



name: _____

date: _____

In-class worksheet

jot down your notes & thoughts

Opening Question: Have you ever wondered if God wants to be worshipped? If so, is that okay? How do you feel about God asking people to worship Him?

1 If we can't even see everything that exists, what does this suggest about how much we can know?

2 What types of wrong “educated guesses” do people make about God’s nature? What feelings might be involved?



3 When limited human faculties (e.g. senses, brain) attempt to grasp God's full reality, what tends to happen?

4 *“The Abyssinians (Ethiopians) see their god as flat-nosed, while the Thracians give him red hair and blue eyes... What is even stranger is that these gods partake in the most heinous acts that are contrary to upright character, such as killing, stealing, and looting, just as their worshippers do... And if cows and horses and lions had hands, and were capable of drawing, the horses would draw gods in horse form, and the cows would in cow form.”* -Xenophanes, Ancient Greek philosopher (475 BC)

What is this quote saying? What is the problem with creating God in a human image (and your own particular image) according to this quote? Think about the different depictions of Jesus in the previous three slides. Why do you think people do this?



5 *“To illustrate, humans possess the praiseworthy trait of “life,” and God also possesses life, so the life of God must be understood as different and greater (e.g., His life has no beginning and no end). Likewise, humans possess the praiseworthy trait of “knowledge,” and God also possesses knowledge, though the knowledge of God is complete. So, whenever God and human share a trait, that does not necessitate identity, but only a similarity in the names used to describe that trait. Just as the leg of a race is not the leg of a dog and the eye of a storm is not the eye of a human, the traits of humans are only poor facsimiles of the greater and more perfect traits of God.”*

What argument is the author making about the shared attributes between humans and God?