

### Question 3: What is revelation (general and special)?

#### Short answer

Revelation is the way God makes Himself known. General revelation is what God shows to everyone through creation and conscience; special revelation is what God communicates clearly through the Bible and, above all, through Jesus.

#### Explanation

God has not left us to guess who He is. Revelation means that God “pulls back the veil” and lets us see something of Himself.

- **General revelation:** it is “general” because it is available to everyone. By looking at the sky, nature, the order of the world, and by sensing inside us what is right and wrong (the conscience), we can understand that God exists, that He is powerful and wise, and that there is a purpose. However, this revelation does not tell us all the details about how to be saved: it tells us that God is there, but it does not fully explain the Gospel.
- **Special revelation:** it is “special” because God speaks in a more precise and complete way. He does this through Scripture, where He explains His character, sin, the promise of salvation, and the way of life. And the highest revelation is Jesus: God who became man to make the Father known to us and to save us.

In short: general revelation points us to “God is real”; special revelation tells us “who God is, what He has done, and how we can follow Him and be saved.”

#### Reference verses

- **Psalm 19:1-2** — “The heavens declare the glory of God... day after day they pour forth speech.”
- **Romans 1:19-20** — “His invisible qualities... are clearly seen... being understood from what has been made.”
- **2 Timothy 3:16-17** — “All Scripture is inspired by God... for teaching... and making the man of God complete.”

#### In simple words

God makes Himself known in two ways:

- With general revelation, God helps us understand that He exists by looking

at the world and listening to our conscience.

- With special revelation, God explains everything more clearly in the Bible and shows us His heart in Jesus.

### **1 mini practical example**

It's like seeing a beautiful house from the outside: you understand that someone built it (general revelation). But if you want to know who lives there, what it's like inside, and how to enter, you need the key and an explanation (special revelation: the Bible and Jesus).