

MODULE 1 – THE GOD OF THE BIBLE

Week 1 (7th March 2024): The Doctrine of God

Week 2 (14th March 2024): The Doctrine of Christ

Week 3 (21st March 2024): The Doctrine of The Holy Spirit

Week 4 (4th April 2024): The Doctrine of The Trinity

BIBLE IS GOD’S WORD

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Amplified Bible

¹⁶ All Scripture is God-breathed [given by divine inspiration] and is profitable for instruction, for conviction [of sin], for correction [of error and restoration to obedience], for training in righteousness [learning to live in conformity to God’s will, both publicly and privately—behaving honorably with personal integrity and moral courage]; ¹⁷ so that the ^[a]man of God may be complete *and* proficient, outfitted *and* thoroughly equipped for every good work.

The Doctrine of God

How is our God unique?

God is our Creator:

Colossians 1:15-16

New Living Translation

Christ Is Supreme

¹⁵ Christ is the visible image of the invisible God.

He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation,^[a]

¹⁶ for through him God created everything

in the heavenly realms and on earth.

He made the things we can see

and the things we can’t see—

such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world.

Everything was created through him and for him.

God is our Provider:

Matthew 7:11

Amplified Bible

¹¹ If you then, evil (sinful by nature) as you are, know how to give good *and* advantageous gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven [perfect as He is] give what is good *and* advantageous to those who keep on asking Him.

Matthew 6:33

Amplified Bible

³³ But first *and* most importantly seek (aim at, strive after) His kingdom and His righteousness [His way of doing and being right—the attitude and character of God], and all these things will be given to you also.

God is our Sustainer:

Isaiah 46:4

New Living Translation

⁴ I will be your God throughout your lifetime—
until your hair is white with age.
I made you, and I will care for you.
I will carry you along and save you.

Our God is a God of Love:

1 John 4:8

Amplified Bible

⁸ The one who does not love has not become acquainted with God [does not and never did know Him], for God is love. [He is the originator of love, and it is an enduring attribute of His nature.]

1 John 4:16

New Living Translation

¹⁶ We know how much God loves us, and we have put our trust in his love.
God is love, and all who live in love live in God, and God lives in them.

Our God is a God of Mercy:

John 3:16

Amplified Bible

¹⁶ “For God so [greatly] loved *and* dearly prized the world, that He [even] gave His [One and] ^[a]only begotten Son, so that whoever believes *and* trusts in Him [as Savior] shall not perish, but have eternal life.

Deuteronomy 7:9

New King James Version

⁹ “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;

Psalms 25:10

Amplified Bible

10

All the paths of the LORD are lovingkindness *and* goodness and truth *and* faithfulness
To those who keep His covenant and His testimonies.

Our God is a God of Justice:

Isaiah 30:18

Amplified Bible

God Is Gracious and Just

18

Therefore the LORD waits [expectantly] *and* longs to be gracious to you,
And therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you.

[a]For the LORD is a God of justice;

Blessed (happy, fortunate) are all those who long for Him [since He will never fail them].

Romans 8:32

Amplified Bible

³² He who did not spare [even] His own Son, but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?

Deuteronomy 32:4

New Living Translation

⁴ He is the Rock; his deeds are perfect.

Everything he does is just and fair.

He is a faithful God who does no wrong;

how just and upright he is!

Psalms 89:14

New Living Translation

¹⁴ Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne.

Unfailing love and truth walk before you as attendants.

Our God is a God of Order:

Daniel 2:21

The Voice

²¹ He sets in motion the times and the ages;

He deposes kings and installs others;

He gives wisdom to the wise

and grants knowledge to those with understanding.

Our God is an Unchanging God:

Hebrews 13:8

New King James Version

⁸ Jesus Christ *is* the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Malachi 3:6

Amplified Bible

⁶ "For I am the LORD, I do not change [but remain faithful to My covenant with you]; that is why you, O sons of Jacob, have not come to an end.

God Himself has No Beginning or End:

Revelation 1:8

Amplified Bible

⁸ “I am the ^[a]Alpha and the Omega [the Beginning and the End],” says the Lord God, “Who is [existing forever] and Who was [continually existing in the past] and Who is to come, the Almighty [the Omnipotent, the Ruler of all].”

