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Aquinas and the Credibility of God

I want to set forth what I believe to be Aquinas's view on the credibility of God's existence, and then defend that view and relate it to certain theological points. Regarding the first matter, I will rely chiefly on several chapters from the *Summa Contra Gentiles*, supplemented by the same material from the first article of the *Summa Theologiae*. I believe Thomas has a clear view on the credibility of God's existence, and that his view is clearly presented to us in the *Summa Contra Gentiles*.

Let us begin, however, with the first article of the *Summa Theologiae*. There, Thomas divides truths about God into two categories: those accessible and those inaccessible to human reason. The former truths about God can be demonstrated by human reason. Were we, however, to rely on demonstration alone as a means to reach these truths, then they would "only be known by a few, and that after a long time, and with the admixture of many errors."¹

Evidently, then, Thomas thinks that there is another way to divine truths besides rational demonstration. And since God's very existence is one of those truths, Thomas here holds that we can become