

THEOLOGY- 101

God Talk – Part 1

March 6, 2011

Jude 3

1. WHY THEOLOGY MATTERS?

My Worldview: The beliefs I build my life on.

■ **“God does not exist or matter” - Naturalism**

“From the beginning of creation, God has shown what He is like by all He has made. That’s why those people don’t have an excuse. They know about God but they don’t honor Him or even thank Him...They claim to be wise, but they are fool’s.” Romans 1:20-22 (CEV)

■ **“You are your own god” - Humanism**

“They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped created things rather than the Creator.” Romans 1:25 (NIV)

■ **“I’ve got to think of me first”- Individualism**

“If you try to keep your life for yourself you will lose it. But if you give up your life for Me, you will find true life.” Matthew 16:25 (NLT)

■ **“God made me for His purposes” - Theism**

*“For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible... everything got started in Him and finds its purpose in Him.”
Colossians 1:16 (Mess)*

2. THE GOALS OF THEOLOGY

A. Determine what is and is not orthodox.

*“Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.”
Jude 3 (NKJV)*

B. To present the Christian faith to the world.

“...And if you are asked about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it.” I Peter 3:15 (NLT)

C. Serves the practice of Christian ministry.

*“Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.”
James 1:22 (NIV)*

3. THREE COMMITMENTS

■ **LEARN WHAT IS TRUE**

“Learn the truth and never reject it. Get wisdom, self-control, and understanding.” Proverbs 23:23 (NCV)

■ **DISCERN WHAT IS FALSE.**

“Don’t believe everything you hear. Carefully weigh and examine what people tell you. Not everyone who talks about God comes from God. There are lots of lying teachers loose in the world.” I John 4:1 (Mess)

■ **TURN FROM THE WORLD TO THE WORD**

“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—His good, pleasing and perfect will.” Romans 12:2 (NIV)