

THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

Spirit-John 4:24 God is not limited to a spatial location. God does not have size or dimension. Deuteronomy 4:23-24, Philipians 3:3, I Corinthians 6:17

God does not have a physical body nor is He made of any kind of matter. God is not made of energy or any other element of creation. His is not like vapor or steam or air or space.

Eternal and Infinite

God has no beginning or end and is not bound by the succession of events yet God sees events in time and acts in time.

Psalms 90:2. Job 36:26 Genesis 21 :33

Time has no effect on God's knowledge. God never learns new things or forgets things . He knows all thing past present and future.

Revelations 1:8, 4:8, John 8:58, Ex 3:14, Genesis 1:1, John 1:3, I Corinthians 8:6, Colossians 1:16 Hebrews 1:2

Physics tells us that matter, time and space must all occur together. If there is no matter there can be no space or time. Before God created the universe there was no time. Therefore when God created the universe He also created time. Before God created the universe and before He created time He existed.

Sovereign– Chief highest or supreme.

God is the # 1 ruler in the universe, the supreme being in the universe. God's authority is total and absolute but is used in combination with other attributes like love, holiness, and justice.

Ephesians 1:3-14, Romans 9:14-24, I Timothy 6:15, Isaiah 46:4-10, Daniel 4:32

Unchangeable– Immutable -James 1:7

God is unchanging in His being, perfection, purpose, and promise.

Psalms 102:25-27-Contrast between things that we think are permanent and God.

Malachi 3:6, Numbers 23:19, Isaiah 18:29, Hebrews 13:8

Psalms 33:11, Matthew 13:35, 25:34, Ephesians 1:4, Ephesians 3:9.11 I Peter 1:20

Revelation 13:8, Acts 2:23,Isaiah 46:9-11,Numbers 23:19 I Samuel 18:29

Does God change His mind? Ex. 32:9-14

Isaiah 38: 1-6, Jonah 3:9&10, Genesis 6:6 1Samuel 15:10,

Invisible –John 1:18, 6:46 , 1Tim 1:17

God's being will never be able to be seen by us yet God shows Himself to us through visible created things.

I Tim 6:16,I John 4:12

Theophanies – an appearance of God

Genesis 32:24-32,Exodus 3: 1-7, 13:21-22, 24:1-11, Judges 13: 1-11,Isaiah 6:1

Jesus Christ- In the Lord Jesus Christ we have a unique visible manifestation of God in the New Testament. John 14:7, John 1:18, Colossians 1:15 Hebrews 1:3

We will see God in heaven. How is not known. Matthew 5:8, 1 John 3:2,
Revelation 22:3-4

Holy– absence of evil plus a positive righteousness measured against God Himself as an absolute standard.

Peter 1:15,1 John 1:5, Psalms 24:3, Exodus 26:33,Psalms 71:22, 78:41, 89:18,

Isaiah 1:4, 5:24, 6:3, Psalms 99:3&5, 22:3

Righteousness– Justice

Righteousness– God always acts in accordance with what is right and is Himself the final standard of what is right. Deuteronomy 32:4, Psalms 19:8 , Isaiah45:19, Romans 3:25-27. Deals with the character of God expressed in His dealing with men. God is equitable or no respecter of persons.

Just- When man is judged by God he will receive full justice. Acts 17

Rom.3:21-26 – God can be just by punishing for sin– Jesus Christ paid our punishment for our sins. God’s justice is served, but He is the justifier we are no longer guilty before God.

Wrath– closely related to God’s holiness and justice.

God intensely hates sin. The Bible frequently talks about God’s wrath. Since God loves all that is right and good and all that conforms to His moral character then it should not be surprising that He would hate everything that is opposed to His moral character. Exodus 32:9-10, Deuteronomy, 9:7-8, John 3:36, Romans 1:18, 2:5,8 5:9, 9:22, Colossians 3:6, 1 Thessalonians 1:10, 2:16, 5:9, Hebrews 3:11, Rev. 6:16-17, 19:15 Ephesians 2:3, I Thessalonians 1:10, Romans 5:10, I Thessalonians 5:9, Psalms103:8-9, 2 Peter 3:9-10

What would God be like if He did not hate sin? He would be a God who delighted in sin or at least wasn’t troubled by it. Such a God would not be worthy of our worship as Christians we should not feel fear of God’s wrath.

The Lord Jesus bore the wrath of God that was due to our sin so that we could be saved. Romans 3:25-26

Perfect– or complete. Matthew 5:48, Psalms 18:30 Deuteronomy. 32:4 blameless, complete, perfect. God lacks nothing in His excellence.

Mercy – God’s goodness toward those in misery and distress.

2 Sam 24:14, Matthew 9:27, 2 Corinthians 1:3, Hebrews 4:15, Ephesians 2:4, Ps 145:9, Acts 14:17, Romans 8:28

Grace- God's goodness toward those who deserve only punishment.
Exodus 33:19, I Peter 5:10, Romans 3:23-24, Romans 11:6, Ephesians 2:8,9.

Wisdom- God always chooses the best goals and the best means to those goals. Beyond the idea of God knowing all things. God's decisions are always wise. They always bring about the best result from God's perspective. He will bring about the best results by the best possible means. Romans 16: 27, Job 9:4, Job 12:13, Ephesians 3:10, Psalms 104:24, 1 Corinthians 1:21, 27, 29, Romans 11:33

Omnipresence- God does not have size or spatial dimension and is present at every point of space with his whole being.

Jeremiah 23:23-24, Ps 139: 7-10 There is no where in the universe where one can flee from God's presence. Not a part of God that is present here and a part there God is present everywhere with His whole being.

