

# **THEOLOGY**

## **The Doctrine of God**

**The People Who Know Their God Shall Be Strong, and Carry Out  
Great Exploits!  
(Daniel 11:32)**

**THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD.  
By These He Has Made Himself Known!**

- (1) The Holiness of God.
- (2) The Solitariness of God.
- (3) The Decrees of God.
- (4) The Knowledge of God.
- (5) The Foreknowledge of God.
- (6) The Supremacy of God.
- (7) The Sovereignty of God.
- (8) The Immutability of God.
- (9) The Power of God.
- (10) The Faithfulness of God.
- (11) The Goodness of God.
- (12) The Patience of God.
- (13) The Grace of God.
- (14) The Mercy of God.
- (15) The Love of God.
- (16) The Wrath of God.
- (17) The Contemplation of God.
- (18) The Worship of God.



## **“The Holiness of God”**

**God only is infinitely, and immutably Holy.  
He is absolute Purity. He is Righteous altogether.  
In the Scripture God is frequently called “THE HOLY ONE”.**

“Who shall not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your Name? For You alone are holy. For all nations shall come and worship before you, For Your judgments have been manifested.  
**(Revelation 15:4)**

This is the message, which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.  
**(1 John 1:5)**

**Holiness is the very Excellency of the Divine nature of God. It is the very core of His eternal character.**

“Who is like You, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like You, glorious in holiness?”  
**(Exodus 15:11)**

You are of purer eyes than to behold evil, And cannot look on wickedness.  
**(Habakkuk 1:13)**

**Power is God’s arm, Omniscience is His eye, Mercy is His bowels.  
Eternity is His duration, But Holiness is His beauty. You never find in the scriptures His name expressed as; His Powerful name, His Wise name, or His Gracious name, But His Holy name appears often. Why, because it is the greatest title of honor.**

And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed those who should sing to the LORD, and who should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying: “Praise the LORD, For His mercy endures forever”.  
**(2 Chronicles 20:21)**

**His Holiness is celebrated before His Throne.**

And one cried to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!”  
**(Isaiah 6:3)**

### **His Holiness is celebrated by His people in worship.**

Sing praise to the LORD, You saints of His, And give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name.

**(Psalm 30:4)**

Oh, sing to the LORD a new song! For He has done marvelous things; His right hand and His holy arm have gained Him the victory.

**(Psalm 98:1)**

### **God's Holiness is manifested in all His works.**

The LORD is righteous in all His ways, Gracious in all His works.

**(Psalm 145:17)**

### **God's Holiness is manifested in His Law.**

Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.

**(Romans 7:12)**

The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

**(Psalm 19:8-9)**

### **God's Holiness is manifested at the Cross.**

My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?

**(Psalm 22:1)**

### **Because God is Holy He hates sin.**

For the perverse person is an abomination to the LORD, But His secret counsel is with the upright.

**(Proverbs 3:32)**

The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination to the LORD, But the words of the pure are pleasant.

**(Proverbs 15:26)**

## **Because God is Holy He must punish sin.**

And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.

**(Hebrews 9:22)**

God is jealous, and the LORD avenges/ The LORD avenges and is furious. The LORD will take vengeance on His adversaries, And He reserves wrath for His enemies.

**(Nahum 1:2)**

These things you have done, and I kept silent; You thought that I was altogether like you; But I will rebuke you, And set them in order before your eyes.

**(Psalm 50:21)**

The boastful shall not stand in Your sight/ You hate all workers of iniquity.

**(Psalm 5:5)**

God is angry with the wicked everyday.

**(Psalm 7:11)**

## **Because God is Holy, acceptance with Him is impossible based on what we can ever produce.**

But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousness's are like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.

**(Isaiah 64:6)**

To the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He has made us accepted in the Beloved.

**(Ephesians 1:6)**

## **Because God is Holy He is to be Reverenced.**

God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, And to be held in reverence by all those around Him.

**(Psalm 89:7)**

“Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground”.

**(Exodus 3:5)**

Serve the LORD with fear, And rejoice with trembling.

**(Psalm 2:11)**

By those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy; And before all the people I must be glorified.

**(Leviticus 10:3)**

**Because God is Holy we must desire to be Conformed into His image.**

Because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy".

**(1 Peter 1:16)**

But as He who called you is holy, you also are holy in all your conduct.

**(1 Peter 1:15)**

**Because He is the source of all Holiness, let us Seek Holiness from Him and not us.**

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**(1 Thessalonians 5:23)**

# **“The Solitariness of God”**

**God Stands alone in His excellency, He is solitary in His Majesty!**

“Who is like You, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like You, glorious in holiness, Fearful in praises, doing wonders?”

**(Exodus 15:11)**

**Before there was “Time” God was, He dwelt alone.  
There was no heaven, to tell of His glory.  
There was no earth, to engage His attention.  
There were no angels, to sing His praises.  
There was NOTHING, God was all alone.  
Self-Sufficient, Self-Satisfied, Self-Contained.  
(In Need of Nothing)**

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

**(Genesis 1:1)**

**His Glory can not be added to, Nor diminished, by US!**

“For I am the LORD, I do not change”.

**(Malachi 3:6)**

**God was under no Obligation, or Necessity to Create.**

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.

**(Ephesians 1:11)**

**That He did, was for his Manifestive Glory!**

“Stand up and bless the LORD your God Forever and ever! Blessed by Your glorious name, Which is exalted above all blessings and praise!”

**(Nehemiah 9:5)**

**God is not added to by our Worship.  
He needs no External Glory, or Praise.  
He is Glorious enough in Himself.**

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

**(Ephesians 1:5)**

### **God Gains Nothing from Us!**

“For who has known the mind of the LORD? Or who has become His counselor??

“Or who has first given to Him And it shall be repaid to him?”

**(Romans 11:34-35)**

If you are righteous, what do you give him? Or what does He receive from your hand:

Your wickedness affects a man such as you, And your righteousness a son of man.

**(Job 35:7-8)**

“So likewise you, when you have done all those things which you are commanded say, ‘We are unprofitable servants. We have done what was our duty to do.’”

**(Job 35:7-8)**

### **God could have continued alone, without creating. Without making known His Greatness in Creation. He could have been perfectly blessed in Himself. So, what are all His creatures to Him?**

Behold, the nations are as a drop in a bucket, And are counted as the small dust on the scales; Look, He lifts up the isles as a very little thing.

And Lebanon is not sufficient to burn, Nor its beasts sufficient for a burnt offering.

All nations before Him are as nothing, And they are counted by Him less than nothing and worthless. To whom then will you liken God? Or what likeness will you compare to Him?

It is He who sits above the circle of the earth, And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.

He brings the princes to nothing; He makes the judges of the earth useless.

**(Isaiah 40:15-23)**

### **He is Solitary in His Majesty. He is Unique in His Excellency.**

Who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen.

**(1 Timothy 6:16)**

Indeed these are the mere edges of His ways, And how small a whisper we hear of Him! But the thunder of His power who can understand?

**(Job 26:14)**

**Therefore, God can not be known by intellectual means or pursuit. He must reveal Himself. He does this by the work of His Spirit.**

“Can you search out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limits of the Almighty?”  
**(Job 11:7-8)**

“God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth”.  
**(John 4:24)**

Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”  
**(John 3:3)**

But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.  
**(1 Corinthians 2:14)**

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.  
**(2 Corinthians 4:6)**



# “The Decrees of God”

What ever is done in “time”; Was foreordained before time!

## **God’s decrees concern everything!**

Whether great of small, whether good or evil, whether life or death, all were stated in eternity past before “time” began.

God works all things after His pre-determined counsel!

“Known to God from eternity are all His works.”

**(Acts 15:18)**

## **The decrees of God are his determination, with respect to the future events!**

“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.”

**(Romans 8:28)**

## **The scriptures speak of God’s decrees!**

### His eternal purpose.

According to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**(Ephesians 3:11)**

Who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began.

**(2 Timothy 1:9)**

### His determinate counsel.

“Him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by the lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death”

**(Acts 2:23)**

For whom he foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

**(Romans 8:29)**

Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love.

**(Ephesians 1:4)**

The mystery of His will.

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

**(Ephesians 1:9)**

**God did not decree to make man and then leave him to his own devices. But God is involved in a man's life, to the smallest detail!**

Our days are numbered.

Since his days are determined. The number of his months is with You; You have appointed his limits, so that he cannot pass.

**(Job 14:5)**

Our steps are ordered.

The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD.

**(Psalm 37:23)**

**The decrees of God are wise!**

God wisdom is manifest in the selection of the best possible course, the best possible end, and the best possible way of accomplishing it!

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

**(Psalm 104:24)**

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out!

**(Romans 11:33)**

**The decrees of God are without influence!**

God is Sovereign, He alone has determined His purposes!

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

**(Isaiah 40: 13-14)**

## **The decrees of God are absolute!**

Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done,  
Saying, "My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure."

**(Isaiah 46:10)**

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.

