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A Ministry that Focuses on Bible Study, the Word of God, the Ways of Jesus Christ!

Teacher: Koko ISHE

Contact: yourBibleStudyMinistry@Gmail.com Twitter.com/biblestudymin Facebook.com/biblestudyministry

Today's Subject & Title

How Do We Know God Exist?

Welcome or welcome back to BibleStudyMinistry.com – an <u>online Bible study</u> for Christians interested in studying and learning more about the Jesus within the pages of the Bible. This week's Sabbath Bible study is titled, How do we know God Exists?

The real answer to this question is hard for anyone to prove. In our little physical world, proof is by proving with the five senses (sight, sound, touch, smell, and taste). But, how do you do that with the Creator? It becomes a silly question because, who can go get God and say, "See, I told you He is real. Now give me my money." Right...

But the way to do it is to begin from the very basic formation. And I'm going to show you how right now. This is not the full lesson, but it is a brief way to show anyone the existence of God. The simplest way to view this is to look outside. There are things in this world and man made things also.

Let's begin with the car (for example). If there is a car, there is a car-maker. Did the car just appear here by evolution? Let's look into the iPad or computer (computing system) as another example. These complex things did not come into existence through evolution or a big bang; they were created.



Most of the smartest men and women the world has ever seen, such as Al Einstein, Steve Jobs, Sir Isaac Newton, Leonardo Da Vinci all acknowledge a Creator or Higher

Being (or something else out there). The reason why many of them came to this conclusion is because they know that anything that works well in the world is put together by a system.

Our world is based on the solar system, and it operates continuously without break, without interruption. The complexity of the solar system, yet the simplicity of its' routine operation is still an amazement to man.

Something of the magnitude of the solar system is certainly not just going to appear out of thin air. It had to be put together. It had to be formed and created. The complexity and simplicity of the world, the human body, the animal kingdom, even the air and atmospheres all point to a "Mad Scientist" who put it all together.

Who is this "Mad Scientist?"

Even though these smart men were highly intelligent, sometimes the inconsistency and incorrect teaching of the Bible may have lead them away from Christianity and being a disciple of Jesus Christ as has been done to many people of the world. Nevertheless, if you are trying prove the existence of God or a God, you would have to begin with a thorough research and investigation of all the gods of the world.

If you did not want to travel to every country and research every god in the world, a good thing for you would to be born in the internet age where you can go country-to-country all with the click of a mouse.

A humorous, yet inconclusive website I ran into some time ago was one site called <u>the</u> <u>God checker</u> (it a guide to the gods). It gives a brief report about all the different gods in all the different countries. One thing is for sure, each country or nation had their own gods. A good starting point is to simply research each god and see who has the most validating story.

Now if we do a rank on the religions with the most members as our validating religion, we'd come back to Christianity. I pulled the list below from adherents.com¹:

- 1. Christianity: 2.1 billion
- 2. Islam: 1.5 billion
- 3. Secular/Nonreligious/Agnostic/Atheist: 1.1 billion

¹ http://www.adherents.com/Religions_By_Adherents.html

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- 4. Hinduism: 900 million
- 5. Chinese traditional religion: 394 million
- 6. Buddhism: 376 million
- 7. primal-indigenous: 300 million
- 8. African Traditional & Diasporic: 100 million
- 9. Sikhism: 23 million
- 10. Juche: 19 million
- 11.Spiritism: 15 million
- 12.Judaism: 14 million
- 13.Baha'i: 7 million
- 14. Jainism: 4.2 million
- 15.Shinto: 4 million
- 16.Cao Dai: 4 million
- 17. Zoroastrianism: 2.6 million
- 18. Tenrikyo: 2 million
- 19.Neo-Paganism: 1 million
- 20. Unitarian-Universalism: 800 thousand
- 21.Rastafarianism: 600 thousand
- 22. Scientology: 500 thousand

Now many of these religions are bad sects of Christianity, but with these staggering numbers, I believe we have to rearrange or readdress our original question. Instead of how do we know God exist, it should be asked, how do we know which God is the real God? And then for Christians, it would be asked, how do we know the God of the Bible exist?



Now we can work with this because we can carefully study the Word of God and see if there is validity to it. The first thing is to study **the creation story** and see if this makes any sense at all (we won't study it here but will soon but I can tell you the creation story of the Bible definitely does make sense).

Then you have to study **the fundamental practices** the God of the Bible requires; these are laws, statues, and judgments. You probably would ask yourself do these make sense. Next you would have to be sure the **contextual history the God of the Bible presents** matches up or correlates with the **contextual history of the world**.

