



Name: _____

Date: _____

Words to know:

susceptible (*capable or admitting of*), criterion (*a standard of judgment*), imitable (*capable of being imitated or copied*)

What God's Knowledge is NOT:

God does not know things by _____. This also means God does not imagine or remember things like you or I do.

God does not _____ things from _____, since learning is a form of _____ and God doesn't change.

God does not _____ or _____ or figure things out like we do, since this too is a form of change.

God does not have a whole bunch of ideas or _____ in His mind, since God is simple.

God's knowledge is not in the _____ or from it. God's knowledge is beyond ours and of a different _____ than ours, and the knowledge of God would be what it is even if there were no _____.

What God's Knowledge IS:

For Thomas Aquinas, the knowledge of God is an _____.
God sees all in this one eternal, simple gaze. What does he see first? He first of all sees _____.

In this eternal self-knowledge He knew that He would create the _____ and what He would create and each feature of each thing that He would create.

In this fountain of simple self-knowledge, He knew that He would create each thing with a nature and a _____ and the _____ to make a difference in the world for better or for worse.

He knew that He would create causes. . . Ex. _____

He knew that He would create persons in particular as a special sort of _____, each with the power of free choice; and He knew our ability He would give us to make things go one way or another in the world by our _____.

He knew what our _____ would be and that we need not have made those choices and that we could have chosen otherwise.

All of this and more God sees in one simple, _____, and eternal glance upon Himself as creator of the world of natural _____ and free _____.

In the eternal gaze upon Himself, He sees you, for you are _____.

Before the foundation of the world, from all eternity, God knew in His own mind what He wanted to create. He knew the whole of creation in all of its details... And in this knowledge, He also knew what _____ have been otherwise and what _____ have been otherwise.

Difficulty:

The analogy can make it sound like God has lots of _____ in _____ like human beings do. . . But when God sees things in His mind, He's not seeing His own conceptions or ideas... The things in the world around us are not modeled on conceptions, ideas, or images in the mind of God. Rather, they're modeled on _____, who is all simple.

"God knows His _____ as so imitable by such a creature and knows it as the particular _____ and _____ of that creature." —St. Thomas Aquinas

The divine ideas are God seeing His own _____ as susceptible to participation or imitation in various ways by various _____.

Truth:

God's knowledge is the criterion of _____ for all things.

Our understanding of things is true when it matches _____, but things are true when they match _____ of what they are.

Comprehension question: What are some ways in which our knowledge is different from God's knowledge?