

# THE CHARACTER AND ATTRIBUTES OF THE GODHEAD

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## 1. GOD IS SOVEREIGN

God rules the entire universe. His perfect plans and purposes are always accomplished and can never be thwarted by anyone or anything, including evil. His supreme rule is always consistent with the totality of His divine character.

Job 42:2 I know that You can do everything, and that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You.

Psalms 33:11 The counsel of the LORD stands forever, the plans of His heart to all generations.

Daniel 4:35 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 earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, 'What have You done?'

## 2. GOD IS HOLY

God is unlike His creation. He is set apart and altogether different from anyone or anything. There is no one like Him.

Exodus 15:11 Who is like You, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like You, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?

Isaiah 6:3 And one cried to another and said: "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory!"

Revelation 4:8 And the four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night saying, "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD GOD, ALMIGHTY, WHO WAS AND IS AND IS TO COME."

## 3. GOD IS GREAT

God is beyond comparison to anything our minds can imagine. He is grand, mighty, and majestic beyond measure and comprehension.

Deuteronomy 3:24 'O Lord GOD, You have begun to show Your servant Your greatness and Your mighty hand, for what god is there in heaven or on earth who can do anything like Your works, and Your mighty deeds?'

Job 37:5 God thunders marvelously with His voice; He does great things which we cannot comprehend.

Psalms 104:1 Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, You are very great; You are clothed with honor and majesty.

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#### 4. GOD IS RIGHTEOUS

All that God is and all that He does are consistent with the purity of His divine nature. He is infinite in moral perfection, never doing wrong or evil. Nothing He does is outside His goodness and justice.

Psalm 11:7 For the LORD is righteous, He loves righteousness; His countenance beholds the upright.

Psalm 33:4-5 For the word of the LORD is right, and all His work is done in truth. He loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the goodness of the LORD.

Psalm 145:17 The LORD is righteous in all His ways, gracious in all His works.

#### 5. GOD IS IMMUTABLE

God's character remains the same throughout all time; it is constant. The perfection of His character has never and will never change.

Malachi 3:6a For I am the LORD, I do not change.

Hebrews 1:10-12 And "You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands; They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; Like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail."

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

#### 6. GOD IS OMNIPOTENT

Omnipotent (all + able) There is nothing that is beyond God's mighty power and ability. He is fully capable of accomplishing anything in accordance with the purity of His will.

Joshua 4:24 . . . that all the peoples of the earth may know the hand of the LORD, that it is mighty, that you may fear the LORD your God forever.

Psalm 93:4 The LORD on high is mightier than the noise of many waters, than the mighty waves of the sea.

Jeremiah 32:17, 27 Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm! There is nothing too hard for You. (27) "Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me?"

#### 7. GOD IS OMNISCIENT

Omniscient (all + knowing) God possesses perfect knowledge of all aspects of all things throughout all time. Nothing is outside of His infinite knowledge.

Psalm 139:1-6 O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue, but behold, O LORD, You know it altogether. You have hedged me behind and before, and laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain to it.

Proverbs 5:21 For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and He weighs all his paths.

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## 8. GOD IS OMNIPRESENT

Omnipresent (all + present) God is present in all places at all times. He is present everywhere whether His presence is acknowledged or not.

Psalm 46:1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Psalm 139:7-10 Where can I go from your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend to heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in hell, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me.

## 9. GOD IS ETERNAL

God has been, is, and always will be. His existence precedes His creation. He will never cease to exist in the fullness of His being.

Psalm 90:1-2 Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth or ever You had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.

Lamentations 5:19 You, O LORD, remain forever; Your throne from generation to generation.

I Timothy 1:17 Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

## 10. GOD IS INCOMPREHENSIBLE

God is so different from man that His infinite ways cannot be completely understood. Mankind's knowledge of God is limited, not because of lack of revelation, but because man's mind is unable to fully understand His complete personhood.

Ecclesiastes 11:5 As you do not know what is the way of the wind or how the bones grow in the womb of her who is with child, so you do not know the works of God who makes all things.

Isaiah 55:8-9 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts."

