

Study Lesson Number 4

How do we know about God?

We know about God through reason and revelation.

Can we know by our natural reason that there is a God?

We can know by our natural reason that there is a God, for natural reason tells us that the world we see about us could have been made only by a self-existing Being, all-wise and almighty.

We study the world with our mind, and with our reason we can come to see what its Maker must be like. If we study a picture, we can learn something about its artist: his artistic ability, his eyesight, his sentiments, etc. If we study the world, we can see God's power and intelligence, His mercy, love, beauty etc.

Can we know God in any other way than by our natural reason?

Besides knowing God by our natural reason, we can also know Him from supernatural Revelation, that is, from the truths found in Sacred Scripture and in Tradition, which God Himself has revealed to us.

Supernatural means "above the natural." These truths are above our natural power to think out for ourselves. God had to tell us or we would not know them.

What do we mean when we say that God has revealed these truths to us?

When we say that God has revealed these truths to us we mean that He has made them known to certain persons, to be announced to their fellow men as the Word of God.

These persons chosen and sent by God are called "witnesses" to Him. The prophets and Apostles were the chief witnesses. Our Lord said to the Apostles, "You shall be witnesses for Me . . . . even to the very ends of the earth."  
(Acts 1 -8)

Discussion Questions:

Does God look like an old man with a long white beard?

Is an angel a spirit? Is a soul a spirit?

What is a spirit?

Does God know what we are thinking right now?

Suppose someone told you there was no God. How could you show him he was wrong?

Read from the Bible:

The perfections of God - - PSALMS 28; 32; 45; 102; 135; 138; 143; 144.

God can be known by reason - - Romans Chapter 1 Verses 18-23.

Is the following statement true or false?

God cannot stop people from committing sin.

If true - WHY? If false - - WHY?