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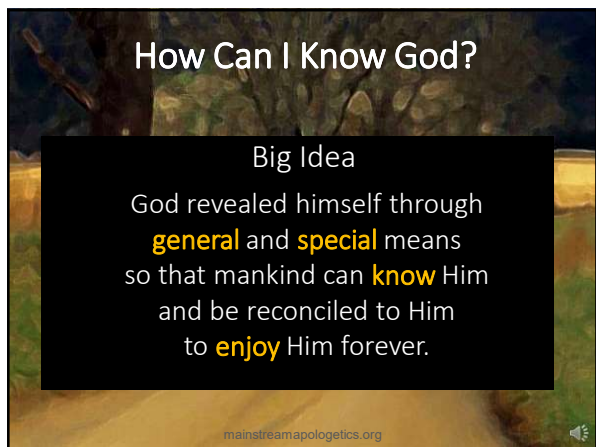
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# How Can I Know God?

## Means of Revelation

(Overview)

God Makes Himself Known to Mankind by both **General** and **Special** Means

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# How Can I Know God?

## Means of Revelation

(Overview)

**General Revelation**  
External – Creation  
Internal – Moral Conscience

**Special Revelation**  
External – Prophets, Jesus  
Internal – Holy Spirit

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# How Can I Know God?

## General Revelation

(Overview)



Universally Available to **All** People for **All** Time

Observing God in Creation: **His Power** and **Nature**

Knowing God as **Creator**

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## How Can I Know God?

General Revelation  
(External - Creation)

- <sup>1</sup>The heavens **proclaim** the glory of God.  
The skies **display** his craftsmanship.
- <sup>2</sup>Day after day they continue to **speak**;  
night after night they **make him known**.
- <sup>3</sup>They **speak** without a **sound** or **word**;  
their **voice** is **never heard**.
- <sup>4</sup>Yet their **message** has gone throughout the  
earth, and their **words** to all the world."

Psalm 19:1-4 (NLT)  
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## How Can I Know God?

General Revelation  
(External - Creation)

Universe Had a **Supernatural Beginning**

**Fine-Tuning** of the Universe

Cambrian **Explosion** of Life

**Blueprint** for Life

Universal **Design Patterns**

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## How Can I Know God?

General Revelation  
(External - Creation)

"They know the **truth about God** because he has made it **obvious** to them. For ever since the world was created, people have **seen** the earth and the sky. Through everything God made, they can **clearly see** his invisible qualities—his **eternal power** and **divine nature**."

Romans 1:19-20 (NLT)  
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## How Can I Know God?

### General Revelation

(External - Creation)

Creation was subjected to **frustration**.

Creation has been **groaning** as in the **pains** of childbirth right up to the present time.

Creation will be liberated from its **bondage** to **decay**.

We **groan** inwardly as we wait eagerly for the **redemption** of our bodies.

Romans 8:20-23 (NIV)

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## How Can I Know God?

### General Revelation

(External - Creation)

#### Emergent Religious Beliefs Among Indigenous Tribes

- Existence of an All-Powerful/Knowing Deity
- Existence of Evil/Morality
- Existence of a Judging/Punitive Deity
- Rituals of Appeasement/Atonement

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## How Can I Know God?

### General Revelation

(Internal - Conscience)

Even Gentiles, who do not have God's written law, show that they know his law when they **instinctively** obey it, even without having heard it. They demonstrate that God's law **is written in their hearts**, for their own **conscience** and **thoughts** either accuse them or tell them they are doing right.

Romans 2:14-15

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## How Can I Know God?

**General Revelation**  
(Internal - Conscience)

**Psychological Science of Morality**

"Evidence suggests that we're all born with some **innate sense of morality** and fairness."  
David Pizarro (Cornell University)

"Babies are **predisposed** to interact with good people."  
Karen Wynn (Yale University)

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## How Can I Know God?

**General Revelation**  
(Internal - Conscience)

**Innate Sense of Moral "Rightness"**

People are Driven by a Sense of **Rightness**

Mankind was Created with an Innate Desire to be in **Harmony** with Others

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## How Can I Know God?

**General Revelation**  
(Summary)

**General Revelation** provides knowledge of a Creator-God

Because creation is marked by the consequence of sin, it creates in each of us a sense of **wrongness**, and a **longing** for a **lasting peace** with God, and **freedom** from the **guilt of sin**

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# How Do I Know Life Was Created for a Purpose?

## Reflection

**Q1:** How do you **observe** God in creation?

**Q2:** What **evidence** convinces you of the **existence** of God?

**Q3:** How is creation marked by the consequences of **sin**?

**Q4:** How do you experience the **conflict** between **right** and **wrong, good** and **evil**?

**Q5:** What is your biggest takeaway from today's training?

**BONUS:** **What** do you believe to be true about God based today's teaching? **Why** do you believe it to be true?

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