Isaiah 40:28

Amplified Bible

28

Do you not know? Have you not heard?
The Everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth
Does not become tired or grow weary;
There is no searching of His understanding.

Genesis 1:1

Amplified Bible

The Creation

1 In the beginning God (^[a]*Elohim*) ^[b]created [by forming from nothing] the heavens and the earth.

John 1:1-3

Amplified Bible

The Deity of Jesus Christ

1 In the beginning [before all time] was the Word (^[a]Christ), and the Word was with God, and ^[b]the Word was God Himself. ² He was [continually existing] in the beginning [co-eternally] with God. ³ All things were made *and* came into existence through Him; and without Him not even one thing was made that has come into being.

Colossians 1:16

Amplified Bible

¹⁶ For ^[a]by Him all things were created in heaven and on earth, [things] visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities; all things were created *and* exist through Him [that is, by His activity] and for Him.

Psalms 90:2

Amplified Bible

2

Before the mountains were born
Or before You had given birth to the earth and the world,
Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are [the eternal] God.

Our God is Not Bound by Space or Time:

2 Peter 3:8

New Living Translation

⁸ But you must not forget this one thing, dear friends: A day is like a thousand years to the Lord, and a thousand years is like a day.

Acts 17:24-28

Amplified Bible

²⁴ The God who created the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; ²⁵ nor is He ^[a]served by human hands, as though He needed anything, because it is He who gives to all [people] life and breath and all things. ²⁶ And He made from one *man* every nation of mankind to live on the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their lands *and* territories. ²⁷ This was so that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grasp for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us. ²⁸ For in Him we live and move and exist [that is, in Him we actually have our being], as even some of ^[b]your own poets have said, 'For we also are His children.'

Our God doesn't have an idol or an image. He is a Jealous God:

Exodus 20:4-6

Amplified Bible

⁴ "You shall not make for yourself any idol, or any likeness (form, manifestation) of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth [as an object to worship]. ⁵ You shall not worship them nor serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous (impassioned) God ^[a][demanding what is rightfully and uniquely mine], visiting (avenging) the iniquity (sin, guilt) of the fathers on the children [that is, calling the children to account for the sins of their fathers], to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, ⁶ but showing graciousness *and* steadfast lovingkindness to thousands [of generations] of those who love Me and keep My commandments.

The Omnipotence, Omniscience, and Omnipresence of God

BY **John M. Frame**

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/essay/omnipotence-omniscience-omnipresence-god/>

DEFINITION

The three "omni" attributes of God characterize him as all-powerful, all-knowing, and everywhere present. Each of these involves the other two, and each provides a perspective on the all-embracing lordship of the true God.

SUMMARY

Omnipotence means that God is in total control of himself and his creation. Omniscience means that he is the ultimate criterion of truth and falsity, so that his ideas are always true. Omnipresence means that since God's power and knowledge extend to all parts of his creation, he himself is present everywhere. Together they define God's lordship, and they yield a rich understanding of creation, providence, and salvation.

INTRODUCTION

The prefix *omni* means “all,” so the three divine attributes in our title can be paraphrased by saying that God is “all-powerful, all-knowing, and everywhere present.” Let us look at these individually.

Omnipotence

Scripture affirms God’s omnipotence by saying that God does whatever he is pleased to do (Psa 115:3; cf. Isa 55:11 and Jer 32:17). Nothing is too hard for him (Gen 18:14). His word is never void of power, so when he speaks, everything in creation obeys him (Isa 55:11). Of course, creatures do disobey him in one sense; that is the essence of sin. But God has control even over sinful actions (Psa 105:24-25, Gen 45:5-8, Exod 4:21, Psa 105:24-25, Rom 9:18, Acts 2:23, 4:28). He ordains sinful, disobedient actions for his good purposes. So his word always prevails, and we can trust that His prophecies always come to pass (Deut 18:21-22).

