**THEOLOGY**

**A Study of God, the Author of Salvation**

**神论**

**神，救恩赐予者**

**Chapter 3 – The Natural and Revealed Knowledge of God**

**第三章——自然的神的知识和启示的神的知识**

**Chapter 4 – The Essense and Attributes of God**

**第四章——神的本质和属性**

**Lesson 9 ~ ALS bilingual pdf file:**

**Chapter 3, pages 1-7**

**Chapter 4, pages 1-6**

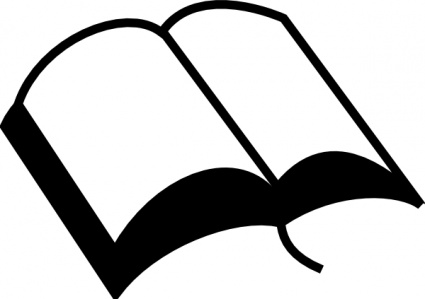
**第九课~ALS双语PDF文件**

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**Introduction简介**



In lesson 8 we learned what “higher criticism” of the Bible is. Higher criticism is a system for interpreting the Bible. However, higher criticism is a false system. Higher criticism is based on unbelief. Higher critics do not believe that the Bible is the verbally inspired Word of the true God. Therefore, we who trust the Word of God to be true and saving will not trust this false way of interpreting the Bible.

在第八课中，我们学习了什么是对待圣经的“高等考证”。高等考证是一套解释圣经的方法。不过，这套方法是错误的。高等考证乃是基于不信。高等考证专家们并不相信圣经是神默示的话。所以，我们作为相信神的话就是真理能够带来救恩之人，不能相信错误的解释圣经的方法。

In lesson 8 we also reviewed the confessions of faith. These confessions of faith include the ancient and universally accepted creeds and those produced in the 16th century. We can confidently use these confessions because they faithfully summarize what the Bible teaches about matters of faith and life.

在第八课中，我们也复习了信仰的信条。这些信条包括一些古老的普世接受的信经，也包括一些成文于十六世纪的信条。我们可以很有信心地使用这些信条，因为它们忠诚地总结了圣经关于信仰和生命的教导。

Lesson 8 ended the unit called “prolegomena”. This opening unit prepared us for the unit we begin now: Theology.

第八课是“绪论”单元的最后一课。而本课则是一个新单元的开始：神论。

Theology is a study of who God is. In certain ways, all people know about God. This is called the “natural knowledge” about God. God reveals more about himself in his Word, the Bible. This is called the “revealed knowledge” about God.

神论学习神是谁。通过这种或者那种方式，人们多多少少知道神。这是关于神的“自然的知识”。神通过他的话向人们启示更多关于他的事情，这个启示就是圣经。而这就是关于神的“启示的知识”。

**The Natural and Revealed Knowledge of God (Chapter 3)**

**关于神的自然知识和启示知识（第三章）**

1. **“Theology” is based on what God has revealed to us about himself.**

**“神论”乃是基于神向我们所启示的他自己**

* + - 1. We can know God only to the extent that God has revealed himself to us.

我们对神的了解限于神向我们所作的对自己的启示

* 1. Romans 11:33

罗11:33

**33**Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!  
    How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

深哉，神丰富的智慧和知识。

他的判断，何其难测，他的踪迹，何其难寻，

* 1. Isaiah 45:15赛45:15

**15**Truly you are a God who has been hiding himself,  
    the God and Savior of Israel. (NIV 2011)

救主以色列的神阿，

你实在是自隐的神。

1. Because we are sinful, we are not able to see God fully.

我们都是罪人，不能完全看到神。

* 1. Exodus 33:18-20 出33:18-20

**18**Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.” **19**And the Lord said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the Lord, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. **20**But,” he said, “***you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live***.”

摩西说，求你显出你的荣耀给我看。耶和华说，我要显我一切的恩慈，在你面前经过，宣告我的名。我要恩待谁就恩待谁，要怜悯谁就怜悯谁，又说，***你不能看见我的面，因为人见我的面不能存活***。

1. When we are fully like Jesus, we will see him face to face.

当我们完全像耶稣的时候，就能够面对面见他。

* 1. Psalm 17:15 诗17:15

**15**Indeed, in righteousness I will view your face. When I awake, I will be satisfied with seeing your likeness. (EHV)

至于我，我必在义中见你的面。我醒了的时候，得见你的形像，就心满意足了。

* 1. Philippians 3:21 腓3:21

**21**By the power that enables him to subject all things to himself, he will transform our humble bodies to be like his glorious body.