Not pantheism-That everything is God or that God is everything that exists. Biblical perspective- God is present everywhere in His creation but He is distinct from His creation.

Omnipotence- Omni- all, potent-powerful.

God's own power to do what He decides to do. 56 times the Bible says that God is the Almighty One. Almighty 2 Corinthians 6:18, Revelation 1:8(Greek; Pantokrator) Psalms 24:8, Genesis 18:14, Jeremiah 32:17 &27, Luke 1:37, Matthew 19:26, Psalms 115:3, Ephesians 3:20, Revelation 19:6, 1 Peter 1:5, Romans 1:16 Genesis 1:1, Hebrews 1:3 Omnipotence is not God's ability to do everything . There are some things God cannot do. Hebrews 6:18, 2 Timothy 2:13, James 1:13

Omnipotence is God's ability to do everything that is consistent with His character.

Therefore, He cannot lie, deny Himself, sin or be tempted to do evil. He cannot cease to exist or cease to be God.

God's power is qualified by His other attributes. God's power manifests itself especially in His redeeming work where God is at work carrying out and revealing the plan of salvation. Philippians 3:10

Omniscience– All knowing-God fully knows himself and all things actual and possible in an simple and eternal act.

1 John 3:20, Psalms 147:4, Acts 15:18, 1 Corinthians 2:10-11

God knows all things actual.

God knows all things that exist.

God knows all things that happen.

Hebrews 4:13., Job 28:24, Isaiah 46:9-10, 42:8-9

God knows all things that can happen or all possibilities.

Matthew 6:8, 10:30, Psalms 139:1-2,4,16, 1 Samuel 23:11-13, Matthew 11:21-23, II Kings 13:19, Isaiah 55:9

God knows everything in one simple act. He doesn't have to count the sands of the seashore or try to recall it from memory. He does not have to ponder carefully before giving an answer. From all eternity God has known all things that would happen, could happen and all things He would do.

He does not have to learn anything to get this knowledge but has it by His nature.

God's omniscience in regard to our salvation.

If God knows all then nothing can come to light after our salvation that He did not know when He saved us.

When something tragic happens in our lives God has known about it from all eternity and is working it out for His glory and our ultimate good.

Independence– Acts 17: 24-28

Self existence – God is absolutely independent and self existent. God does not need any part of creation in order to exist or for any other reason. John 17:5,24, Exodus 3:14

God's independence does not make us meaningless. We are very meaningful because God has created us and determined that we are meaningful to Him. Matthew 10:31

Love– 1 John 4:8

That which seeks good for the object loved. Contains both cuddling and discipline aspects.

Good = The will of God

The love of God is of such a nature that it is interested in the welfare of creatures beyond normal human comprehension.

1 John 3:16, John 3:16 1 John 4:9-10

Universalism-teaches that because God is love and always acts in a loving manner toward His creature eventually all people will be saved.

Misunderstands God's love. Love may have to punish. God's love does not operate separately from God's other attributes, particularly holiness and justice.

True– God is consistent with Himself therefore everything He does is true. Romans 3:4
John 14:6

Peace– order. 1 Corinthians 14:33, Romans 15:33,
Romans 6:20, Philippians 4:9, I Thessalonians 5:23
God’s actions are characterized by peace not disorder. In God’s being and in His actions He is separate from all confusion and disorder. God’s peace is ordered and controlled activity.

Jealousy – 2 Corinthians 11:2– earnestly protective or watchful.
Has the meaning of being deeply committed to seeking the honor or welfare of someone.
Exodus 20:5, 34:14

Blessedness, I Timothy 6:15, 1:11, or- makarios, happy – in a full rich since . God takes pleasure in everything in creation that mirrors His own excellence. Genesis 1:31,

Glory- Romans 3:23, Isaiah 43:7, Hebrews 1:3 Not exactly an attribute but describes the honor that should be given to God by everything in the universe.
The appropriate outward expression of His excellence. Psalms 24:10,104:1-2, Matthew 17:2, Revelation 21:23, Luke 2:9,
The visible manifestation of the excellence of God’s Character, God’s glory is something we cannot comprehend and are unable to gaze fully upon. But should cause us to bow in awe and worship Him. 2 Corinthians 3:18

Will Ephesians 1:11, Revelation 4:11, Romans 13:1, I Peter 3:17, I Peter 4:19 James 4:13-15
God approves and determines to bring about every action necessary for the existence and activity of all creation. - God’s choices- God ‘s choice of what to do and not to do. The final or ultimate reason for everything that happens.

Goodness— God is final standard of good, and all that God is and does is worthy of approval. Luke 18:19, Psalms 100:5, 106:1, 107:1, 34:8, Genesis 1:31, Psalms 119:68, James 1:17, Psalms 145:19, Acts 14:17, Romans 8: 28

Patience— God's goodness in withholding of punishment toward those who sin over a period of time. Slow to anger. Exodus 36:1, Numbers 14:18, Psalms 86:15, Jonah 4:2, Romans 2:4, I Timothy 1:16, Romans 9:22, 2 Peter 3:8-10

Unity— not complex or not composed of parts.

Scripture never speaks of God's attributes as one being more important than others. Every attribute is completely true of God and is true of all God's Character. 1 John 1:5, 1 John 4:8 We need to be cautious about trying to single out one of God's attributes and more important than others.

At various times people attempt to see God's holiness, love or righteousness as the most important attributes.

This causes us to have misconceptions of God. It is God Himself in His whole being who is supremely important and is in God Himself in His whole being whom we are to seek to know and to love.