Often we infer from these passages that God “can do anything.” But that doesn’t quite reflect the full biblical teaching. There are things that God cannot do. He cannot lie (Titus 1:2, cf. Num 23:19), nor, similarly, can he perform any immoral action. Since God is perfectly holy and good, he cannot do anything evil. And, since he is perfect truth, he cannot do things that are logically contradictory, like making round squares. His truth is a perfect consistency of thought and action. Nor can God do things inappropriate to his nature as God, like buying shoes or celebrating his birthday.

So how should we define God’s omnipotence more precisely? I think the most helpful definition of God’s omnipotence is this: that he has complete and total *control* over everything. This includes the smallest details of the natural world, like the falling of a sparrow or the number of hairs that grow on your head (Matt 6:26-30, 10:29-30). Even the events we call random, that we ascribe to chance, are really God at work (Prov 16:33). That includes not only the small things, but also the big things (which, after all, are accumulations of small things). He determines what nations will dwell in which territory (Acts 17:26). He decides what king is to rule, and when, and where (Isa 44:28). He decides whether the purposes of a ruler will stand or fall (Psa 33:10-11). And he decided, once, that wicked people would take the life of his dear Son, so that we sinners might live (Acts 2:23-24). God rules not only the important events of human history but also the lives of individual people. He knits us together in our mothers’ wombs (Psa 139:13-16). He decides whether we will travel or stay home (Jas 4:13-17). He controls even the decisions of wicked people, as we saw above. But he also exerts his power to save sinners, to bring forgiveness and new life (Eph 2:8-10). Our salvation is *entirely* the work of God’s power, not at all our own work. We believe in Christ because he has *appointed* us to eternal life (Acts 13:48) and because he has *opened* our hearts to believe (Acts 16:14-15; cf. John 6:44, 65, Phil 1:29).

So his power is universal: it controls everything in the universe (Lam 3:37-38, Rom 8:28, Eph 1:11, Rom 11:33-36).

Omniscience

Now let us look at God's omniscience. God's power is not a blind power. Everything God does has an intelligent purpose, a definite goal. And since, as we've seen, God's power is universal, so also is his knowledge. In knowing his own intentions, God knows everything in himself, in his creation, and throughout history. Scripture often refers to the universality of God's knowledge (Psa 147:5, John 21:17, Heb 4:12-13, 1Jn 3:20). It often mentions that God knows detailed happenings on earth, even in the future (1Sam 10:2, 1Kgs 13:1-4, 2Kgs 8:12, Psa 139:4, Acts 2:23, 4:27-28).

Some theologians¹ have referred to passages like Gen 18:20-21 as teaching God's ignorance. But Scripture assumes God's omniscience pervasively, and it is far more likely that such passages should be interpreted consistently with that assumption. In Gen 18:20-21, for example, God does not admit ignorance, but declares that he is gathering facts for an indictment, preparing the wicked cities of Sodom and Gomorrah for judgment.

Indeed, God's omniscience is based on his authority, for he is the supreme judge of all things, and he is the ultimate standard of what is true and false. Not only does God know what is true, but he is the very nature of truth. Truth is what he is (as John 14:6). So it is inconceivable that he could be wrong about anything.

God's knowledge is a precious blessing to God's people. Psa 139 emphasizes how deeply God knows *us*, wherever we are. "Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it" (v. 6). God's knowledge of us pursues us wherever we may go: to heaven, to the grave, to great distances, to dark places (vv. 7-12). He knew us when he was forming us in our mother's womb (vv. 13-16), and he knew, even back then, every day of our lifetime on earth (v. 16). Wicked people should well be terrorized by this doctrine; but to the Psalmist God's knowledge of us is wonderful and good (vv. 17-18), and he prays that God will draw on this knowledge to lead him to repentance and forgiveness of sin (vv. 23-24).

Omnipresence

Now, God's omnipresence—his presence in every place and time. To say that God is "present" is to say that he is here with us, really here, not absent. Sometimes we connect a person's presence with his body, as when a teacher takes attendance and says that Jimmy is "present" because his body is in his seat. But God does not have a body; he is immaterial. So how can we tell when God is present or absent?

