



HUMBLY GLORIFYING GOD

The Doctrine of God Attributes

Incommunicable Attributes –

1. **Incomprehensibility** – God as the unique creator who stands outside of time and is not limited by anything, cannot be fully understood by created beings. While we can know truth about God as he has revealed it to us, we can never know exhaustively anything about God. (Job 11:7-19, 26:12; Psalm 145:3; Isaiah 55:8-9; Matthew 11:27; John 1:18; Romans 11:33-34; 1 Corinthians 2:11; 1 Timothy 6:13-16)
2. **Simplicity** – God is not made up of parts. He is wholly God. He cannot be divided into pieces. God is not part Father, part Son, part Holy Spirit. There is one God whole and indivisible. (Exodus 3:14, 34:6-7; John 4:24, 5:26; 1 John 1:5)
3. **Aseity** – God's self-existence and self-sufficiency. God is not in any way caused. There is no cause in God. Everything relies on God as its cause. Nothing is caused in God. (Exodus 3:14-15; Job 22:2-3, 35:7; John 5:26; Acts 17:25; Romans 11:36; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Revelation 4:11)
4. **Infinite** – God is not limited in any way. He is not constrained by space, time, matter, or any other measurement. He is the creator of all these things and as such not subject to them. (2 Chronicles 2:6; Job 11:7-9; Isaiah 40:12-17, 48:12; Daniel 4:34; Matthew 5:48; Acts 17:27-28; Ephesians 3:20; 2 Peter 3:8)
5. **Timeless Eternality** – God has no beginning and will have no end. He is not a part of time but is the creator of time. He interacts within time but is not affected by it in any way. (Genesis 1:1; Psalm 90:2, 4; 2 Peter 3:8; Revelation 1:8)
6. **Sovereign** – God is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. This refers to his absolute and unrivaled rule over all his creatures and their circumstances. He does whatever he wills in the heavens above or the earth below, including the hearts of men. (Genesis 14:22, 41:28, 45:8, 50:20; Deuteronomy 10:14, 17; Esther 3:7, 9:1-2; Job 9:12, 37:11-13, 38:1-39:30, 41:11, 42:2; Psalm 2:1-6, 24:1, 115:3, 147:15-18; Proverbs 21:1; Isaiah 46:10; Jeremiah 5:22; Daniel 4:34-35; John 1:7; Acts 2:23, 4:24, 17:26; Romans 9:19-21; Revelation 17:14, 19:16)
7. **Immutability** – God does not change in his being (essence), purposes, counsel, decrees, and promises. (Numbers 23:19; Psalm 102:26-28; Malachi 3:6; Romans 1:23; Philippians 1:6; Hebrews 13:8; James 1:17)

8. **Impassability** – He is not acted upon with regard to his emotions. They are not based upon gained knowledge or in reaction to the events of creation.
9. **Omnipresent** – There is nowhere that God is not. He is ever-present. All of creation exists within the scope of God's being (essence). (Deuteronomy 4:39, 10:14; 1 Kings 8:27; Psalm 139:7-10; Amos 9:2-3; Acts 17:24-25; Hebrews 4:13)

The Communicable Attributes of God –

1. **Holiness** – God is both completely righteous and completely distinct from his creation. He does not need his creation. He is pure and incorruptible. (Leviticus 10:1-3, 11:4; Deuteronomy 4:24; Psalm 5:7, 11:4, 99:9; Isaiah 6:3; Mark 1:24; John 16:4-15; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Peter 1:15-16)
2. **Righteousness** – God is completely coherent and faithful to his own reviled will. He does all that he says that he will do. (Genesis 18:25; Deuteronomy 4:7-8; Psalm 19:7-9, 97:2; Isaiah 45:19; Acts 17:31; Romans 1:16-17; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Philippians 3:8-11)
3. **Love** – It is the divine attribute that indicates God's disposition to be self-giving. God is loving within various relationships. His love is demonstrated in different ways depending on the relationship. His love is different for himself than for his adopted children. His love for his adopted children is different from the rest of his image-bearers. His love for his image bearers is different from his love for the rest of creation. God cares for each but in different ways and to different extents. (Deuteronomy 7:7-9; Nehemiah 9:32; Micah 7:20; Matthew 5:43; John 3:16-18, 15:13-14; Romans 5:8; 1 Corinthians 13; Ephesians 3:17-19; 1 John 3:16, 4:7-11)
4. **Jealousy** – God is protective of what is his. He demonstrates His love in that He is protective of that love. (Exodus 20:4-5; Deuteronomy 4:23-24, 6:15; Isaiah 42:8; Nahum 1:2; John 2:13-22)
5. **Wrath** – God is just and holy. He demonstrates this justice and holiness by bringing his holy wrath upon those who continue in rebellion against him. This is not an emotional reaction but an outworking of his love. (Nahum 1:2-11; Romans 1:18-32, 12:9, 12:19-13:5; Hebrews 3:7-11)
6. **Grace** – It is God's unmerited favor when it is not deserved. It is also the means by which we receive that favor. (Psalm 30:5; Proverbs 3:34; John 1:16-17; 1 Corinthians 15:10; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Ephesians 2:4-10)
7. **Mercy** – God withholds wrath and justice when it is rightly deserved. (Exodus 34:6-7; Psalm 25:6-7, 51:1-2; Ezekiel 33:10-11; Daniel 9:17-19; Matthew 9:27-31, 23:23-24; Luke 10:36-37; Ephesians 2:4-7)

- 8. Omniscience** – God is all-knowing. There is nothing in all of creation that God learns. All knowledge, either of nature or thoughts and actions is God's. This is not experiential knowledge but is His from the beginning. God does not learn. (Job 21:22, 36:4; Psalm 33:33-15, 139:1-4; Isaiah 46:9-10; Jeremiah 1:5; Matthew 10:30; Hebrews 4:13)
- 9. Omnisapient** – God is all-wise. He knows the absolute best way to accomplish his purpose in every situation. He knows how to use his knowledge and power perfectly and without error. (Proverbs 2:6, 8:22-31; Ecclesiastes 2:26; Isaiah 40:13-14; Daniel 2:23; Romans 11:33-36; Ephesians 1:17; Colossians 2:2-3; James 1:5, 3:17)
- 10. Omnipotent** – God is all-powerful. There is no power in all of creation that does not come from and is not under the control of God. He can do all His holy will in all things. (Job 42:2; Psalm 33:9, 135:6; Isaiah 43:13, 46:10-11; Jeremiah 32:17, 27; Matthew 19:26; Romans 1:16)
- 11. Glory** – God is infinite in beauty and worthy of all praise. He is the first and greatest of all beings. (Exodus 33:18-34:8; Psalm 19:1-2; Isaiah 6:3; John 1:14, 7:39; 2 Corinthians 3:17-18; Hebrews 1:3)