

The Attributes of God

Divine attributes are the essential qualities that belong to God. Each attribute is simply a way of describing one aspect of God's total character or being.

- **Self-existence:** God exists by virtue of His very nature. He was never created and never came into being (John 5:26; Exodus 3:14; Gen. 1:1; Ps. 90:2; John 1:3; 1 Cor. 8:6; Col. 1:16-17; Rev 4:11). Neither does God need any part of creation for any reason (Job 35:7; Acts 17:24-25; Rom. 11:35-36).
- **Eternity:** God has no beginning, end, or succession of moments in His own being (Gen. 21:33; Ex. 3:14; Deut. 33:27; Ps. 90:2; 102:26-27; Isa. 40:28; 44:6; 57:15; Rom. 1:20, 23; 1 Tim. 1:17; Rev. 1:8; Rev. 4:8).
- **Spirituality:** God is an invisible spirit (John 1:18; 4:24; 1 Tim. 1:17; 6:15-16; 1 John 4:12).
- **Immutability:** God is unchanging in His being, perfections, purposes, and promises (Num. 23:19; 1 Sam 15:29; Ps 33:11; 102:25-27; Mal. 3:6; James 1:17)
- **Transcendence:** God is uniquely other and incomparably greater than anything else that exists (1 Kings 8:27; Ps 47:2; 89:5-8; 145:3; Isa. 40:18, 25; 45:5, 6, 14, 18, 22; 46:5, 9; 57:15; Jer. 23:23; Rom. 1:25; Eph 4:6).
- **Immanence:** God is actively involved in His creation (Deut. 4:7; Ps. 104:10-23; 145:13-20; Isa. 57:15; Jer. 23:23; Matt. 6:26-30; Luke 12:6-7; Acts 17:27-28; Eph 4:6).
- **Omnipresent:** God is always present everywhere with His whole being (1 Kings 8:27; Ps. 139:7-12; Isa. 66:1-2; Jer. 23:23-24; Acts 7:48-49; 17:27).
- **Omniscience:** God knows all things. He has infinite knowledge (1 Sam. 2:3; Job 12:13; 28:24; 37:16; Ps. 139:1-4, 6, 12; Pr. 5:21; 15:3, 11; Isa. 55:8-9; Rom. 11:33-34).
- **Wisdom:** God always chooses the best goals and the best means to those goals (Job 9:4; 12:13; Ps. 104:24; 147:5; Isa. 28:29; Dan 2:20; Rom. 11:33-34; 16:27; 1 Cor. 1:25; Eph. 3:10).
- **Omnipotence:** God is all-powerful. The only limit to what He can do is His own character and will (Gen. 17:1; 18:14; Ps. 62:11; Jer. 32:17, 27; Matt. 19:26; Eph. 1:19-22; 3:20; Rev. 19:6).
- **Sovereignty:** God is the ultimate ruler over all creation. There is no higher authority (Deut. 10:17; 2 Kings 19:15; 1 Chr. 29:11-12; Job 12:23; 25:2; Ps. 83:18; 93:1; 95:3-5; 97:9; 103:19; 113:4; 115:3; Isa. 40:22-23; Dan. 4:3, 17, 25-26, 34; Eph. 1:21-22; 4:6; 1 Tim. 6:15; Rev. 6:10; Pr. 16:4).

- **Holiness:** God is righteous, perfect, and separated from all sin or evil (Ex. 15:11; Lev. 11:44-45; 19:2; 20:26; 1 Sam. 6:20; Isa. 6:3; Ps. 5:4; 99:3, 5, 9; Hab. 1:13; 1 Peter 1:14-16; Rev. 4:8; 6:10; 15:4).
- **Righteousness (Justice):** In English, these are two different words, but in Greek and Hebrew they are both the same word. God always does what is right and is Himself the standard of what is right (Deut. 32:4; Ps. 19:9; 89:14; 97:2; 145:17; Isa. 45:21; 61:8; Jer. 9:24; 11:20; Dan. 9:7, 14; Zeph. 3:5; Rom. 2:5; 3:25; Heb. 6:10; Rev. 15:3).
- **Wrath:** Closely related to holiness and justice, God's wrath means that He intensely hates all sin and evil (Ex. 32:9-10; Deut. 9:7-8; 29:23; 2 Kings 22:13; Mark 3:4-5; John 3:36; Rom 1:18; 2:5, 8; 5:9; 9:22; Eph. 5:6; Col. 3:5-6; 1 Thes. 1:10; 2:16; Heb. 3:7-11; 10:26-31; Rev. 6:16-17; 14:17-20; 19:15).
- **Goodness:** All that God does is worthy of approval. He is good and therefore the ultimate standard of good (2 Chr. 5:13; Ps. 25:8; 34:8; 52:9; 86:5; 100:5; 106:1; 107:1; 118:29; 119:68; 145:7, 9; Nahum 1:7; Luke 18:19).
- **Truthfulness:** He is the true God and all His knowledge and words are both true and the final standard of truth (Ps. 31:5; 119:160; Jer. 10:10; John 14:6, 17; 17:3; 17:17; Heb. 6:18; 1 John 5:6, 20).
- **Faithfulness:** Trustworthiness and dependability. He always keeps His word (Ex. 34:6; Num. 23:19; Deut. 7:9; 32:4; Josh. 23:14; Ps. 25:10; 33:4; 36:5; 57:10; 86:15; 89:1, 8, 14; 117:2; 119:90; 145:13; Isa. 25:1; Lam. 3:22-23; 2 Cor. 1:18; 1 Thes. 5:24; 2 Thes. 3:3; Heb. 10:23; 1 John 1:9).
- **Love:** God eternally and unconditionally gives of Himself to others (Deut. 7:7-8; Ps. 36:5, 7; 57:10; 69:13; 86:15; 89:2, 14; 100:5; 103:8-13, 17; 108:4; 118:1-2; 145:8; John 3:16; Rom. 5:8; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 1:4-5; 2:4-5; 3:18-19; 1 John 3:1; 4:8, 10, 19; Jude 21).
- **Mercy (Grace):** God's generous and tenderhearted compassion on those who don't deserve it (Deut. 4:31; 2 Sam. 24:14; Neh. 9:31; Ps. 25:6; 86:15; 103:8, 13; Dan. 9:9; Luke 6:36; Rom. 3:23-24; 2 Cor. 1:3-4; Eph. 2:4, 8-9; Titus 2:11; 3:5; James 5:11; 1 Peter 1:3; 5:10).