他要按着那能叫万有归服自己的大能，将我们这卑贱的身体改变形状，和他自己荣耀的身体相似。

* 1. 1 John 3:1-3 约一3:1-3

See the kind of love the Father has given us that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are! The world does not know us, because it did not know him. **2**Dear friends, we are children of God now, but what we will be has not yet been revealed. ***We know that when he is revealed we will be like him, and we will see him as he really is***. **3**Everyone who has this hope purifies himself just as Jesus is pure.

你看父赐给我们是何等的慈爱，使我们得称为神的儿女。我们也真是他的儿女。世人所以不认识我们，是因未曾认识他。亲爱的弟兄阿，我们现在是神的儿女，将来如何，还未显明。但我们知道主若显现，***我们必要像他。因为必得见他的真体***。凡向他有这指望的，就洁净自己，像他洁净一样。

1. We must ***not*** try to know more than God has revealed to us about himself

我们不能试图去知道一些神并未告诉我们的关于他的事情

* 1. Habakkuk 2:4

See, he is puffed up; his desires are not upright – but the righteous will live by his faith.

* 1. John 14:8-9The LORD reveals himself most fully to us in his Son. This statement of our Lord agrees with John 1:18.

神借着他的儿子向我们完全启示了他自己。该宣告和约1:18相一致。

Philip said, “Lord, show us the Father and that will be enough for us.”

Jesus answered: “Don’t you know me, Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? Anyone who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?

See the paragraphs which treat the name for God in Chinese: Shen, Sheng-di or Tian-zhu. These paragraphs are included on page 6, chapter 3, ALS pdf.

见描写中文当中神的名字的段落：神，上帝，天主。这些段落在ALS PDF文件第三章第6页。

1. **All people have natural knowledge about God.**

**每个人都有关于神的自然知识**

1. Natural knowledge about God is found in the creation around us.

关于神的自然知识可见于我们周围的受造之物当中。

* 1. The creation tells us something about God’s character.

受造之告诉我们关于神的属性的一些知识

* + 1. Romans 1:20

罗1:20

**20**For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

自从造天地以来，神的永能和神性是明明可知的，虽是眼不能见，但借着所造之物，就可以晓得，叫人无可推诿。

* 1. The creation proclaims this message everywhere people live.

受造之物在人们居住的每个地方传扬这个信息

* + 1. Psalm 19:1-4

**1**The heavens declare the glory of God;  
    the skies proclaim the work of his hands.  
**2**Day after day they pour forth speech;  
    night after night they reveal knowledge.  
**3*They have no speech, they use no words;  
    no sound is heard from them.***  
4Yet their voice goes out into all the earth,  
    their words to the ends of the world.

诗19:1-4

诸天述说神的荣耀，

穹苍传扬他的手段。

这日到那日发出言语。

这夜到那夜传出知识。

***无言无语，***

***也无声音可听。***

他的量带通遍天下，

他的言语传到地极。

* 1. The creation shows that God is kind and good.

受造之物表明神是良善的。

* + 1. Acts 14:17徒14:17

**17**Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy.”

然而为自己未尝不显出证据来，就如常施恩惠，从天降雨，赏赐丰年，叫你们饮食饱足，满心喜乐。

* 1. Natural knowledge should have a positive effect on people.

关于神的自然的知识应该对人有积极的效果。

* + 1. Acts 17:24-27 徒17:24-27

**24**“The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands.**25**And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else.**26**From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. **27*God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us***.

创造宇宙和其中万物的神，既是天地的主，就不住人手所造的殿。也不用人手服事，好像缺少什么，自己倒将生命气息，万物，赐给万人。他从一本造出万族的人，住在全地上，并且预先定准他们的年限，和所住的疆界。**要叫他们寻求神，或者可以揣摩而得，其实他离我们各人不远。**

1. Natural knowledge about God is also found in the conscience within us.

关于神的自然的知识也可见于我们的良心

* 1. Our conscience gives us an understanding of God’s law.

我们的良心使我们能够明白神的律法。

* + 1. Romans 2:14-15 罗2:14-15

**14**Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law. **15**They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them.

没有律法的外邦人，若顺着本性行律法上的事，他们虽然没有律法，自己就是自己的律法。这是显出律法的功用刻在他们心里，他们是非之心同作见证，并且他们的思念互相较量，或以为是，或以为非。

* 1. Our conscience makes us aware that we accountable to God.