The next thing is to see **the accuracy of past and present prophecies**, and see if future prophecies appear to be lining up. With all of this, you would without doubt know that a God exist based on knowledge, faith, and the final piece to the puzzle is to show forth your works (which backs your faith). This is the path to finding out if God exists.

The nations have always had their gods. The God of Israel (God of the Bible) spoke to His children and asked a question. He asked the children of Israel to search out diligently the entire world and see if such a thing has ever happened before. He wanted them to see if a nation has ever changed their gods (even though their gods are not really gods)?

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The children of Israel changed gods, giving up the real God of Israel for all the bologna we see all over the world (gods that do not profit). This is so outlandish that the God of Israel called for the heavens to be astonished and horribly afraid because His children have done two unbearably evil things. They have forsaken their very own fountain of Living Waters (Jesus Christ), and made religions or joined religions that have holes in it and it cannot hold water (Jeremiah 2 v10-14).

The nations that have come to Christianity have taken the names associated with Christianity; however, they have kept their own personal gods they had prior to the conquest of Christianity. This is pointed out in the scripture above (Jeremiah 2), but also by example.

2nd Kings 17 v25-33

In this example, the king of Assyria had taken the children of Israel (Samaria – 10 tribes) captive and brought in groups of different nations in to live in their land in northern Israel. However, the people did not fear the God of Israel, thus they did whatever they wanted in the land. To stop this, the God of Israel sent lions in among them, which began to slay a lot of people. This caused many people to complain to the king (of Assyria).

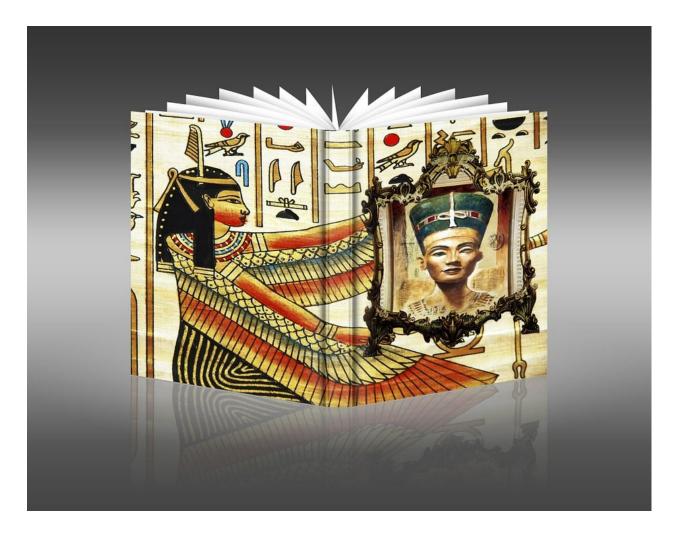
The antidote was to send in a teaching priest who understood the ways of the God of the land to teach the new citizens the ways of the God of Israel. A Levite was sent in and taught them how they should fear the LORD. Nevertheless, every nation of people living in the land still made gods of their own and put them in their houses. The scripture says 'they feared the God of Israel, but continued to serve their own gods.

It is no different today; people may fear Jesus (the name) but they practice (thus serve) their own gods.

33 They feared the LORD, and served their own gods, after the manner of the nations whom they carried away from thence.

Paul reaffirms this to us by reminding us that the Gentiles sacrifice to devils. This can be read in first Corinthians chapter ten and verse twenty (**1st Corinthians 10 v20).** The Gentiles, our European brothers and sisters, sacrifice and serve devils (that was until they met Jesus Christ). Look back at all the Greek gods, Roman gods, goddesses, and other pagan practices (sun worship, moon worship, planet worship, rocks, stones, and trees) and false gods the Gentiles had.

The odd thing is that the Gentiles received most of their religious views and practices from the old school sons of Ham (the practices of the 7 nations God sent Israel to destroy and also the gods of Egypt (Egyptology)).



With this being noted, just because Christian churches slap the name of Jesus on their church does not mean they are practicing the ways of the God of Israel (Jesus). How do we know God exist (how do we know the God of Israel exist)? We know by simply reading and studying His Word. You can say that about any god in the world, but I would suggest you check them out.

Any one or thing claiming to be God should give account to their creation. The God of Israel does that and does it more accurately than any other god ever mentioned. Bible Study Ministry will study these accounts to be sure we edify you so your understanding is thoroughly expanded and able to receive the God of Israel with full understanding and full faith. God bless you in Jesus name, amen. Study to show yourself approved and this is how we know God exist.

Minister Koko Ishe Bible Study Ministry