

Doctrinal Studies

False Systems of Approaching God

POLYTHEISM

1. Taken from two Greek words polus = many, and theos = God.
2. Polytheism is the belief in the plurality of gods, like the Greek and Roman pantheon. The Greek pantheon rejected all truth and had its own substitute.

PANTHEISM

1. Taken from two Greek words – pan=all, Theos= god, ALL GODS.
2. It is the philosophy that God and Universe are one.
3. It denies the transcendency of God or that God has any existence outside of the Universe.
4. It denies the personality of God and claims that He exists as the sum total of all life that is.
5. Pantheism denies God's personality and expresses a tendency to identify God and nature.

MATERIALISM

1. Materialism does not mean to like material things.
2. Philosophical materialism is a technical expression for a form of atheism which denies the existence of God and claims that in the material substance is the basis for and the only explanation of all things.
3. Philosophical materialism contends that matter is eternal and the life is only a product of matter.
4. This is the philosophy of communism today.
5. The concept that man is merely materialistic. He has no soul; therefore this concept is used by the communistic machine.

DEISM

1. God is personal, Infinite, Holy, and the Creator of the Universe.
2. Deism goes on to say that He purposely abandoned his creation when completed with the intent that it would be self-sustaining and self-promoting by forces that are resident in it. You can be a believer and be a deist, but you have to be a believer in the Cosmic System.
3. Deism rejects the Scriptures or any suggestion that God is imminent in the Universe or transcendent.
4. Deism began in the 17th Century and it included in its adherents people like Thomas Paine, David Hume, Gibbon, and Voltaire.

IDEALISM

1. Idealism is used in a technical, philosophical sense. It means a system of thought which contends that the mind is the only entity and the the material universe is no more than an impression or an illusion of the mind.
2. Some idealists do believe in God but they deny His creation of material things.
3. It is perhaps, possible, to be philosophically an idealist and be born again, but you have to live out your life in the cosmic system.

EVOLUTION

1. It says in effect that there are many forms. The cosmos has been developed from crude, homogeneous material to its present heterogeneous and advanced state by means of resident forces. That is the correct definition of Evolution.

2. There are two kinds of evolution: Theistic and Atheistic. (1) Theistic Evolution is the type of evolution that many believers who are in some field of science have adopted to avoid argumentation with others in their field. Theistic Evolution recognizes God as the Creator of the original material. But Theistic Evolution contends that evolution is the method by which all develop from a supposed primordial state to the present completeness has been accomplished. This means that God just started things rolling and then stepped out—and is still out to lunch. (2) Atheistic Evolution rejects the person of God and contends that matter is eternal and self-developing.

POSITIVISM

1. A philosophical system is concerned with positive facts and phenomena.
2. Positivism is a system of thought which accepts nothing which cannot be accredited by human evidence. IT DISREGARDS BOTH GOD AND THE SOUL.