**(Isaiah 46:10)**

### Consider This

The question of whether God has decreed all things that have come to pass, or not, must be  
answered by all those who know their God, and own that He knows all things beforehand.  
Now, it is self-evident from scripture that He knows all things beforehand. (Acts 15:18)  
So, we must acknowledge then, God knows all things, and that the things that God allows, are  
His will, and if they are His will, then we must understand that He has approved of them.

They Are Then Of His Decree!!

## **You might say, I do not believe that God decrees all things!**

To deny the Divine Decrees of God, would be to predicate a world of His making, and regulated  
by His design, to mere chance, and blind fate!

What peace of assurance is there in that kind of thinking? But, alas we serve the God of Peace,  
the God of all Hope!

What Do The Scripture Declare?

For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen.

**(Romans 11:36)**

Many great men of God have debated this subject, and I would be foolish to think myself wiser  
than them.

But nonetheless this is what the Scriptures plainly declare!!!

God has fore-ordained all things by His infinite wisdom and foreknowledge. His purposes, and  
decrees are from everlasting to everlasting!



# “The Knowledge of God”

## **God is Omniscience. He knows everything:**

God knows everything that is possible, everything that is actual! He knows every event, and every creature. God knows the past, the present and the future. He is perfectly acquainted with every detail in the life of every being in heaven, in earth and in hell. Nothing is nor can be hidden for the knowledge of the Almighty!

“He knows what is in the darkness”

**(Daniel 2:22)**

Nothing escapes His notice, nothing can be hidden from His sight, and nothing is forgotten by Him.

His knowledge is perfect. He never errs, never changes, and He never overlooks anything.

“Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in His sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do”

**(Hebrews 4:13)**

## **How solemn is this fact: Nothing can be concealed from God!**

“For I know the things that come into your mind, every one of them”

**(Ezekiel 11:5)**

The fact of God’s omniscience is a truth fraught with much comfort. In times of perplexity He says with Job, “But He knoweth the way that I take.”

**(Job 23:10)**

“He knoweth!” In times of weariness and weakness believers assure themselves “He knoweth our frame; He remembereth that we are dust”

**(Psalm 103:14).**

In times of doubt and suspicion they appeal to this very attribute saying, “Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting”

**(Psalm 139:23-24)**

In time of sad failure, when our actions have troubled our hearts, when our deeds have repudiated our devotion, and the searching question comes to us, “Lovest thou Me?;” we say, as Peter did, “Lord, Thou knowest all things; Thou knowest that I love Thee”

**(John 21:17)**

He knows the thoughts and intents of the heart. "It shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear"  
**(Isaiah 65:24)**

"Great is our Lord, and of great power: His understanding is infinite"  
**(Psalm 147:5).**

God not only knows whatsoever has happened in the past in every part of His vast domains. He is thoroughly acquainted with everything that is transpiring now throughout the entire universe! He is also perfectly cognizant with every event, from the least to the greatest, that will ever happen in the ages to come. God's knowledge of the future is as complete as is His knowledge of the past and the present, and that, because the future depends entirely upon Him.

If it were possible for something to occur apart from either the direct agency or permission of God, then that something would be independent of Him, and He would at once cease to be Supreme.

Now the Divine knowledge of the future is not a mere abstraction, but something which is inseparably connected with and accompanied by His purpose.

God has Himself designed whatsoever shall yet be, and what He has designed must be effectuated. As His most sure Word affirms, "He doeth according to His will in the army of heaven, and the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay His hand"  
**(Daniel 4:35)**

And again, "There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless the counsel of the Lord, that shall stand"  
**(Proverbs 19:21)**

The wisdom and power of God are infinite, the accomplishment of whatever He hath purposed is absolutely guaranteed. It is no more possible for the Divine counsels to fail in their execution than it would be for God to lie.

Nothing relating to the future is in anywise uncertain so far as the actualization of God's counsels are concerned. None of His decrees are left contingent either on creatures or secondary causes. There is no future event which is only a mere possibility, that is, something which may or may not come to pass, "Known unto God are all His works from the beginning"  
**(Acts 15:18)**

Whatever God has decreed is certain, for He is without variableness, or shadow, of turning.  
**(James 1:17)**

Therefore we are told at the very beginning of that book which unveils to us so much of the future, of "Things which must shortly come to pass."  
**(Revelation 1:1)**

The perfect knowledge of God is exemplified and illustrated in every prophecy recorded in His Word. In the Old Testament are to be found scores of predictions concerning the history of Israel, which were fulfilled to their minutest detail, centuries after they were made. In them too are scores more foretelling the earthly career of Christ, and they too were accomplished literally and perfectly. Such prophecies could only have been given by One who knew the end from the beginning, and whose knowledge rested upon the unconditional certainty of the accomplishment of everything foretold. In like manner, both Old and New Testament contain many other announcements yet future, and they too “must be fulfilled” (**Luke 24:44**) must because foretold by Him who decreed them.

It should, however, be pointed out that neither God’s knowledge nor His cognition of the future, considered simply in themselves, are causative.

Nothing has ever come to pass, or ever will, merely because God knew it.

The cause of all things is the will of God.

The man who really believes the Scriptures knows beforehand that the seasons will continue to follow each other with unflinching regularity to the end of earth’s history (**Genesis 8:22**), yet his knowledge is not the cause of their succession.

So God’s knowledge does not arise from things because they are or will be but because He has ordained them to be. God knew and foretold the crucifixion of His Son many hundreds of years before He became incarnate, and this, because in the Divine purpose, He was a Lamb slain from the foundation of the world: hence we read of His being “delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God”.

**(Acts 2:23)**

Thus, the infinite knowledge of God should fill us with amazement! None of us knows what a day may bring forth, but the future is open to His omniscient gaze. The infinite knowledge of God ought to fill us with holy awe.

Nothing we do, say, or even think, escapes the cognizance of Him with whom we have to do: “The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good”

**(Proverbs 15:3)**

How this should curb our behavior, if we would but meditate upon it more frequently! Instead of acting recklessly, we should say with Hagar, “Thou God seest me”

**(Genesis 16:13).**

The apprehension of God’s infinite knowledge should fill the Christian with adoration. The whole of my life stood open to His view from the beginning, to the very end. He foresaw my every fall, my every sin, my every backsliding; yet, nevertheless, fixed His heart upon me. Oh, how the realization of this should bow me in wonder and worship before Him!



# The Foreknowledge of God

What huge controversies have been ignited over this subject throughout the centuries!

We must remember through this study that, we see through a glass dimly, we do not have complete understanding of all things yet. But one day we will!

So let us lay aside our opinions and see what the scriptures have to declare on this great attribute to God!

When the subject of foreordination is expounded, when God's eternal choice is certain ones to be conformed to the image of His Son is set forth, there will always be misunderstanding, and misuse, of this truth in order to deny the absolute sovereignty of God in the salvation of sinners.

## The two things that need to be understood:

**The meaning of the term foreknowledge!**

**The Scriptural scope of the matter!**

## What is meant by the term foreknowledge?

Does it mean, God has knowledge of all future events because; He has seen them unfold in the course of time?

Does it mean, God has knowledge of all future events because; He pre-ordered them through design and forethought to be?

Many theologians have believed and taught that, God has seen our choices from afar, and made His design based on what He saw. Using the term as to fore-see our actions and decisions, and based on fore-seeing He predestinated some to be saved accordingly.

These theologians teach that man has a free will, by which he can choose thus God bases His decisions on theirs.

It shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord, shall be saved.

These theologians also teach that God died to save the whole world.

**(Acts 2:21)**

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever would believe in Him would not perish, but have eternal life.

**(John 3:16)**

These theologians also teach that it is not God's desire that any perish, and that He could not predestinate any to eternal damnation.

The Lord says, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn, turn, from your evil way! For why should you die?

**(Ezekiel 33:11)**

The logical end to this thinking would be that God does not know all things, and man's choices effect God's purposes.

But, what we need to find out is not what man thinks, but how the word "foreknowledge" is used in scripture.

Let the Holy Spirit's usage of that word and expression be what defines its meaning and scope!

The word is only used four times in the New Testament. It is never used in connection with events or actions; it is always used in reference to persons.

#### **First**

"Him, (Christ) being delivered by the {determined purpose} and {foreknowledge of God}, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death;

**(Acts 2:23)**

#### **Second**

For {whom} He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

**(Romans 8:29)** \*Watch the pronoun used here!

#### **Third**

God has not cast away {His people} whom He foreknew.

**(Romans 11:2)** \* Plain reference to persons

#### **Fourth**

Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father.

**(1 Peter 1:2)** \*Who; the pilgrims of the dispersion. God's people.

Now in view of these verses, what basis do we have to say that God "foreknew" the acts of a certain person, their repentance, their belief, and because of those acts He elected them to salvation?

There are other theologians that teach that this would repudiate the doctrine of the total depravity of man, for it argues that there must be something good in some men.

This would make the decrees of God rest upon what He has discovered in that person. These theologians state that the Scriptures affirm, that God, in His sovereign will has chosen

ones to be recipients of His favor!