我们的良心使我们知道我们要对神负责

* + 1. Romans 1:32 （See also Hebrews 4:13) 罗1:32 （亦见来4:13）

**2**Although they know God’s righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

他们虽知道神判定，行这样事的人是当死的，然而他们不但自己去行，还喜欢别人去行。

“Natural Knowledge” is the same in all people. This fact makes it possible for any of us to talk about good (moral) behavior and bad (immoral) behavior. It also means that no one can honestly say “There is no God”. Natural knowledge is therefore a “point of contact” with all people.

“自然的知识”对所有人都是一样的。这可以让我们谈论好（有道德的）行为和坏（缺德的）行为。这也意味着没有人可以问心无愧地说“没有神”。所以，自然的知识是和其他人的一个“接触点”。

1. Natural knowledge about God is not able to save sinners.

关于神的自然的知识不能使罪人得救

* 1. Only the gospel can save us.

唯有福音才能使我们得救

* + 1. John 1:17约1:17

**17**For the law was given through Moses; ***grace and truth*** came through Jesus Christ.

律法本是借着摩西传的，***恩典和真理***，都是由耶稣基督来的。

* + 1. Romans 10:17 罗10:17

**17**Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through ***the word about Christ.***

可见信道是从听道来的，听道是从***基督的话***来的。

* + 1. John 5:24 约5:24

**24**“Very truly I tell you, whoever hears ***my word*** and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life.

我实实在在地告诉你们，那听***我话***，又信差我来者的，就有永生，不至于定罪，是已经出死入生了。

**The Essence and Attributes of God (Chapter 4)**

**神的本质和属性（第四章）**

**A. God is one in number and substance: the essence of God.**

**神在数量和实质上只有一位：神的本质**

* + - 1. God is one of a kind.神只有一位。
         1. **God has no rival; there is no one to compare with God.**

**没有什么与神相等；没有什么可以和神相比**

Exodus 15:11

**11**Who among the gods is like you, Lord?  
Who is like you—majestic in holiness,  
awesome in glory, working wonders?

出15:11

耶和华阿，众神之中，谁能象你。

谁能象你，至圣至荣，

可颂可畏，施行奇事。

Isaiah 46:5

**5**“With whom will you compare me or count me equal?  
    To whom will you liken me that we may be compared?

赛46:5

你们将谁与我相比，与我同等，

可以与我比较，使我们相同呢？

Isaiah 40:18

**18**With whom, then, will you compare God?  
    To what image will you liken him?

赛40:18

你们究竟将谁比神，

用什么形像与神比较呢？

Isaiah 40:25

**25**“To whom will you compare me?  
    Or who is my equal?” says the Holy One.

赛40:25

那圣者说，你们将谁比我，

叫他与我相等呢？

* + - * 1. **We can know God only to the extent that the Bible tells us about God.**

**我们对神的认识限于圣经的启示**

* + - 1. God is indivisible.

神是不可分割的

Deuteronomy 6:4

**4**Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

申6:4

以色列阿，你要听。耶和华我们神是独一的主。

1 Corinthians 8:4 林前8:4

**4**So then, about eating food sacrificed to idols: We know that “An idol is nothing at all in the world” and that “There is no God but one.” 

论到吃祭偶像之物，我们知道偶像在世上算不得什么。也知道神只有一位，再没有别的神。

* + - 1. God is totally independent

神是完全独立的

* + - * 1. **God simply “is”.**

**神是“自在永在”**

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

创1:1

起初神创造天地。

* + - * 1. **Creation depends on God to exist.**

**受造之物需要神才能存续**

Hebrews 1:1-3

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, **2**but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and ***through whom also he made the universe***. **3**The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, ***sustaining all things by his powerful word***. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

来1:1-3 神既在古时借着众先知，多次多方的晓谕列祖，就在这末世，借着他儿子晓谕我们，又早已立他为承受万有的，也***曾借着他创造诸世界***。他是神荣耀所发的光辉，是神本体的真像，***常用他权能的命令托住万有***，他洗净了人的罪，就坐在高天至大者的右边。

Revelation 4:11

**11**Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive the glory and the honor and the power, for you have created all things, and because of your will they existed and were created. (EHV)

启4:11

我们的主，我们的神，你是配得荣耀尊贵权柄的。因为你创造了万物，并且万物是因你的旨意被创造而有的。

* + - 1. The true God tells us about himself through his personal names as revealed in his Word, the Bible.

真神在圣经他默示的话中向我们启示了他的名字，告诉我们关于他的事。兰格教授的书当中有更多神的名字。其中，这三个最为重要。

* + - * 1. **Elohim (God)**

**以罗欣 (Elohim)（神）**

*The name Elohim tells us that God is eternal and all powerful.*

*以罗欣这个名字告诉我们神是永恒的，是全能的。*

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

创1:1

起初神创造天地。

Psalm 90:2

**2**Before the mountains were born, before you gave birth to the earth and the world, from eternity to eternity you are God.

