



CLASS ONE: THE WHAT, WHY AND HOW

MEETING WITH GOD

I. Two Assumptions of Meeting with God

- Possible: Meeting with God is actually possible.
- _____: Meeting with God is something in which we should participate.

II. What: Is it Possible to Meet with God?

- Westminster Larger Catechism Question Two:

Question: *How does it appear that there is a God?*

Answer: *The very light of nature in man, and the works of God, declare plainly that there is a God; but his Word and Spirit only do sufficiently and effectually reveal him unto men for their salvation.*

- **General Revelation:** The way in which God _____ Himself to all people through creation and human nature.

Psalm 19:1-2

Romans 1:19-20

What natural things have turned your heart toward wonder and worshipping God?

- **Special Revelation:** The way in which God reveals Himself to _____ people through events, Scripture, and Jesus Christ himself.

- Special Revelation as events the Old Testament:

Abraham

The Law

The _____

- Special Revelation in Jesus Christ in the New Testament:

Hebrews 1:1-2

John 1:1

- Special Revelation through the _____ in the present:

- **Four things we know about Jesus because of the special revelation of the Bible**

- **John 12: 49-50: Jesus the Prophet**

He is one who spoke with authority to deliver God's message to God's people.

- **Hebrews 9:11-12: Jesus the _____**

He is one who acts as a mediator between God and humanity ultimately and forever.

- **John 18:36-37: Jesus the _____**

He is one who rules with authority and might to prevent sin from reigning in us and one day the world.

- **Colossians 1:15: Jesus the Son of God**

He is one who is in very nature and being God Himself; the second person of the Trinity.

*“A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us.” - CS Lewis | **Mere Christianity***

- Our sin separates us from meeting with God yet the Bible gives the means of restoration

1 John 1:9

Hebrews 4:16

Meeting with God always comes through a _____.

III. Why: Should We Meet with God?

- **We meet with God because He _____ us.**

Meeting with God must start with resting in the reality that God deeply loves you

“The love of God makes me shrink back from this platform utterly ashamed of my poor feeble words. This love of Christ is the most amazing thing under heaven, if not in all of heaven itself.” -Charles Spurgeon

- **We meet with God because it helps us grow in spiritual maturity.**

Like trees in need of water, meeting with God is the nourishment that helps us grow.

- **We meet with God because it helps us _____**

The Bible and prayer are the tools of meeting with God that enable us to persevere to the end.

John 17:17

Ephesians 6:17-18

IV. How: How Do We Meet with God?

- Through Jesus

Meeting with God always comes through the Mediator, Jesus Christ, who provides for us access to God even though we are sinners

- Through _____

66 inspired, inerrant and authoritative books that together tell the story of God and his relationship with man and the world.

- Through Prayer

When we pray, God hears and answers our requests to both know Him more and to make Him known in our church and in our world.

- Through the Local Church

God meets with His people when they come together in worship through preaching, reading, prayer, singing and the ordinances.

V. Conclusion

Meeting With God: Daily time that we set aside for fellowship with God in His Word, in prayer and through the church so that we would know Him more, know ourselves in light of Him, and know the world according to God's perspective.

Jesus the Great Philosopher

During this core class, to supplement our time together, we invite you to read Jonathan Pennington's new book, **Jesus the Great Philosopher**. It not a long book and it pairs very well with what we will be talking about in Meeting with God. Consider the reading guide you received when arrived or online.