And as many as {had been appointed} to eternal life believed.  
**(Acts 13:48)**

### **Is God's decrees, and eternal purposes the basis of his foreknowledge!**

For whom He foreknew, He also {predestined to be conformed} to the image of His Son.  
**(Romans 8:29)**

God {from the beginning chose you} for salvation.  
**(2 Thessalonians 2:13)**

Did God predestinate those whom He foreknew (would be) conformed, or those whom He foreknew He predestinated (to be) conformed.

Is their conformity the cause, or rather the effect of God's foreknowledge and predestination.

### **The word plainly teaches us that, believing is not a meritorious act, we believe by the gift of God's grace!**

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, (according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence), having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which (He purposed in Himself).

**(Ephesians 1:7-9)**

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that (not of yourselves); it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand} that we should walk in them.

**(Ephesians 2:8-10)**

He greatly helped those who had (believed through grace)  
**(Acts 18:27)**

According to the election of grace.  
**(Romans 11:5)**

### **Belief is a gift of His unmerited favor**

### **God knows the end from the beginning!**

These theologians teach, that God not only knew the end from the beginning, but He planned,

fixed, and predestinated everything from the smallest to the greatest in the beginning.

As CAUSE stands to EFFECT, so God's purpose is the ground of His prescience.

They say, if then we are Christians, it is because God has chosen us in Christ before the foundation of the world.

Just as {He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world} that we should be holy and without the blame before Him in love.

**(Ephesians 1:4)**

I know that this is hard to comprehend, and I clearly acknowledge that wherever the human meets the Divine, Those things can become quite confusing.

Many great men of God have debated this subject, and I would be foolish to think myself wiser than them.

But nonetheless this is what the Scriptures plainly declare!!!

(God has fore-ordained all things by His infinite wisdom and foreknowledge. His purposes, and decrees are from everlasting to everlasting!)

## “The Supremacy of God”

God complained to an apostate Israel:

“Thou has thought that I was altogether as thyself.  
**(Psalm 50:21)**

Such must now be His indictment against an apostate Church. Men imagine that the Most High is moved by sentiment, rather than actuated by principle. They suppose that His omnipotency is such an idle fiction that Satan is thwarting His designs on every side.

(A.W. Pink) Quote:

“The “god” of this twentieth century no more resembles the Supreme Sovereign of Holy Writ than does the dim flickering of a candle the glory of the midday sun. The “god” who is now talked about in the average pulpit, spoken of in the ordinary Sunday School, mentioned in much of the religious literature of the day, and preached in most of the so-called Bible Conferences is the figment of human imagination, an invention of human sentimentality. The heathen outside of the pale of Christendom form “gods” out of wood and stone, while the millions of heathen inside Christendom manufacture a “god” out of their own carnal mind. In reality, they are but atheists, for there is no other possible alternative between an absolutely supreme God, and no God at all. A “god” whose will is resisted, whose designs are frustrated, whose purpose is checkmated, possesses no title to Deity, and so far from being a fit object of worship, merits nought but contempt”.

(End Quote)

### **The Supremacy of the true and living God:**

God is the Almighty Creator, the Sovereign Ruler, the Great I Am, and the only King of kings and Lord of lords! He is the Potter, we are but the clay in His hands to be molded into vessels of honor, or to be dashed into pieces as He pleases.

**(Psalm 2:9)**

So powerless is the creature to affect the Most High, Scripture itself tells us that when the Gentile heads unite with apostate Israel to defy Jehovah and His Christ, “He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh”

**(Psalm 2:4)**

### **The absolute and Universal Supremacy of God**

Is plainly and positively affirmed in many scriptures:

“Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory and the majesty: for all in the heaven and all in the earth is Thine; Thine is the Kingdom, O Lord, and Thou art exalted as Head above all ...And Thou reignest over all”

**(1 Chronicles 29:11-12)**

“O Lord God of our fathers, art not Thou, God in heaven? and rulest not Thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in Thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand Thee?”

**(2 Chronicles. 20:6)**

“But He is in one mind, and who can turn Him? and what His soul desireth, even that He doeth”

**(Job 23:13).**

“I know that Thou canst do everything, and that no thought of Thine can be hindered” (Job 42:3)

“No purpose of Thine can be frustrated.” All that He has designed He does. All that He has decreed, He performs. “But our God is in the heavens: He hath done whatsoever He hath pleased” **(Psalm 115:3)**

“There is no wisdom, nor understanding, nor counsel against the Lord”

**(Proverbs 21:30).**

God’s Supremacy over the works of His hands is vividly depicted in Scripture. Inanimate matter, irrational creatures, all perform their Maker’s bidding.

At His pleasure the Red Sea divided and its waters stood up as walls.

**(Exodus 14)**

The earth opened, and guilty rebels went down alive into the pit.

**(Numbers 14)**

When He so ordered, the sun stood still.

**(Joshua 10)**

Another occasion went backward ten degrees on the dial of Ahaz.

**(Isaiah 38:8)**

To exemplify His supremacy, He made ravens carry food to Elijah.

**(1 Kings 17)**

Iron to swim on top of the waters

**(2 Kings 6:5)**

Lions to be tame when Daniel was cast into their den, fire to burn not when the three Hebrews were flung into its flames. “Whatsoever the Lord pleased, that did He in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places”

**(Psalm 135:6).**

**God's supremacy is also demonstrated in His perfect rule over the wills of men.**

Three times in the year all the males of Israel were required to leave their homes and go up to Jerusalem.

**(Exodus 34:24)**

They lived in the midst of hostile people, who hated them for having appropriated their lands. What, then, was to hinder the Canaanites from seizing their opportunity, and, during the absence of the men, slaying the women and children and taking possession of their farms? If the hand of the Almighty was not upon the wills even of wicked men, how could He make this promise beforehand, that none should so much as "Desire" their lands?

"The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water: He turneth it whithersoever He will".

**(Proverbs 21:1)**

The absolute and universal supremacy of God is affirmed with equal plainness in the New Testament. There we are told that God "worketh all things after the counsel of His own will".

**(Ephesians 1:11)**

The Greek for "worketh" means to work effectually. For this reason we read, "For of Him, and through Him, and to Him are all things: to whom be glory forever. Amen".

**(Romans 11:36)**

Men may boast that they are free agents, with a will of their own, and are at liberty to do as they please, but Scripture says to those who boast "we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell...Ye ought to say, If the Lord will"!

**(James 4:13-15)**

Here then is a sure resting-place for the heart. Our lives are neither the product of blind fate nor the result of capricious chance, but every detail of them was ordained from all eternity. And is now ordered by the living and reigning God.

Not a hair of our heads can be touched without His permission. "A man's heart deviseth his way: but the Lord directeth his steps".

**(Proverbs 16:9)**

What assurance, what strength, what comfort should this give the real Christian! "My times are in Thy hand".

**(Psalm 31:15)**

Then let me "Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him"

**(Psalm 37:7)**



# **“The Sovereignty of God”**

**The Sovereignty of God is defined as;The exercise of His Supremacy!**

He is the Most High God, Lord of Heaven and earth. He is Subject to none, and influenced by none, He is absolutely independent. God does as He pleases, only as He pleases, always as He pleases. None can stay Him, none can hinder Him, And He does as He wills to do.

Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, ‘my counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure!  
**(Isaiah 46:10)**

All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, “What have you done?”  
**(Daniel 4:35)**

**Divine Sovereignty means that God is God in fact, As well as in name, That He rules the universe from His Throne, He directs all things! He controls all things! He works all things! He wills all things!**

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.  
**(Ephesians 1:11)**

Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things?  
**(Matthew 20:15)**

**God is Supreme Potentate and as such is; Unrivalled in Majesty, Unlimited in Power, and Unaffected by anything outside Himself.**

Whatever the LORD pleases He does, in heaven and in earth, in the seas and in all deep places.  
**(Psalm 135:6)**

But our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases.  
**(Psalm 115:3)**

**But some would say, that to press this doctrine of God's Divine Sovereignty, is to exclude human responsibility! But in all reality, human responsibility is the basis for Divine Sovereignty, and is the product of it!**

His Sovereignty chooses to place each of His creatures on the particular footing that seems Good in His sight. Some on (Conditional), The Others on an (Immutable), Standing with Him.

#### The Angels

When He created the angels, some He placed on a Conditional footing, others He gave an Immutable standing before Him.

I charge you before God and the Lord Jesus Christ and the elect angels!  
**(1 Timothy 5:21)**

For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into the chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment;  
**(2Peter:2-4)**

#### Adam and Eve

God's Sovereignty placed Adam in the garden on a conditional footing. Had God so pleased He could have placed him on a firm immutable footing, from which Adam could not have had the possibility of falling from. But God chose to set him in Eden on the basis of creature responsibility.

"Of every tree you may freely eat; but of the tree of knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."  
**(Genesis 2:16-17)**

#### The Nation Of Israel

God's Sovereignty placed Israel upon Conditional footing. They were placed under a covenant of works. God gave them certain laws and made His blessing dependent upon their keeping of those laws.