诗90:2

诸山未曾生出，地与世界你未曾造成，从亘古到永远，你是神。

Deuteronomy 32:39

**39**“See now that I myself am he! There is no god besides me. I put to death and I bring to life, I have wounded and I will heal, and no one can deliver out of my hand.

申32:39

你们如今要知道，我，惟有我是神。在我以外并无别神。我使人死，我使人活。我损伤，我也医治，并无人能从我手中救出来。

* + - * 1. **Yahweh (LORD; Jehovah)**

**雅威（主；耶和华）**

*The name Yahweh tells us that God is love and that he is faithful.*

*雅威这个名字告诉我们神就是爱，是信实的。*

Exodus 3:14-15

**14**God said to Moses, “I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I am has sent me to you.’”

出3:14

**14**神对摩西说，我是自有永有的。又说，你要对以色列人这样说，那自有的打发我到你们这里来。

**15**God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’

“This is my name forever,  
    the name you shall call me  
    from generation to generation.

**15**神又对摩西说，你要对以色列人这样说，耶和华你们祖宗的神，就是亚伯拉罕的神，以撒的神，雅各的神，打发我到你们这里来。

耶和华是我的名，直到永远，

这也是我的纪念，直到万代。

The Father is Yahweh; the Son is Yahweh; the Spirit is Yahweh.

Nevertheless, Yahweh is one (Deuteronomy 6:4).

We will explore and meditate on the mystery of the Trinity in chapter 5, Lesson 11.

父是雅威；子是雅威；灵是雅威。

然而，雅威却是一位（申6:4）。

在第五章第11课当中，我们会探索并且默想三位一体的奥秘。

* + - * 1. **Adonai (Lord)**

**主**

The name Adonai tells us that God is our ruler; our master. God deserves our respect.

主这个名字告诉我们神是我们的王；我们的主人。神值得我们的敬拜。

Psalm 110:1

**1**The decree of the Lord to *my Lord*:[[1]](#footnote-1)  
“Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies  
    a footstool under your feet.”

诗110:1

耶和华对*我主***1**说，

你坐在我的右边，

等我使你仇敌作你的脚凳。



**Conclusion结语**

Who is the true God? That is one of the most important questions anyone can ask.

谁是真神？这是人们能够问出的最重要的问题。

God is one. There is only one true God.

神有一位。只有一位真神。

The true God created the universe. The creation tells us some things about God. We call this the “natural knowledge” about God.

这位真神创造了世界。受造之物都告诉我们关于神的一些知识。我们称之为关于神的“自然的知识”。

The true God is love (1 John 4:8). This good news is revealed to us on the pages of the Bible. We call this the “revealed knowledge” about God.

真神就是爱（约一4:8）。圣经的字里行间都向我们启示这个好消息。我们称之为关于神的“启示的知识”。

**DISCUSSION TIME**

**讨论时间**

**STUDENTS’ QUESTIONS**

**学生提问**

**INSTRUCTOR’S QUESTIONS**

**教师提问**

**Homework**

Review your notes from this lesson. Give correct answers to the following questions. You may also find correct answers to these questions in the book “God So Loved the World” as indicated on page 1 of this lesson. Be ready to discuss these questions and your answers at the beginning of the next session.

*Your first exam will follow lesson 12 of this course.*

1. What is theology? 神学是什么？

2. Explain: to a large part, God remains a hidden God. Ro 11:33

请解释：很大程度上，神依旧是一位自隐的神。罗11:33

3. Explain: We cannot speak of God’s person and work in greater detail than he has (cf. 1 Co

13:12).

请解释：对于神的位格和工作，我们所说的不能超过他告诉我们的（参见林前13:12）。

4. Apply this principle to:

把这一原则适用于：

a. Creation 创造

b. The problem of evil 关于邪恶的问题

c. God’s governance of the world. 神对世界的主宰

* + - 1. How do the following deal with the problem of evil?

下面这些和邪恶问题有何相关？

a. Manichaeism摩尼教

b. Christian Science基督教科学派

* + - 1. How does the Christian deal with the problem of evil?

基督徒如何看待邪恶问题？

* + - 1. How did Calvin try to “read” the mind of God?

