## The Hiddenness of God: Why Isn't God More Obvious?

God could easily make Himself undeniably obvious so that atheism wouldn't even be an option. But instead it looks like he is hiding himself and thereby contributing to unbelief - which is a sin! Today the hiddenness of God is among the most common objections that people voice. In this session we will see how the biblical authors wrestled with the question and how they answered it.

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## **A. Introduction:** The Problem Stated:

- 1. Carl Sagan, Woody Allen, Norwood Russell Hanson, Friedrich Nietzsche ...
- 2. The hiddenness of God as a version of the problem of evil

## **B.** The Christian Response

- 1. Understanding God's Character
- 2. Understanding God's Revelation Indirect in Creation
- 3. Understanding God's Revelation Personally in History
- 4. Understanding God's Miracles
- 5. Understanding God's Purposes

## C. Conclusion

- 1. In order to find we must look at the right places.
- 2. In order to find we must have an open heart.
- 3. Concluding thoughts:
  - a. Alexander Solzhenitsyn: "It is vain to affirm that which the heart does not confirm."
  - b. Blaise Pascal: "He has willed to make himself quite recognizable by those; and thus, willing to appear openly to those who seek Him with all their heart, and to be hidden from those who flee from Him with all their heart. He so regulates the knowledge of Himself that He has given signs of Himself, visible to those who seek Him, and not to those who seek Him not. There is enough light for those who only desire to see, and enough obscurity for those who have a contrary disposition."