

Simplified Definitions: God

Evangelicalism

God is the God revealed in the Biblical Gospel; the sovereign God almighty. God is one but subsists in a Trinity of three equally divine persons sharing the same essence.

Monotheism

Belief in one supreme God.

Polytheism

Belief in many gods.

Theism

Belief in the existence of a god, especially belief in one god as creator of the universe, intervening in it and sustaining a personal relation to his creatures. The opposite of Deism.

Deism

Belief in a god who created the world and set up its laws but does not intervene in the universe afterwards. A theology popular in the 17th and 18th centuries, which accepted a divine creation but rejected a deity who interacts with humans.

Atheism

Denial of the existence of God.

Agnosticism

Ambivalent about the existence of God.

Open Theism

Radical Arminianism. God is not sovereign and is limited by human self-determination. Thus he cannot know the future.

Pantheism

A type of Monism (all is one); the universe is god.

Panentheism

The doctrine that God is greater than the universe and includes and interpenetrates it.

Paganism (heathenism)

A variety of heretical ideas about God, such as: many individual gods with different powers; gods are deified kings; gods are the personification of natural forces such as storms; gods are dead human beings; gods are angels derived from a central force; etc.

Satanism (Luciferianism)

Satan is God or Satan is more powerful than God. Worship of Satan.

Hinduism (also many New Age cults)

No personal god; god is a universal soul. Perfected men merge with this world soul.