"Now therefore "IF" you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is mine."  
**(Exodus 19:5)**

#### The Church

But God's Sovereignty in sharp contrast has placed those who are in Christ Jesus on a different footing altogether. We have been given an Unconditional, an Immutable standing in God, through a new covenant, through God's Grace, His unmerited favor.

For by one offering He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified.  
**(Hebrews 10:14)**

**God is sovereign. So far from God being under any law of “right”, He is a law unto Himself, so that whatsoever He does is “right.” Woe to the person that calls God’s right of rule or His sovereignty into question!**

“Woe to him who strives with his Maker! Let the potsherd strive with the potsherds of the earth! Shall the clay say to him who forms it, “What are you making?” Or shall your handiwork say, ‘He has no hands?’”  
**(Isaiah 45:9)**

What right would the Israelites have had to take jewels, gold, silver, and raiment from the Egyptians when they left? Had God not commanded this act, It would have been theft!

“But every woman shall ask of her neighbor, namely, of her who dwells near her house, articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing; and you shall put them on your sons and on your daughters. So you shall plunder the Egyptians.”  
**(Exodus 3:22)**

What right did Israel have to kill off all the Canaanites? Had God not commanded it, This would be murder.

Now the Lord to destruction shall doom the city; And they utterly destroyed all that was in the city, man and women, young and old, ox and sheep and donkey, with the edge of the sword.  
**(Joshua 6: 17 & 21)**

What right has the husband to require Submission from the wife? Had not God Commanded it, this would be unfair!

Wives submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord.  
**(Ephesians 5:22)**

**Here then is God’s Sovereignty displayed before all; In the different ways in which He has chosen to deal with His creatures.**

Part of the Angels, Adam, and Israel were placed upon a Conditional footing, salvation and blessing dependent upon their obedience and fidelity to God.

Another part of the Angels, and the Church, were placed on an immutable footing, salvation, and blessing dependent upon what Christ did for them!

I know that whatever God does, it shall be forever, Nothing can be added to it, and nothing taken from it. God does it, that men should fear before Him!

**(Ecclesiastes 3:14)**

For He says to Moses, "I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion." So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy. Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens. That He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory.

**(Romans 9:15, 16, 18 & 23)**

# “The Immutability of God”

This is one of the Divine perfections of God, that He is perpetually the same: Subject to no change in His being, attributes, or determinations.

Therefore God is immutable. Because God has no beginning and no ending, He can know no change. He is everlastingly “the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning”.

**(James 1:17)**

## **God is immutable in His essence.**

His nature and being are infinite, and so, subject to no changes or mutations. There never was a time when He was not; there never will come a time when He shall cease to be. God has neither evolved, grown, nor improved. All that He is today, He has ever been, and ever will be. “I am the Lord, I change not”.

**(Malachi 3:6)**

He cannot change for the better, for He is already perfect; and being perfect, He cannot change for the worse. Altogether unaffected by anything outside Himself, improvement or deterioration is impossible.

He is perpetually the same. He only can say, “I am that I am”.

**(Exodus 3:14)**

He is altogether uninfluenced by time. Therefore His power can never diminish nor His glory, ever fade.

## **God is immutable in His attributes.**

Whatever the attributes of God were before the universe was called into existence, they are precisely the same now, and will remain so forever.

**His power** is unabated, **His wisdom** undiminished, **His holiness** untainted. The attributes of God can no more change than His Deity can cease to be.

**His will** is immutable, for His Word is “forever settled in heaven”.

**(Psalm 119:89)**

**His love** is eternal: “I have loved thee with an everlasting love”.

**(Jeremiah 31:3)**

**His mercy** ceases not, for it is “everlasting”.  
**(Psalm 100:5)**

### **God is immutable in His counsel.**

His will never Varies. “God is not a man, that He should lie; neither the son of man, that He should repent. Hath He said, and shall He not do it? Or hath He spoken, and shall He not make it good”!

**Numbers 23:19)**

“The strength of Israel will not lie nor repent: for He is not a man, that He should repent.”  
**(1 Samuel 15:19)**

Yes, God is immutable in His counsel. “The gifts and calling of God are without repentance”  
**(Romans. 11:29)**

It must be so, for “He is in one mind, and who can turn Him? and what His soul desireth, even that He doeth”  
**(Job 23:13)**

He who changeth not abide with thee. God’s purpose never alters. God is both omniscient and omnipotent there is never any need for Him to revise His decrees. “The counsel of the Lord standeth forever, the thoughts of His heart to all generations”.  
**(Psalm 33:11)**

Therefore do we read of “the immutability of His counsel!”  
**(Hebrews 6:17)**

Herein is solid comfort. God changes not. If He varied as we do, if He willed one thing today and another tomorrow, who could have confidence in Him?

But, all praise to His glorious name, He is ever the same. His purpose is fixed, His will stable, His word is sure.

Here then is a rock on which we may fix our feet, while the mighty torrent is sweeping away everything around us.

The permanence of God’s character guarantees the fulfillment of His promises: “For the mountains shall depart, and the hills be removed; but My kindness shall not depart from thee, neither shall the covenant of My peace be removed, saith the Lord that hath mercy on thee”  
**(Isaiah 54:10)**

## **“The Power of God”**

We will not have a right concept of God unless we think of Him as all powerful, as well as all wise.

The power of God is the ability and strength of God to bring to pass that which He purposes to do. Without power, His promises would be empty, His threatening would be hollow, and His grace and mercy would be but feeble pity.

### **But God has spoken with power & authority**

God has spoken once, Twice I have heard this: That power belongs to God.  
**(Psalm 62:11)**

The LORD thundered from heaven, and the Most High uttered His voice, Hailstones and coals of fire. He sent out His arrows and scattered the foe, Lightning's in abundance, and He vanquished them. Then the channels of the sea were seen, the foundations of the world were uncovered At Your rebuke, O LORD, at the blast of the breath of your nostrils.  
**(Psalm 18:13-15)**

For who in the heavens can be compared to the LORD? Who among the sons of the mighty can be likened to the LORD?  
**(Psalm 89:6)**

All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, “What have you done?”  
**(Daniel 4:35)**

### **Jesus displayed this as God incarnate.**

Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, “I am willing, be cleansed.” Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.  
**(Matthew 8:3)**

“Lazarus come forth!”  
**(John 11:43)**

Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, Peace be Still!  
**(Mark 4:39)**

He commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man!  
**(Luke 8:29)**

### **Power belongs to God and him alone.**

“Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding? Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? To what were its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone?  
**(Job 38:4-6)**

### **Power is also used as a name of God!**

Jesus said, “I am. And you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.  
**(Mark 14:62)**

The pillars of heaven tremble, and are astonished at His rebuke. He stirs up the sea with His power, and by His understanding He breaks up the storm. By His Spirit He adorned the heavens; His hand pierced the fleeing serpent. Indeed these are the mere edges of His ways, and how small a whisper we hear of Him! But the thunder of His power who can understand?”  
**(Job 26:11)**

His brightness was like the light; He had rays flashing from His hand, and there His power was hidden.  
**(Habakkuk 3:4)**

### **Let us look at His power in creation!**

The heavens are Yours, the earth also is Yours; the world at all its fullness, and You have founded them. The north and the south, You have created them;  
**(Psalm 89:11-12)**

For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.  
**(Psalm 33:9)**

You have a mighty arm; Strong is your hand, and high is your right hand.  
**(Psalm 89:13)**

Praise the LORD! Praise God in His sanctuary; Praise Him in His mighty firmament!  
**(Psalm 150:1)**

## **Consider God's power in preservation!**

“Can the papyrus grow up without a marsh? Can the reeds flourish without water?  
**(Job 8:11)**

Your righteousness is like the great mountains; your judgments are a great deep; O LORD, You preserve man and beast.  
**(Psalm 36:6)**

Who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.  
**(Hebrews 1:3)**

Who keeps our soul among the living, and does not allow our feet to be moved?  
**(Psalm 66:9)**

Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to God our Savior, who alone is wise, is glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen.  
**(Jude 24)**

## **Consider God's power in government!**

The LORD reigns, He is clothed in majesty; the LORD is clothed, He has girded Himself with strength. Surely the world is established, so that it cannot be moved. Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting. The floods have lifted up, O LORD, The floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their waves. The LORD on high is mightier than the noise of many waters, than the mighty waves of the sea. Your testimonies are very sure; Holiness adorns your house, O LORD, forever.  
**(Psalm 93:1-5)**

For exaltation comes neither from the east nor from the west nor from the south.  
But God is the Judge: He puts down one, and exalts another.  
**(Psalm 75:6-7)**

“For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality nor takes a bribe.”  
**(Deuteronomy 10:17)**

And He has on His robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.  
**(Revelation 19:16)**

## **Consider God's power in judgment!**

“Can your heart endure, or can your hands remain strong, in the days when I shall deal with you? I, the LORD, have spoken, and will do it.

**(Ezekiel 22:14)**

What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction.

**(Romans 9:22)**

Kiss the Son, lest He is angry, and you perish in the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.

