Your Kingdom Come: Lesson #1

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Author: patt

Scriptural Foundations of the Christian Faith

by Pastor Gary Craun

This is a brief systematic theology built around the theme of God's Kingdom. Discovery Bible Study (DBS) lessons follow this document by topic. Corresponding DBS lesson numbers are listed at the beginning of each section

Lesson #1: The Nature and Existence of God

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God is the I AM (DBS#1)

God spoke to Moses out of the burning bush on Mount Horeb, and told him to go and lead the Israelites out of slavery. Moses asked God what he should tell the Israelites when they asked him for the name of the God who sent him. God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM" This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations." (Exodus 3:13-15) But why did God call Himself the I AM? What was He trying to tell Moses (and us) about Himself? Simply speaking God was saying that *He exists, that He is real, that He always has been, and He always will be.* God had no beginning and He will have no end. God needs nothing and no one. He is completely independent. He is not dependent on anyone or anything outside of Himself. God never changes. We grow and change with time, but God is the same, yesterday, today, and forever. (Revelation 9:9-20; Hebrews 13:8)

God was the first.

He is the only being in all of the heavens and the earth that was not created. God created the heavens and the earth. He made the angels and all heavenly beings. He made the stars, the sun, the earth, all plants and animals, and every human being. He can do whatever He wants, because He answers to no one but Himself. But God is not selfish, He is self-fulfilling. He is fulfilled in all He does. God is creative and He loves to create. He found great joy in creating the heavens and the earth. God especially delights in showing mercy, and He rejoices over every sinner who

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