## 11. GOD IS FAITHFUL

God is steadfast in character. He alone remains true to His Word by keeping every promise, prophecy, and proclamation. His tender care is constant; He will never abandon or disown those who are His.

Isaiah 25:1 O LORD, You are my God. I will exalt You, I will praise Your name, for You have done wonderful things; Your counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.

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

Hebrews 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

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## 12. GOD IS LOVING

God loves. Love is the very essence of His being; He is love. It is His nature to desire the highest good for His creation. His unfailing love is displayed in word and deed and was ultimately demonstrated by His provision of salvation for His beloved.

Jeremiah 31:3 The LORD has appeared of old to me, saying: “Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you.”

I John 3:1a, 4:8-9 Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God. (4:8-9) He who does not love does not know God, for God is love. In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him.

## 14. GOD IS GRACIOUS

God imparts His grace through Jesus’ blood by bestowing favor and blessing to those who are guilty and undeserving.

Psalms 116:5 Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; yes, our God is compassionate.

Isaiah 30:18 Therefore the LORD longs to be gracious to you, and therefore He waits on high to have compassion on you. For the LORD is a God of justice; how blessed are all those who long for Him.

Ephesians 2:6-7 And [God] raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

## 13. GOD IS MERCIFUL

God, through His mercy, may choose to grant sinners a release from all or some of the consequences and misery of their sinful choices. God’s mercy, granted through the blood of Jesus, is motivated by His great love.

Lamentations 3:22-23 Through the LORD’s mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness.

Ephesians 2:4-5 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved).

## 15. GOD IS FORGIVING

Through the act of His free will and in perfect accordance with His holy justice that was satisfied by the death of Christ, God chooses to not take note of the sin of His beloved chosen ones. Therefore, His beloved chosen ones stand holy and blameless before Him through the precious blood of Jesus.

Micah 7:18-19 Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in mercy. He will again have compassion on us; and will subdue our iniquities. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea.

Ephesians 1:4 . . . He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love.

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### 16. GOD IS GOOD

God's nature and very essence are entirely good, and He always acts in accordance with His goodness. His works are always beneficial for His creation. God never does wrong, nor does He mistreat His creation through evil or injustice; He always does good.

Psalm 31:19 Oh, how great is Your goodness, which You have laid up for those who fear You, which You have prepared for those who trust in You, in the presence of the sons of men!

Nahum 1:7 The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble, and He knows those who trust in Him.

### 17. GOD IS LONGSUFFERING

God is not given to hasty anger. Instead, He is patiently enduring toward people, giving them all opportunity to turn toward His ways.

Psalm 103:8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.

Romans 2:4 Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?

II Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.

### 18. GOD IS WRATHFUL

God is angry at sin. All sin directly opposes His moral perfection and therefore must be punished. Jesus suffered God's wrath while on the cross, although mankind justly deserves this wrath.

Jeremiah 10:10 But the LORD is the true God; He is the living God and the everlasting King. At His wrath the earth will tremble, and the nations will not be able to abide His indignation.

Romans 5:8-9 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

### 19. GOD IS JEALOUS

God alone is worthy of worship, and He is justly angered by the worship of anyone but Himself.

Exodus 34:14 . . . for you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God.

Deuteronomy 4:24 For the LORD your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God.

Nahum 1:2 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.

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## 20. GOD IS JUST

God's justice is completely consistent with His righteousness. He judges sin and blesses obedience. God's holy justice was satisfied when His wrath was poured out on Jesus.

Deuteronomy 32:4 He is the Rock, His work is perfect; for all His ways are justice; a God of truth and without injustice; righteous and upright is He.

Isaiah 30:18 Therefore the LORD will wait, that He may be gracious to you; and therefore He will be exalted, that He may have mercy on you. For the LORD is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for Him.

Romans 3:26b . . . that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

## 21. GOD IS WISE

Every single act of God, everywhere and throughout all time, is orchestrated in accordance with His perfect knowledge and goodness. He never acts in folly, ignorance, or error.

Job 9:3-4 If one wished to contend with Him, he could not answer Him one time out of a thousand. God is wise in heart and mighty in strength. Who has hardened himself against Him and prospered?