加尔文如何尝试“读懂”神的心？

* + - 1. What does the Formula of Concord remind us of when dealing with what God has not revealed to us? Cf. FC SD XI: 52

关于神未启示我们的事情，《协同式》提醒我们应该如何对待？参见FC SD XI: 52

9. Explain: Whatever is not biblical is not theological.

请解释：不符合圣经的就是不符合神学的。

**People have a natural knowledge of God.**

**人们有关于神的自然的知识。**

1. What are the two sources of the natural knowledge of God?

关于神的自然的知识的两大来源是什么？

a. Ro 1:20 罗1:20

b. Ro 2:14,15 罗2:14,15

2. Can we assume that people know God exists? Explain.

我们能否假设人们知道神是存在的？请解释。

1. Why do some deny the existence of God?

为什么有些人否认神的存在？

1. What is the value of the natural knowledge of God? Ac 17:24-28

关于神的自然的知识的功效是什么？徒17:24-28

1. What doesn’t the natural knowledge of God tell us? (Ro 10:17).

关于神的自然知识不能告诉我们的是什么？（罗10:17）

1. Explain and evaluate the following philosophical arguments for the existence of God:

解释并评价下列各项关于神存在的哲学论证：

a. Ontological 本体论

b. Historical 历史论

c. Cosmological 宇宙论

d. Teleological 目的论

e. Moral 伦理论

1. How do we witness to someone who denies or questions the existence of God?

对于否认神的存在或者质疑神的存在的人，我们该如何向他们做见证？

**The Essence and Attributes of God**

**神的本质和属性**

**God is one in number and substance: the essence of God.**

**神在数量上和本质上都为一：神的本质**

1. Why do we have trouble describing God? Ex. 15:11

为什么在描述神的时候我们会遇到问题？出15:11

2. Explain:

请解释：

a. God is one: Isa 43:11神是一位：赛43:11

b. Unity in the exclusive sense: Isa 44:6 神只有一位：赛44:6

c. Unity in the absolute sense: Dt 6:4 神绝对只有一位：申6:4

d. God is a personal being: 2 Pe 3:9 神是有神性的：彼后3:9

e. The aseity of God: 1 Jn 5:20. 神是自在的：约一5:20

3. Explain how the following deny the unity of God:

请解释下列这些如何否认神：

a. Polytheism Polytheism believes in many gods. The religion of Mormonism is an example of Polytheism.

多神论 多神论相信很多神。摩门教就是多神论的一个例子。

b. Tritheism Tritheism denies the unity of God and teaches that there are three gods.

三神论 三神论否认神是一体的，其教导有三位神。

c. Dualism Dualism says that evil has always existed in an evil god who exists next to or beside the good god. Several ancient religions (Zoroastrianism, Manichaeism, Gnosticism) believed that the good god was opposed by an evil god. The popular ***Star Wars*** movies teach Dualism.

二元论 二元论认为邪恶一直存在于一位邪恶的神里面，而这位邪恶的神和良善的神一同存在。几种古代宗教（拜火教，摩尼教，诺斯替教）相信良善的神受到邪恶的神的敌对。流行电影《星球大战》就秉承二元论。

d. Monism Monism denies that God is distinct from the creation. Monism says that God and the creation are all part of one single principle.

一元论 一元论否认神和受造之物不同。一元论认为，神和受造之物都是某个原则的一部分。

e. Pantheism Pantheism identifies God with the world. New Age religions teach Pantheism

泛神论 泛神论把神和世界相等同。新世纪宗教秉承泛神论。

f. Materialism Materialism teaches that matter is indestructible, something that has always existed. Matter is elevated to the status of a god. The philosophy of evolution is a materialistic view of the world.

唯物论 唯物论教导，物质是不灭的，是永存的。物质被上升到神的地位。进化论的理论就是一种唯物主义世界观。

4. Explain the special meanings of the following names of God:

请解释下列神的名字的特殊含义：

a. Yahweh (Jehovah): Ex 3:14,15, Jn 8:58

雅威（耶和华：出3:14,15，约8:58）

b. Elohim: Gen 1:1; 2 Ki 1:2; Ps 82:6; Dt. 32:39

以罗欣：创1:1；王下1:2；诗82:6；申32:39

c. Adonai主

d. El-Hay: Joshua 3:10 永生神：书3:10

e. El-Elyon: Ps 78:35 至高神： 诗78:35

f. El-Shaddai: Gen 17:1 全能的神： 创17:1

g. El-Gibbor: Isa 10:21; Is 9:6 全能的神： 赛10:21；赛9:6

1. El-Olam: Gen 21:33 永生神： 创21:33

1. “My Lord” is a reference to Jesus, the “Son of David” – See Matthew 22:44.

   “我主”是指耶稣，“大卫的子孙”——见太22:44。 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)