

# **GRACE BIBLE CHURCH**

## **Growing Believer's Class**

***Seven Premises***

## **Premise (or Axiom)**

**A term used in logic for something taken for granted as true; accepted without proof as self-evident; forming the basis for other ideas or concepts.**

1. *God exists*
2. *God is absolute*
3. *God reveals Himself*
4. *God is understandable*
5. *God has a plan*
6. *You are the object of that plan*
7. *You owe God a hearing*

# **1. God Exists**

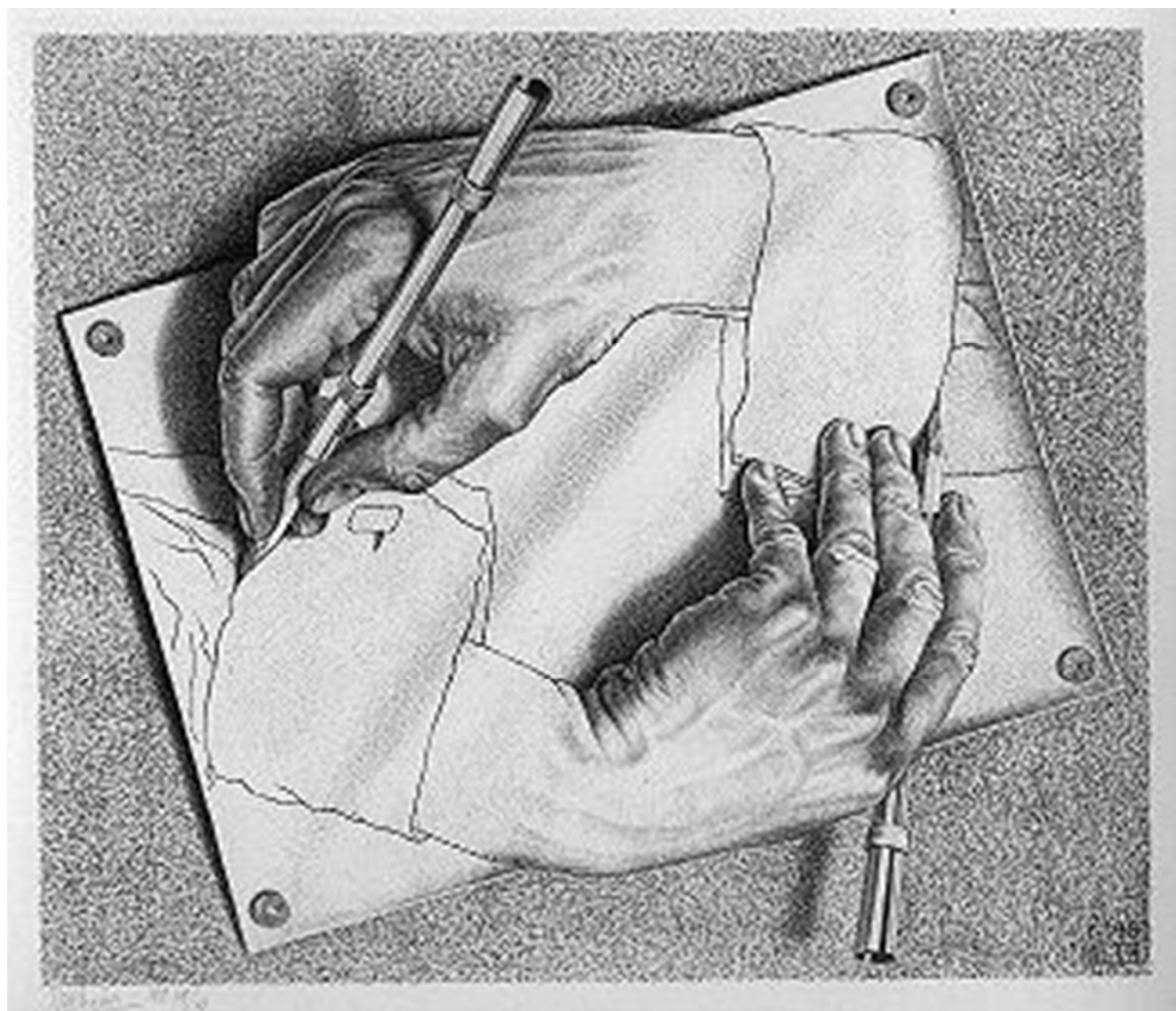
- A. God's existence is self-evident through revelation.**
  - 1) Two categories of revelation:**
    - a. General revelation**
    - b. Special revelation**
  - 2) Man's choice is central—God will not force people to choose rightly.**