**(Psalm 2:12)**

## **To His own His power is our protection!**

“Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like YOU, glorious in holiness, Fearful in praises, doing wonders?

**(Exodus 15:11)**

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**(Psalm 27:1)**

Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, To Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

**(Ephesians 3:20-21)**

## **“The Faithfulness of God”**

Unfaithfulness, unfortunately seems to be wide spread in our society.

No longer is a man’s word his bond, and in the church, men that have taken an oath to faithfully preach and teach God’s word, all too often compromise it for the sake of numbers of popularity.

But, there is One who is faithful, faithful in all things, and faithful at all times. The Lord our God is faithful!

“Therefore know that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments;  
**(Deuteronomy 7:9)**

**This is an essential quality of God!  
Without it He would not be God!**

If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.  
**(2Timothy: 2:13)**

**Faithfulness is one of His perfections.  
He is literally clothed in faithfulness!**

O LORD God of hosts, Who is mighty like You, O LORD?  
Your faithfulness also surrounds You.  
**(Psalm 89:8)**

**God incarnate in Christ was faithful!**

Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins, And faithfulness the belt of His waist.  
**(Isaiah 11:5)**

**The word declares the measure of it!**

Your faithfulness reaches to the Heavens.  
**(Psalm 36:5)**

“God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make good?  
**(Numbers 23:19)**

Through the LORD’S mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not.  
They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness.  
**(Lamentations 3:22-23)**

### **Nature declares the faithfulness of God!**

“While the earth remains, Seedtime and harvest, Cold and heat, Winter and summer, And day and night Shall not cease.  
**(Genesis 8:22)**

### **God’s faithfulness in the promises to Israel!**

He said to Abram: “Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. “And also the nations whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions.  
**(Genesis 15:13-14)**

And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred years-----on that very same day----it came to pass that all the armies of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.  
**(Exodus 12:41)**

### **It’s one thing to accept the promises of God and another to act upon them!**

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering. For He who promised is faithful.  
**(Hebrews 10:23)**

### **When we go through the dark night of the soul, God is faithful!**

“Who among you fears the LORD? Who obeys the voice of His Servant? Who walks in darkness And has no light? Let him trust in the name of the LORD And rely upon his God.  
**(Isaiah 50:10)**

### **God is faithful to preserve his people!**

God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ the Lord.  
**(I Corinthians 1:9)**

Now unto him who is able to keep you from falling, and present your faultless before the presence of His glory, with exceeding joy.

**(Jude 24)**

Being confident of this one thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.

**(Philippians 1:6)**

### **God is faithful to discipline His people!**

Then I will punish their transgression with the rod, And their iniquity with stripes. Nevertheless My loving-kindness I will not utterly take from him, Nor allow My faithfulness to fail.

**(Psalm 89: 32-33)**

I will return again to My place Til they acknowledge their offense. Then they will seek My face; In their affliction they will earnestly seek Me.”

**(Hosea 5:15)**

### **God will be faithful to glorify His people!**

He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.

**(1 Thessalonians 5:24)**

Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

**(Romans 8:30)**

Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: “The Lord knows those who are His.

**(2 Timothy 2:19)**

For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

**(2 Timothy 1:12)**

### **We can have confidence in the faithfulness of our God and His promises toward us!**

Therefore let those who suffer according to the will of God commit their souls to Him in doing good, as to a faithful Creator.

**(1 Peter 4:19)**



## “The Goodness of God”

You can never come to the end of God’s goodness, grace Or mercy, they are beyond measure, and replenished every day!

“The goodness of God endureth continually”.

**(Psalm 52:1)**

The “Goodness” of God reflects the perfection of His nature.

This is the message, which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. There is such absolute perfection in the nature and character of God, that nothing is lacking, nor can anything be added, to make Him better! His very essence is “GOODNESS”!

**(1 John 1:5)**

You are good, and do good;

**(Psalm 119:68)**

(God is “SUMMUM BONUM”, The Chiefest Good.)  
The original Saxon meaning of the English word “God” is; (“THE GOOD”)

### **The goodness of God in His creation.**

Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good.

**(Genesis 1:31)**

#### In the creation of mankind

I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well.

**(Psalm 139:14)**

#### In the creation of animal life

The eyes of all look expectantly to You, And You give them their food in due season. You open Your hand And satisfy the desire of every living thing. The LORD is righteous in all His ways, Gracious in all His works.

**(Psalm 145:15-17)**

Who gives food to all flesh, For His mercy endures forever.

**(Psalm 136:25)**

In the creation of nature

The earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.

**(Psalm 33:5)**

### **In His attitude toward fallen sinners.**

The LORD is good to all, And His tender mercies are over all His works.

**(Psalm 145:9)**

Mercy triumphs over judgment.

**(James 2:13)**

### **Who is to blame for God's wrath?**

But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God.

**(Romans 2:5)**

### **The goodness in the gift of His Son!**

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

**(Galatians 4: 4-7)**

"Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

**(Luke 2:14)**

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men.

**(Titus 2:11)**

### **It is only His goodness that we are not consumed, and utterly destroyed!**

Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things? Or is your eye evil because I am good?

**(Matthew 20:15)**

(God would have been justified and completely right to have punished us with eternal damnation the moment we committed our very first sin against Him!)

Oh, that men would give thanks to the LORD for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men!

**(Psalm 107:8)**

Why do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance? But in accordance with your hardness and your impenitent heart you are treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God, Who “will render to each one according to his deeds”: Eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality; But to those who are self-seeking and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness-----indignation and wrath. Tribulation and anguish, on every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek; But glory, honor, and peace to everyone who works what is good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God.

**(Romans 2:4-11)**

**It is His goodness that gives confidence to our faith and hope to our future!**

The LORD is good, A stronghold in the day of trouble; And He knows those who trust in Him.  
**(Nahum 1:7)**

Now the LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, “Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children’s children to the third and the fourth generation.” So Moses made haste and bowed his head toward the earth, and worshiped. Then he said, “If now I have found grace in Your sight, O Lord, let my Lord, I pray, go among us, even though we are a stiff-necked people; and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us as Your inheritance.” And He said: “Behold, I make a covenant. Before all your people I will do marvels such as have not been done in all the earth, nor in any nation; and all the people among whom you are shall see the work of the LORD. For it is an awesome thing that I will do with you.

**(Exodus 34:5-10)**



## “The Patience of God”

This is one of those attributes that we do not find much written about. Not because it isn't a note worthy subject to study, but because it is difficult to separate the distinctions between the Longsuffering of God, and the Goodness and Mercy of God.

For the Longsuffering of God is so often mentioned in connection with the Grace, Mercy and Goodness of God that it is difficult to notice that they are two separate things.

### **For example**

And the LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering and abounding in goodness and truth.  
**(Exodus 34:6)**

The LORD is longsuffering and abundant in mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression.  
**(Numbers 14:18)**

But You, O Lord, are a God full of compassion, and gracious, Longsuffering and abundant in mercy and truth.  
**(Psalm 86:15)**

MERCY ----- PITIES SINNERS WHO ARE IN MISERY!

PATIENCE ----- BEARS WITH THE SIN WHICH CAUSED THEIR MISERY!

### **The Definition Of God's Patience**

The power of control which God exercised over Himself, causing Him to bear with the wicked and forbear so long in punishing them.

The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, Slow to anger and great in mercy.  
**(Psalm 145:8)**

### **The patience of God has to do with restraint placed upon His acts by His own will!**

They refused to obey, And they were not mindful of Your wonders that You did among them. But they hardened their necks, and in their rebellion they appointed a leader to return to their bondage. But You are God, ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abundant in

kindness, and did not forsake them.  
**(Nehemiah 9:17)**

### **When Israel sinned at Kadesh-Barnea**

“And now, I pray, let the power of my Lord be great, just as You have spoken saying, The LORD is longsuffering and abundant in mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression; Pardon the iniquity of this people, I pray, according to the greatness of Your mercy, just as You have forgiven this people, from Egypt even until now.”  
**(Numbers 14:17-19)**

If God, immediately poured out His hot displeasure on the wicked, then His power of self-control and patience would not so eminently appear. But by bearing with them long His patience is demonstrated!

What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction.  
**(Romans 9:22)**

### **Some may mistake the patience of God for apathy toward sin or even approval of it!**

Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.  
**(Ecclesiastes 8:11)**

### **God’s very name is patience**

Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus.  
**(Romans 15:5)**

### **God’s patience is seen in the way He deals with sinners!**

Who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water.  
**(1 Peter 3:20)**

## **God's patience has its limits**

And the LORD said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."

**(Genesis 6:3)**

For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly;

**(2Peter 2:4)**

"Now for a time of about forty years He put up with their ways in the wilderness."

**(Acts 13:18)**

Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you reject it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles.

**(Acts 13:46)**

The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

**(2Peter 3:9-10)**



# “The Grace of God”

## **Grace is a perfection of the Divine character God!**

It is the eternal and absolute free favor of God, against any merit of man, that is manifested in the spiritual and eternal blessings of God through Jesus Christ to the guilty and the unworthy.”