Daniel 2:20 Daniel answered and said, "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His."

Romans 16:27 to God, alone wise, be glory through Jesus Christ forever, Amen.

## 22. GOD IS TRUTH

The essence of God's being is the standard for truth. His words and deeds always portray absolute truth. He never acts in falsehood.

Numbers 23:19 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 it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?

John 17:3 And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

I John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

## 23. GOD IS OUR ADVOCATE

Through Jesus' blood our sins are atoned for and we have unhindered access to the Father. Not only can we talk to the Father, but Jesus Himself and the Holy Spirit also intercede with the Father on our behalf.

Romans 8:26, 34b Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. (34b) [Christ] is at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.

Hebrews 4:14 Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.

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## 24. GOD IS CREATOR

By His very words God called into existence everything from nothing. Through perfect wisdom and knowledge He has formed all that is in order to reflect His glory.

Psalm 146:5-6 Happy is he who has the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps truth forever.

Colossians 1:16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

## 25. GOD IS YAHWEH

This is the personal and proper name for God, meaning “I Am He Who Is and Will Be.” God is self-existent and depends on nothing and no one for His existence. His name emphasizes His loyalty to who He says He is and what He says He does. (Our Bibles usually show God’s name in all capitals, i.e., LORD.)

Exodus 3:14 God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And He said, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

Amos 5:8 He made the Pleiades and Orion; He turns the shadow of death into morning and makes the day dark as night; He calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out on the face of the earth; the LORD is His name.

## 26. GOD IS YAHWEH RAPHA

“The LORD Who Heals.” Rapha (“raw-faw”) means to mend or repair, to thoroughly make whole. He heals our bodies, but more importantly, He heals and restores our souls. God will eventually restore all things that have suffered as a result of sin.

Deuteronomy 32:39 Now see that I, even I, am He, and there is no God besides Me; I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; nor is there any who can deliver from My hand.

Psalm 103:2-3 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits; who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases.

Isaiah 53:5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.

## 27. GOD IS YAHWEH RAAH

“The LORD Is My Shepherd.” Raah (“raw-aw”) means to tend a flock, to associate with as a friend. The Lord constantly cares for and tends to His sheep. He lovingly seeks them and leads them in paths for their good. The sheep are dependent upon His unfailing care.

Psalm 23:1-3 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name’s sake.

John 10:14-15 I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father, and I lay down My life for the sheep.

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### 28. GOD IS YAHWEH SHALOM

“The LORD Is Peace.” Shalom (“shaw-lome”) means peace, tranquility, and security. God initiated a peace treaty with us, His enemies. Believers in Jesus have been reconciled to God through the blood of Jesus Christ. We then can rest secure that He is our peace and there is nothing to fear.

Psalm 119:165 Great peace have those who love Your law, and nothing causes them to stumble.

Isaiah 26:3 You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.

Romans 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

### 29. GOD IS YAHWEH JIREH

“The LORD Who Sees Will Provide.” Jireh (from Raah) means to see, look at, perceive. God has already foreseen all our needs—past, present, and future—and has graciously provided for them. God is willing and able to meet every need of His beloved.

Romans 8:32 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?

II Corinthians 9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work.

Philippians 4:19 And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

### 30. GOD IS ADONAI

Adonai means Lord, Master, Owner, or Ruler. The lordship of God means His total possession of those whom He has purchased, thus requiring their total submission to Him.

Deuteronomy 10:17 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.

Psalm 135:5 For I know that the LORD is great and our LORD is above all gods.

I Corinthians 6:19-20 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

### 31. GOD IS EL ELYON

“The God Most High.” El means God; Elyon means elevated, high, and exalted. God is the sovereign ruler over the entire universe. He has absolute supremacy over all things. There is nothing that can happen without His permission or foreordained plan.

Psalm 7:17 I will praise the LORD according to His righteousness, and will sing praise to the name of the LORD Most High.

Psalm 97:9 For You, LORD, are most high above all the earth; You are exalted far above all gods.

Psalm 113:4-5 The LORD is high above all nations, and His glory above the heavens. Who is like the LORD our God, who dwells on high?

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