# ***God's Purpose in General Revelation***

- **God intends for men to become aware of Him.**
- **Then He intends that men make a yes or no choice to know more about Him.**
- **If “yes” then God moves them from General revelation to Special revelation.**

# ***Four Methods of General Revelation***

1. Through Creation – the Cosmological argument
  - a. Every effect has a cause.
  - b. Every effect depends on its own cause.
  - c. Nature cannot create itself.



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1. Through Creation – the Cosmological argument
  - a. Every effect has a cause.
  - b. Every effect depends on its own cause.
  - c. Nature cannot create itself.
  - d. There cannot be an infinite chain of cause and effect.
  - e. Therefore there must be a First Cause that is not itself an effect.



# ***Four Methods of General Revelation***

1. Through Creation – the Cosmological argument
  - Creation does not simply exist—some Creator made it.
  - The Creator sustains and interacts with His creation continually: Psalm 19:1-6; Romans 1:18-32, and others.

# ***Four Methods of General Revelation***

## **2. Through Order – the Teleological Argument**

- a. Natural functions show purpose, order, and intelligent design.
- b. If a watch exists, there must be a watchmaker.
- c. Not only is there a First Cause, but this First Cause is intelligent and acts with purpose, order, and deliberate design.

# ***Four Methods of General Revelation***

## **3. Through Man – the Anthropological Argument**

- a. Man is a being with a soul and an innate sense of morality, of right and wrong, and some sense of God.
- b. This demands a Creator. Random interactions of matter could not have resulted in man.
- c. Scripture declares this: Genesis 1:26-27; Psalm 94:9

# ***Four Methods of General Revelation***

4. Through Existence – the Ontological Argument
  - a. Man is a being who has the idea of a greater, more perfect being.
  - b. Within mankind exists the idea of God.
  - c. Evolution cannot account for this.

## **2. God is Absolute**

### **A. Absolute God means:**

- 1) God is infinite in His being.**
- 2) He is perfect in His qualities.**
- 3) He is complete in His essence.**
- 4) God is unique in His existence—  
Isaiah 43:10; 44:6; 45:5-6.**

## **Isaiah 45:5-6**

“I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me, so that from the rising of the sun to the place of its setting men may know there is none besides me. I am the LORD, and there is no other.”

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### **3. God Reveals Himself**

**He has revealed Himself in many ways:**

- To Moses in the burning bush.**
- Through angels.**
- Through prophets and apostles.**
- Through the Bible**

## **4. God Makes Sense**

- **He cannot reveal Himself directly—Exodus 33:20.**
- **He is infinitely higher than man, so He must “stoop” to speak to us.**
- **All-powerful God is able to make perfect sense to us.**
- **His plan for us is perfectly understandable.**

## **5. God Has a Plan**

- **God created us on purpose,**
- **Therefore He has a purpose for us.**
- **He desires to reveal Himself to us,**
- **Therefore He wants us to know His plan and purpose for our lives.**

## **6. You are the Object of God's Plan**

**Salvation Scriptures:**

- **John 3:16**
- **John 20:31**

**God's plan doesn't stop at salvation—He has made an incredible plan individually for each one of us.**

## **7. You Owe God a Hearing**

- **God left nothing undone in His plan—We can add nothing to it.**
- **He gave us everything in His Son—the only thing we can give Him is a hearing.**
- **We are responsible to make choices relative to God and what He offers us.**
- **Man is a free moral agent.**

## **7. You Owe God a Hearing**

- **Since God created a plan for us we owe it to him to hear that plan.**
- **God holds us responsible for our choices relative to His plan for us.**
- **Unbelievers will be called to account at the Great White Throne judgment – Rev. 20:11-15.**
- **Believers are judged at the Judgment Seat of Christ – Rom. 14:10-12.**

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