

Attributes of God

ATTRIBUTE- The characteristic or quality of something or someone.

It is impossible to comprehend fully the living God and His attributes.

We will consider them under two major headings

- I. Attributes revealed in us
- II. Attributes not revealed in us

I. Attributes revealed in us are:

- 1. Knowledge:

Isaiah 40:13-14 (New King James Version)

**¹³ Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD,
Or as His counselor has taught Him?**

**¹⁴ With whom did He take counsel, and *who* instructed Him,
And taught Him in the path of justice?
Who taught Him knowledge,
And showed Him the way of understanding?**

Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has become his counselor? Romans 11:34

God is omniscient, He knows all things.

Our knowledge is a dim reflection of God's infinite knowledge.

Wisdom:

Wisdom is the application of knowledge.

Jude 1:25 (New King James Version)

²⁵ **To God our Savior,^[a]
Who alone is wise,^[b]
Be glory and majesty,
Dominion and power,^[c]
Both now and forever.
Amen.**

1 Timothy 1:17 (New King James Version)

¹⁷ **Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise,^[a] be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Psalms 104:24 (New King James Version)

²⁴ **O LORD, how manifold are Your works!
In wisdom You have made them all.
The earth is full of Your possessions—**

His wisdom is boundless but ours is very small.

James 1:5 (New King James Version)

⁵ **If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.**

B. Moral Attributes

1. Goodness

Matthew 5:45 (New King James Version)

⁴⁵ **that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.**

Psalms 145:4 "The Lord is good to all"

Romans 2:4 (New King James Version)

⁴ Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?

2. Love:

We are not to worship love. We worship God whose one attribute is love.

Love is largely misunderstood and misrepresented.

1 John 4:10 (New King James Version)

¹⁰ In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

John 3:16 (New King James Version)

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Romans 5:8 (New King James Version)

⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

To know the love of God is to know Christ in His saving action toward us.

What would our church be like if we loved one another as God and Christ love us?

Grace: God's love and grace go hand in hand.

Divine grace is God's love shown forth to the undeserving.

Noah found grace in the eyes of the lord. Genesis 6:8

God said to Moses "You have also found grace in my sight"
Exodus 33:12

The Apostle John wrote "The law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ" John 1:17

Grace is receiving from God what we do not deserve.
We are manifesting grace when we love people who do not deserve it.

Mercy:

When we do not receive what we do deserve.

Mercy: Through the cross God exercised mercy toward sinners without compromising with sin.

Luke 6:36 (New King James Version)

³⁶ Therefore be merciful, just as your Father also is merciful.

The death of Christ was the cost to God for being merciful to the guilty.

Faithfulness:

God is absolutely consistent. He is faithful to His people and to His promises. Our faithfulness is the goal of His faithfulness.

Romans 3:3-4 (New King James Version)

³ For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? ⁴ Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written:

***" That You may be justified in Your words,
And may overcome when You are judged."***^[a]

2 Timothy 2:13 (New King James Version)

¹³ **If we are faithless,
He remains faithful;
He cannot deny Himself.**

Hebrews 2:17 (New King James Version)

¹⁷ **Therefore, in all things He had to be made like *His* brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.**

When He comes again to His final victory, He will ride in triumph, bearing the names "Faithful and True." Revelations 19:11

Holiness:

This attribute sets Him apart from all of His creation.
You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.
Leviticus 19:2

God hates all sin and impurity.

All of God's attributes are holy.

He hates sin but loves the sinner.

Romans 5:8 (New King James Version)

⁸ **But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.**

Justice:

In being just, God is impartial in His judgments and renders to each what is due.

Psalms 119:137 (New King James Version)

¹³⁷ **Righteous are You, O LORD,
And upright are Your judgments.**

Psalm 89:14 (New King James Version)

**¹⁴ Righteousness and justice *are* the foundation of Your throne;
Mercy and truth go before Your face.**

There will be a judgment day, when all who are unsaved will stand before the throne of God. On that day there will be justice. Christ himself, who died in our place, will be the judge.

Volitional Attributes

1. Sovereign will.

Behind all that happens is His sovereign will.

Acts 2:23 (New King James Version)

²³ Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken ^[a] by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;

Ephesians 1:5

⁵ having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,

Ephesians 1:9

⁹ having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself,

Ephesians 1:11

¹¹ In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will,

Psalms 115:3: But our God is in heaven: He does whatever He pleases."

2. Sovereign Power:

He is El Shaddai- Almighty God.

He is King of kings and Lord of lords. I Timothy 6:15

Omnipotent

Revelation 19:6 (New King James Version)

⁶ And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunders, saying, "Alleluia! For the^[a] Lord God Omnipotent reigns!

Colossians 2:15 (New King James Version)

¹⁵ Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

By surrendering Himself to death the Son of God manifested His omnipotence and provided salvation for us.

II. Attributes not revealed in us are:

A. His self existence

Psalm 90:2 (New King James Version)

**² Before the mountains were brought forth,
Or ever You had formed the earth and the world,
Even from everlasting to everlasting, You *are* God.**

Acts 17:24-25 (New King James Version)

²⁴ God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. ²⁵ Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things.

So God is self sufficient in His being and works.

Eternity:

Isaiah 57:15 (New King James Version)

**¹⁵ For thus says the High and Lofty One
Who inhabits eternity, whose name *is* Holy:
" I dwell in the high and holy *place*,
With him *who* has a contrite and humble spirit,**

**To revive the spirit of the humble,
And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.**

He is the One whose years will have no end.

Psalm 102:27 (New King James Version)

**²⁷ But You *are* the same,
And Your years will have no end**

He transcends time, so that past, present and future are now.

He created time and placed it under His rule.

2 Corinthians 6:2 (New King James Version)

² For He says:

***" In an acceptable time I have heard you,
And in the day of salvation I have helped you."***^[a]

Behold, now *is* the accepted time; behold, now *is* the day of salvation.

Omnipresence:

Psalm 139:7-12 (New King James Version)

**⁷ Where can I go from Your Spirit?
Or where can I flee from Your presence?
⁸ If I ascend into heaven, You *are* there;
If I make my bed in hell, behold, You *are there*.
⁹ If I take the wings of the morning,
And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
¹⁰ Even there Your hand shall lead me,
And Your right hand shall hold me.**

¹¹ **If I say, "Surely the darkness shall fall^[a] on me,"**

Even the night shall be light about me;

¹² **Indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You,**

But the night shines as the day;

The darkness and the light *are* both alike *to You*

The doctrine of God's omnipresence assures us that He is present to help us.

Immutability:

God does not change.

God will never be any better than He is now. Malachi 3:6a "For I am the Lord, I do not change."

"The same yesterday, today and forever" Hebrews 13:8

God does hear our prayers. He is moved by what happens on the earth and changes His behavior to accomplish His unchanging purpose. Yet God himself does not change.

Conclusion:

These attributes point to the self existent and self revealing God.

God's attributes show Him to be the God of grace, patience, constancy, wisdom, justice and goodness.

He is worthy to be praised, loved and served with fervor and devotion.

AMEN!