Thus, Divine grace is the sovereign and saving favor of God exercised in the bestowment of blessings upon those who have no merit in them and for which no compensation is demanded from them.

It is the favor of God shown to those who not only have no redeeming characteristics of their own, but who are thoroughly ill-deserving of any blessing based on merit, but rather have earned the eternal punishment of Hell.

It is completely unmerited and is altogether undeserved by anything in or from or by the objects upon which it is bestowed. Grace can neither be bought, earned, nor won by the recipient. If it could be, it would cease to be grace.

When a thing is said to be of grace we mean that the recipient has no claim upon it, that it was in no-wise due him. It comes to him as pure charity, and is unearned and undeserved.

The fullest exposition of the amazing grace of God is to be found in the Epistles of the apostle Paul. In his writings “Grace” stands in direct opposition to works and worthiness, all works and worthiness, of whatever kind or degree.

Thus he writes “And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. If it be of works, then is it no more grace.”

**(Romans 11:6)**

Grace and works will no more unite than light and dark. “By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast”.

**(Ephesians 2:8-9).**

The absolute favor of God can no more consist with human merit than oil and water will fuse together!

“What shall we say then that Abraham our father, as pertaining to the flesh, hath found? For if Abraham were justified by works, he hath whereof to boast, but not before God. For what saith the Scriptures? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness. Now to him that works is the reward not reckoned of grace, but debt. But to him that works not, but believeth on Him that justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness”.

**Romans 4:4-5)**

## **There are three principal characteristics of Divine grace.**

### First, it is eternal.

Grace was planned before it was exercised, purposed before it was imparted: "Who hath saved us, and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began".

**(2 Timothy 1:9)**

### Second, it is free.

No one has ever purchased it: "Being justified freely by His grace".

**(Romans 3:24)**

### Third, it is sovereign.

God exercises it toward and bestows it upon whom He pleases: "Even so might grace reign" **(Roman 5:21)**. If grace "reigns" then is it on the throne, and the occupant of the throne is sovereign. Hence "the throne of grace" **(Hebrews 4:16)**.

Therefore the Lord declare, "I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious".

**(Exodus 33:19)**

But the great God is under no obligation to any of His creatures, least of all to those who are rebels against Him.

Eternal life is a **gift**, therefore it can neither be earned by good works, nor claimed as a right.

Seeing that salvation is a "**gift**" who has any right to tell God on whom He ought to bestow it?

It is not that the Giver ever refuses this gift to any who seek it wholeheartedly, and according to the rules which He has prescribed. No! He refuses none who come to Him empty-handed and in the way He has appointed, through His Son Jesus Christ

"Where sin has abounded, grace doth much more abound".

**(Romans 5:20)**

Now the grace of God is manifested in and by and through the Lord Jesus Christ.

"The law was given by Moses, grace and truth came by Jesus Christ".

**(John 1:17)**

Grace and truth were fully revealed and perfectly exemplified when the Redeemer came to this earth, and died for His people upon the cross. It is through Christ the Mediator alone that the grace of God flows to His elect.

"The grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ. Much more they which receive abundance of grace, and of the gift of righteousness, shall reign in life by one, Jesus

Christ. So might grace reign, through righteousness, unto eternal life, by Jesus Christ our Lord”  
**.(Romans 5:15-21)**

The grace of God is proclaimed in the Gospel.  
**(Acts 20:24)**

Which is to the self-righteous Jew, a “stumbling block,” and to the conceited and philosophizing Greek, “foolishness.” Why ? Because, there is nothing whatever in it that is adapted to gratify the pride of man. It announces that unless we are saved by grace, we cannot be saved at all. It declares that apart from Christ, and the unspeakable Gift of God’s grace, the state of every man is desperately hopeless. The Gospel addresses men as guilty, condemned, perishing criminals. The Gospel contemplates every descendant of Adam as a fallen, polluted, hell- deserving and helpless sinner.

The grace which the Gospel publishes is his only hope. All stand before God convicted as transgressors of His Holy Law, as guilty and condemned criminals; awaiting not sentence, but the execution of sentence already passed on them.  
**(John 3:18 and Romans 3:19)**

If the sinner insists upon bare justice, then the Lake of Fire must be his eternal reward. His only hope lies in bowing to the sentence which Divine justice has passed upon him, owning the absolute righteousness of it, casting himself on the mercy of God, and stretching forth empty hands to avail himself of the grace of God now made known to him in the Gospel.

**God the Father** is the Fountain of all grace, for He purposed in Himself the everlasting covenant of redemption.

**God the Son** is the only Channel of grace. For He is, the only way, truth and Life.

**God the Holy Spirit** is the Bestower of grace. He is the One who applies the Gospel in saving power to the soul:

Quickening the elect when they were spiritually dead, conquering their rebellious wills, melting their hard hearts, opening their blind eyes, cleansing them from their sin.

**Grace is the provision of God for fallen mankind**, for the corrupt that cannot change their own natures, for those blinded by sin so that they cannot see Him, deafened by the fall so that they cannot hear Him, and so spiritually dead because of sin that He Himself must open their hearts to the Gospel of Grace through the work of the Holy Spirit.



# “The Mercy of God”

“O give thanks unto the Lord: for He is good, for His mercy endureth forever”.  
(Psalm 136:1)

**One of the Divine characters of God is that He is Merciful.**

His mercy is:

“Great” (1 Kings 3:6)

“Plenteous” (Psalm 86:5)

“Tender” (Luke 1:78)

“Abundant” (1 Peter 1:3)

“From everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear Him” (Psalm 103:17).

“I will sing aloud of Thy mercy” (Psalm 59:16).

“I will make all My goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy”.

(Exodus 33:19)

What is the difference between the “Mercy of God and the Grace of God”?

The mercy of God has its source in His Divine Goodness.

The Goodness of God, is His mercy, which denotes the ready inclination of God to relieve the misery of fallen creatures. Thus, “mercy” presupposes sin.

Though it may not be easy at the first consideration to perceive a real difference between the grace and the mercy of God, it helps us thereto if we carefully ponder His dealings with the unfallen angels.

He has never exercised mercy toward them, for they have never stood in any need thereof, not having sinned or come beneath the effects of the curse.

So God’s Mercy has to do with His compassion on the effects of the fall.

## **The mercy of God is threefold:**

First, there is a general mercy of God, which is extended not only to all men, believers and unbelievers alike, but also to the entire creation: “His tender mercies are over all His works”.

**(Psalm 145:9)**

“He giveth to all life, and breath, and all things” **(Acts 17:25)**. God has looked upon the needs and suffering of His creation and shown Mercy.

**Second**, there is a special mercy of God, which is exercised toward the children of men, helping them, notwithstanding their sins. To them also He communicates all the necessities of life: “for He maketh His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust”.

**(Matthew 5:45)**

**Third**, there is a special sovereign mercy which is reserved for the heirs of salvation, which is communicated to them in a covenant way, through the Mediator.

The Scriptures affirm that “His mercy endureth forever”.

**(Psalm 136:1)**

God can never cease to be merciful, for this is a quality of the Divine essence.

**(Psalm 116:5)**

But the exercise of His mercy is regulated by His sovereign will. This must be so, for there is nothing outside Himself which obliges Him to act mercifully, if there were, that “something” would be supreme, and God would cease to be God.

So God exercises Divine mercy, because it is His desire to do so. “For He saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy.”

**(Romans 9:15)**

It is not the wretchedness of the creature which causes Him to show mercy, for God is not influenced by things outside of Himself as we are. Why then does God show mercy to those in need? Simply because it is His pleasure and purpose to do so.

So it is not the merits of the creature which causes Him to bestow mercies upon them, for who has merited “mercy.” “Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us”.

**(Titus 3:5)**

It is “through” or because of the tender mercy of our God that Christ was sent here to His people.

**(Luke 1:78)**

The merits of Christ make it possible for God to righteously bestow spiritual mercies on His elect, justice having been fully satisfied by Him.

From what has just been before us, let us note how vain is the presumptuous hope of the wicked, who, notwithstanding their continued defiance of God, nevertheless count upon His being merciful to them.

God is a God of justice as well as mercy, and He has expressly declared that He will “by no means clear the guilty”.

**(Exodus 34:7)**

He has said, “The wicked shall be turned into hell, all the nations that forget God”.

**(Psalm 9:17)**

So many abuse this Divine perfection. They continue to despise God’s authority, trample upon His laws continue in sin, and yet presume upon His mercy.

But God will not be unjust to Himself. God shows mercy to the truly penitent, but not to the impenitent.

**(Luke 13:3)**

To continue in sin and yet reckon upon Divine mercy remitting punishment is diabolical. Presumption shall most certainly be disappointed. Christ is the spiritual Mercy-seat, and all who despise and reject His Lordship shall “perish from the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little”.

**(Psalm 2:12)**

But let our final thought be of God’s spiritual mercies unto His own people.

“Thy mercy is great unto the heavens”.

