —it is by grace you have been saved.

Titus 3:4-5 But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy...

- We are to be merciful. **Luke 6:36** Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

D. Love

1 John 4:7-8 ...Let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Sovereignty: God Can Do Whatever He Wills

Psalms 135:5-6 I know that the LORD is great, that our Lord is greater than all gods. 6 The LORD does whatever pleases him, in the heavens and on the earth, in the seas and all their depths.

- God determines and knows what will happen, yet Man still has free choice. **Ex:** Marriage.

Trinity – God is Three Persons, Yet One

Deuteronomy 6:4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

Matthew 28:19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

2 Corinthians 13:14 May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

- Analogies of the Trinity help but all fall short. God is the Sun, Jesus is the light, and the Holy Spirit is heat. Or H₂O.



God is Love, But God is Just

Johnna Goodman asked my opinion on two questions asked in her seminary class.

- What's an attribute of God that you think God's people understand well and what's an attribute of God that God's people don't understand well.

Johnna had a good answer when she said that people don't really understand that God is Immutable – God doesn't change. People think God changes with the times, like fashions and paint color do.

My answer. People in general have moved away from the “God is out to get me” mentality and they are finally understanding that **God is Love**. But as good as that is, it leads to problems when they don't understand that **God is Just**. When we sin, God doesn't look the other way. He can't. He is just.

Justice must be done. **Romans 2:6** God “will repay each person according to what they have done.”

Someone is going to have to pay for our sin and **Romans 6:23** tells us, “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.” We either pay for our own sins, or we allow Jesus and the work that He did on the cross of Calvary, His shed blood, to pay the price for our sins.

God is Love and He loves us enough to send Jesus to deliver us from our sin and breathe new life into us. But the decision is ours as to who is going to pay. Confess your sins, be forgiven, and receive new life in Christ Jesus. **1 John 1:9** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

ⁱ Max Anders. “30 Days To Understanding The Bible” (Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2011), p.200-205