Scripture's answer is that God is present everywhere, because, as we have seen, his power and knowledge are everywhere. If every event, everywhere, takes place by God's power, and if he has exhaustive knowledge of everything his power has brought to pass, then certainly he is not absent, but present in each event, though his presence is not quite the same as the presence of physical beings. So God's omnipotence and omniscience imply his omnipresence.

His omnipresence is a presence both in place and in time. Psalm 139 indicates that God is present in every place. He is the creator of the heavens and the earth, and so he is in every

location. He is also the creator of time,² the one without beginning or end. So he has been present in the world since its creation, and there will never be a time from which he is absent. In Scripture, he freely enters history and interacts with creatures. Supremely, he entered human history in Jesus Christ, where he died and rose again to save us from our sins.

So God's omnipresence is not just a theoretical conclusion. It is a precious truth of redemption. Although we have sinned and deserve God's judgment, God comes to his faithful people and declares to them "I will be *with you*." This means that God is here, wherever we are, but also that God is on our side. He is with us, not to destroy us, but to forgive and to save us from sin. So this "with you," this redeeming divine presence, is found often in Scripture as his gracious promise. To Isaac, God said, "I will be with you and will bless you" ([Gen 26:3](#)) and that language often forms the basis of God's redemptive covenant. The heart of the covenant, God's redemptive promise, is that "I will be your God, and you will be my people," a precious togetherness of God with his people ([Exod 6:7](#), [2Cor 6:16](#); cf. [Gen 17:7](#), [Exod 6:7](#), [29:45](#), [Lev 26:12](#), [Jer 7:23](#), [11:4](#), [24:7](#), [30:22](#), [Ezek 11:20](#), [14:11](#), [36:28](#), [37:27](#), [Heb 11:16](#), [Rev 21:3](#)). It should not surprise us that a biblical name for Jesus is *Immanuel*, God with us ([Isa 7:14](#), [Matt 1:23](#)). As the Old Testament tabernacle was a place for God to dwell with his people, so Jesus, the Son of God, "tabernacled among us" ([John 1:14](#)).

Of course, God also can be said to be present to the wicked, and that is a fearsome and awful thing ([Rev 1:7](#)). But whether for good or for ill, God is present throughout heaven and earth, to carry out his own purposes.

UNITY OF THE OMNI-ATTRIBUTES

We have seen that the three omni-attributes of God are quite inseparable. Since God's power is purposeful and universal, it implies his omniscience. And since God's omnipotence and omniscience are universal, we must conclude that he is omnipresent. We could note further that since God is omnipresent, all his attributes are omnipresent as well—his power and knowledge, as well as his truth, love, grace, eternity, infinity, and so on.

So the omni-attributes are like the other attributes of God, inseparable from each other and from him. As theologians say, God is "simple." His attributes are not separable parts of him. Rather they are ways of characterizing God as a whole, ways of describing his nature.

Therefore, the omni-attributes are ways of speaking of God's *Lordship*. "Lord" is the word that Scripture uses over 7,000 times to name him. The theological term "sovereignty" is equivalent to lordship. I have argued elsewhere³ that Scripture typically defines God's lordship as his "control, authority, and presence." As we have seen, this triad is equivalent to the three omni-attributes. God's omnipotence is his control over all things. His omniscience is his authority to declare what is true. And his omnipresence is his real existence in every time and place. So when we talk about God's omnipotence, omniscience, and omnipresence, we are talking about his lordship.

CONCLUSION

Our God is Omnipotent, Omniscient, and the Omnipresent God. Our God is a pure Spirit of infinite perfections. God is Spirit (John 4:24). He is not confined to the limitations of matter and does not possess a human body in any way visible to the physical eye. Although without a body, or person, God has a personality. He is addressed as a Person and possesses all the attributes of personality such as life, intelligence with self-consciousness, self-determination (Exodus 3:14; 1 Corinthians 2:11; Ephesians 1:9,11). He is an intelligent and moral Being whom we can trust, love and praise. There is none to control Him (John 5:26). As Spirit, He is not capable of the limitations and imperfections of our humanity. There is no other like Him who is “glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders” (Exodus 15:11).

Colossians 1:17

English Standard Version

¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.