**(Psalm 57:10)**

“For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is His mercy toward them that fear Him”.

**(Psalm 103:11)**

None can measure it. The elect are designated “vessels of mercy”.

**(Romans 9:23)**

It is mercy that quickened them when they were dead in sins.

**(Ephesians 2:4-5)**

It is mercy that saves them.

**(Titus 3:5)**

It is His mercy which begat them unto an eternal inheritance.

**(1 Peter 1:3)**

It is His preserving, sustaining, pardoning, supplying mercy. Unto His own, God is “the Father of mercies”.

**(2 Corinthians 1:3)**



## “The Love of God”

There are three things told us in the Scriptures concerning the nature of our God.

### God is spirit.

“God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth”.

**(John 4:24)**

### God is light

This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

**(I John 1:5)**

### God is love

He who does not love does not know God, for God is love.

**(I John 4:8)**

There are many today who talk about the Love of God, who are total strangers to the God of Love.

God’s Divine Love is often confused with amiable weakness, a sort of good-natured indulgence, and is reduced to a sickly sentiment, patterned after human emotion.

So, what is needed of us today, is a complete understanding of the Scriptural description of what God’s Love is like.

### **God’s love is uninfluenced and unconditional**

What I mean by this is that nothing in the object of His Love attracted it or promoted it.

The love one person may have for another may be prompted this way, but not so when it comes to God’s Love.

“The LORD did not set His love on you nor choose you because your were more in number than any other people, for you were the least of all peoples;”but because the LORD loves you, and because He would keep the oath which He swore to your fathers, the LORD has brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of bondage, from the hand of Pharaoh, king of Egypt.

**(Deuteronomy 7:7-8)**

We love Him because He first loved us.

**(I John 4:19)**

## **God's love is an eternal love**

God is eternal, therefore it stands to reason that His Love is eternal. God has had no beginning and will have no end. So is the Love of God, it has had no beginning and it will have no end.

The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: "Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love: Therefore with loving-kindness I have drawn you.

**(Jeremiah 31:3)**

Just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love.

**(Ephesians 1:4)**

## **God's love is an act of His sovereign will**

This also is self-evident. If God Himself is sovereign, and under no obligation, or rule of Law to do anything not of His own good pleasure, then surely His Love would be the same. Because God is God, He does as He pleases, only as He pleases, always as He pleases!

As it is written, "Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated." What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? Certainly not! You will say to me then, "Why does He still find fault? For who has resisted His will?" But indeed, O man, who are you to reply against God? Will the thing formed say to him who formed it, "Why have you made me like this?"

**(Romans 9:13-14 & 19-20)**

Having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, (according to the good pleasure of His will.)

**(Ephesians 1:5)**

## **God's love toward us is Infinite!**

Everything about God is Infinite, so His Love is without limits!

That you may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height. To know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

**(Ephesians 3:18-19)**

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us.

**(Ephesians 2:4)**

## **God's love toward us is immutable!**

As with God, Himself, there is “no variableness, nor shadow of turning,” so it is with the Love of God. It neither changes nor diminishes in its capacity!

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of light, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

**(James 1:17)**

Now before the feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that His hour had come that He should depart from this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.

**(John 13:1)**

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

As it is written: “For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are counted as sheep for the slaughter.”

Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.

For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**(Romans 8:35-39)**

## **God's love is a holy love!**

God's love is not regulated by caprice passion, or fussy sentiment, but rather by principle. Just as Grace reigns, not at the expense of righteousness, but rather “through Righteousness. So God's Love never conflicts with His Holiness. God is Love, and God is also Light!

So that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**(Romans 5:21)**

For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives.

**(Hebrews 12:6)**

## **God's love toward us is gracious!**

The Love and unmerited favor of God are inseparable!

He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

**(Romans 8:32-34)**

“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.

**(John 3:16)**

Final thought

This then gives us an abundant cause for trust and patience, especially during times of trial and affliction.

Christ Jesus was and is beloved of His Father, yet He was not exempt from poverty, disgrace and persecution. He hungered and thirsted, He was beaten and abused, He was spit upon and despised, and He was painfully afflicted, and had no temporal prosperity.

But the Father in His Great Love for Him gave to Him the best of all possible gifts. The gift of His “PRESENCE”.

He was given the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Great Comforter, the Guide into all Truth, the Life giving Spirit of God!

“And that without Measure”!

“For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God does not give the Spirit by measure.”

**(John 3:34)**

SO IT IS WITH US!

## “The Wrath of God”

It is sad to say that so many professing Christians today appear to feel the need to apologize for the Wrath of God as though it were a flaw in His character.

They harbor the misguided concept, that the Wrath of God is not consistent with the Goodness of God, thereby dismissing it from their theology, and banishing it from their thinking.

But what does the scriptures have to say about this Attribute of God?

When we turn to them we find that God has made no attempt whatsoever to conceal the fact of His Wrath.

‘Now see that I, even I, am He, and there is no God besides Me; I kill and make alive; I wound and I heal; Nor is there any who can deliver from My hand. For I raise My hand to heaven, and say, “As I live forever, If I whet my glittering sword, and My hand takes hold on judgment, I will render vengeance to My enemies, and repay those who hate Me.

**(Deuteronomy 32:39-41)**

God is a just judge, God is angry with the wicked every day.

**(Psalm 7:11)**

A careful study of your concordance, or online bible program will show that there are more references in the scriptures to the Anger, Wrath and Fury of God than there are about the Love of God.

### **The wrath of God is as much a part of Him as is His goodness.**

How can a Holy God, who is the sum of all that is pure and excellent, look upon virtue and vile, wisdom and foolishness, Righteousness and unrighteousness, in the same light and not be moved?

How could He who is infinitely Holy disregard Sin and refuse to show His “severity” toward it?

How can He who delights only in that which is pure not loathe that which is vile?

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.

**(Romans 1:18-19)**

## **So then God's wrath, is the holiness of God, stirred into action against sin!**

“Do not harden your hearts, as in the rebellion, as in the day of trial in the wilderness, when your fathers tested Me; They tried Me, though they saw My work. For forty years I was grieved with that generation, And said, “It is a people who go astray in their hearts, and they do not know My ways. So I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest.’”

**(Psalm 95:8-11)**

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear.

For our God is a consuming fire.

**(Hebrews 12:28-29)**

## **Let us look at the consistency of the wrath of God against sin!**

### In the Garden of Eden

To the woman He said: “I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; in pain you shall bring forth children; Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.” Then to Adam He said, “Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, ‘You shall not eat of it’: “Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, and you shall eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread til you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for dust you are, and dust you shall return?” So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the Tree of Life.

**(Genesis 3:16-19 & 24)**

### In Noah's generation

The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. And God said to Noah, “The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

**(Genesis 6:11-13)**

### With the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah

“For we will destroy this place, because the outcry against them has grown great before the face of the LORD, and the LORD has sent us to destroy it.” Then the LORD rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the LORD out of the heavens.

**(Genesis 19:13 & 24)**

With the rebellion of Israel against God

Then the LORD said to Moses: "How long will these people reject Me? And how long will they not believe Me, with all the signs which I have performed among them?"

**(Numbers 14:11-22-24)**

"Because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the test now these ten times, and have not heeded My voice, "they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it."

"But My servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit in him and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land where he went, and his descendants shall inherit it.

With the condition of the present age

For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into the chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly; and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly;

**(2 Peter 2:4-5)**

But the heavens and the earth which are now preserved by the same word, are reserved for fire until the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. But, beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat?

**(2 Peter 3:7-12)**

**Our readiness or reluctance to accept, the wrath of God, as one of His divine attributes, is a sure test of the condition of our hearts**

Rejoice in the LORD, you righteous, And give thanks at the remembrance of His holy name.

**(Psalm 97:12)**

A love of holiness

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with His people; For He will avenge the blood of His servants, And render vengeance to His adversaries; He will provide atonement for His land and His people."

**(Deuteronomy 32:43)**

### A love of God's justice

After these things, I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia"! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God! For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her". Again they said, "Alleluia! Her smoke rises up forever and ever!

**(Revelation 19:1-3)**

A love of God's judgment on sin

### **Christ bore the brunt of God's wrath, when atonement was made for our sin.**

How sorely was Christ's soul tormented when the iniquities of His people were laid upon Him! He, even Christ Jesus was amazed and very heavy laden as He, in agony; sweating drops of blood, crying out in supplication said;

Then they came to a place which was named Gethsemane; and He said to His disciples, "Sit here while I pray." And He took Peter, James and John with Him, and He began to be troubled and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch." He went a little farther, and fell on the ground, and prayed that if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. And He said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will."

**(Mark 14:32-36)**

Now from the sixth hour until the ninth hour there was darkness over all the land. And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken Me?"

**(Matthew 27:45-46)**

### **There is only one way to escape the wrath of God**

That is to be found in Christ Jesus, having been washed in the blood of the Lamb, having by faith in the work of Christ on the cross to have paid in full for your sinful transgressions.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men.

**(2 Corinthians 5:10)**

Therefore “Come out from among them and be separate, says the Lord. Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you.” “I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty.”

**(2 Corinthians 6:17-18)**

“All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.”

**(John 6:37)**

“I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.”

**(John 10:9)**

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

**(John 14:6)**



# “The Contemplation of God”

All of our studies in the attributes of God should have brought us to a singular conclusion; He is beyond our ability to know completely and perfectly. Nevertheless we are to seek Him and an accurate knowledge of Him. Although we see only in part, and that must be revealed to us by Him and Him only!

## The incomprehensibility of God

“Can you search out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limits of the Almighty? They are higher than heaven-----what can you do? Deeper than Sheol----what can you know? Their measure is longer than the earth and broader than the sea.

**(Job 11:7-9)**

When we turn our thoughts toward God and His Eternalness, His Immateriality, His Omnipresence, His Almightyness, our minds are just overwhelmed!

### QUOTE BY C.H. SPURGEON

“The highest science, the loftiest speculation, the mightiest philosophy, which can engage the attention of the child of God, is the name, the nature, the person, the doings, and the existence of the Great God which he calls his father. There is something exceedingly improving to the mind in a contemplation of the Divinity. It is a subject so vast, that all our thoughts are lost in the immensity; so deep, that our pride is drowned in its infinity. Other subjects we can comprehend and grapple with; in them we feel a kind of self-content, and go our way with the thought, “Behold I am wise”. But not so when considering the Greatness of God.

THOSE THAT HAVE SET THEIR MINDS, AND HEARTS TO COMPREHEND GOD MUST SAY AT THE END OF THEIR SEARCH WHAT JOB SAID;

(Job 26:14)

Indeed these are the mere edges of His way, and how small a whisper we hear of Him! But the thunder of His power who can understand?

We must also declare what the Apostle Paul declared, how be it a man of the word, a studious student, a pursuer of knowledge, one who desired an understanding of the Divine!

For now we see in a glass, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

**(1 Corinthians 13:12)**

## **The all-sufficiency of God**

God needs nothing, He is complete and fulfilled in Himself.

For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on the earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

**(Colossians 1:16-17)**

“Can a man be profitable to God, though he who is wise may be profitable to himself? Is it any pleasure to the Almighty that you are righteous? Or is it gain to Him that you make your ways blameless?

**(Job 22:2-3)**

The all-sufficiency of God makes Him the supreme object to be sought. He is our portion. We are not His. True happiness is only to be found in God’s favor of you.

“The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “Therefore I hope in Him!”

The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him.

It is good that one should hope and wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD.

**(Lamentations 3:24-26)**

There are many who say, “Who will show us any good?”

LORD, lift up the light of Your countenance upon us. You have put gladness in my heart, more than in the season that my grain and wine were increased.

I will both lie down in peace and sleep; for You alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

**(Psalm 4:6-8)**

Though the fig tree may not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines; though the labor of the olive may fail, and the fields yield no food; though the flock may be cut off from the fold, and there be no herd in the stalls--- Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

**(Habakkuk 3:17-19)**

## **The Supreme Sovereignty of God**

No dominion is so absolute as that which God exercises over His creation. He who might not have made anything, had the right to make all things according to His good pleasure.

So then, over the world which He created He Reigns Omnipotent. Uninfluenced by any, under obligation to nobody, answerable to none.

He does as He wills, only as He wills, always as He wills!

And at the end of time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever: For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom is from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, "What have You done?"

**(Daniel 4:34-35)**

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

**(I Timothy 1:17)**

Yet in His sovereignty He is altogether good!

His creation, considered as such, has no rights. He can make no demands, and how ever he is treated, he has no title to complain. Yet, when we consider the absolute dominion of God we must not forget His moral perfection! God is Just and Good, and always does what is right!



# “The Worship of God”

## **The fear of God is the truest type of worship!**

The proverbs of Solomon, the son of David, king of Israel; to know wisdom and instruction, to perceive the words of understanding, to receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, judgment and equity; to give prudence to the simple, to the young man knowledge and discretion---A wise man will hear and increase learning, and a man of understanding will attain wise counsel, to understand a proverb and an enigma, the words of the wise and their riddles. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

**(Proverbs 1:1-7)**

My son, if you receive my words, and treasure my commands within you, so that you incline your ear to wisdom, and apply your heart to understanding; Yes, if you cry out for discernment, and lift up your voice for understanding, if you seek her as silver, and search for her as for hidden treasures; then you will understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.

**(Proverbs 2:1-5)**

My son, do not forget My law, but let your heart keep My commands; for length of days and long life and peace they will add to you. Let not mercy and truth forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart, and so find favor and high esteem in the sight of God and man. Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths. Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and depart from evil. It will be health to your flesh, and strength to your bones.

**(Proverbs 3:1-8)**

## **What is the fear of the Lord?**

It is the key to knowledge and wisdom

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever.

**(Psalm 111:10)**

The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom, and before honor is humility.

**(Proverbs 15:33)**

It is the knowledge of God himself

Then you will understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.

**(Proverbs 2:5)**

It is respect for the power of God's word

Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him. For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.

**(Psalm 33:8-9)**

It is a hatred of sin and transgression

The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverse mouth I hate.

**(Proverbs 8:13)**

It is a fountain of life to those who find it

The fear of the LORD is a fountain of life, to turn one away from the snares of death.

**(Proverbs 14:27)**

It is the hope of the Lord for all of us

Do not let your heart envy sinners, but be zealous for the fear of the LORD all the day; for surely there is a hereafter, and your hope will not be cut off.

**(Proverbs 23:17-18)**

### **Why should we fear the Lord?**

It will prolong your days

The fear of the LORD prolongs days, but the years of the wicked will be shortened.

**(Proverbs 10:27)**

It protects you

In the fear of the LORD there is strong confidence, and His children will have a place of refuge.

**(Proverbs 14:26)**

The fear of the LORD leads to life, and he who has it will abide in satisfaction; he will not be visited with evil.

**(Proverbs 19:23)**

It provides for our needs

Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His mercy, to deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine.

**(Psalm 33:18-19)**

Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good; blessed is the man who trusts in Him! Oh, fear the LORD, you His saints! There is no want to those who fear Him. The young lions lack and suffer hunger; but those who seek the LORD shall not lack any good thing.

**(Psalm 34:8-10)**

It pleases the Lord

He does not delight in the strength of the horse; He takes no pleasure in the legs of a man. The LORD takes pleasure in those who fear Him, in those who hope in His mercy.

**(Psalm 147:10-11)**

It brings a special blessing from the Lord

Who is the man that fears the LORD? Him shall He teach in the way He chooses. He himself shall dwell in prosperity, and His descendants shall inherit the earth. The secret of the LORD is with those who fear Him, and He will show them His covenant.

**(Psalm 25:12-14)**

It promises future salvation

Then those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, and the LORD listened and heard them; so a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear the LORD and who meditate on His name.

**(Malachi 3:16)**

But to you who fear My name the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings; and you shall go out and grow fat like stall-fed calves.

**(Malachi 4:2)**

## **How do we fear the Lord?**

By keeping His commandments

“That you may fear the LORD your God, to keep all His statutes and His commandments which I command you, you and your son and your grandson, all the days of your life.”

**(Deuteronomy 6:2)**

“You shall walk after the LORD your God and fear Him, and keep His commandments and obey His voice, and you shall serve Him and hold fast to Him.”

**(Deuteronomy 13:4)**

“And it shall be with him, and he shall read it all the days of his life, that he may learn to fear the LORD his God and be careful to observe all the words of this law and these statutes, “that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren, that he may not turn aside from the commandment to the right hand or to the left, and that he may prolong his days in his kingdom, he and his children in the midst of Israel.”

**(Deuteronomy 17:19-20)**

By staying away from sin

Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD and depart from evil.

In mercy and truth Atonement is provided for iniquity; and by the fear of the LORD one departs from evil.

**(Proverbs 16:6)**

By serving the Lord

“You shall fear the LORD your God and serve Him, and shall take oaths in His name.”

**(Deuteronomy 6:13)**

“And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.”

**(Deuteronomy 10:12)**

“Now therefore, fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt.”

**(Joshua 24:14-15)**

Serve the LORD!

“And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods or the Amorites, in whose land you dwell.”

But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

By giving to the Lord

“You shall truly tithe all the increase of your grain that the field produces year by year. And you shall eat before the LORD your God, in the place where He chooses to make His name abide, the tithe of your grain and your new wine and your oil, of the firstborn of your herds and your flocks, that you may learn to fear the LORD your God always.”

**(Deuteronomy 14:22-23)**

By praising the Lord

You who fear the LORD, praise Him! All you descendants of Jacob, glorify Him, and fear Him, all you offspring of Israel!

**(Psalm 22:23)**

Bless the LORD, O house of Levi! You who fear the LORD, bless the LORD!

**(Psalm 135:20)**

By trusting in the Lord

You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD; He is their help and their shield.

**(Psalm 115:11)**

Those who fear you will be glad when they see me, because I have hoped in Your word.

**(Psalm 119:74)**

