



# attributes of *God*

WEEK 10 — GOD IS OMNIPOTENT (ALL POWERFUL)



## EPHESIANS 1 : 16 - 23

I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers,  
that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory,  
may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him,  
having the eyes of your hearts enlightened,  
that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you,  
what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,  
and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe,  
according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ  
when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,  
far above all rule and authority and power and dominion,  
and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.  
And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church,  
which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

## A. W. PINK

“We cannot have a right conception of God unless we think of him as all-powerful, as well as all-wise.  
He who cannot do what he will and perform all his pleasure cannot be God.”

## Review

### COMMUNICABLE ATTRIBUTES

Attributes that God shares (“communicates”) with us *in part*

- 1) Omniscience
- 2) Wisdom
- 3) Truthfulness

### THE UNITY OF GOD

## God Is Omnipotent

*Omni* (all) + *potens* (powerful)

What is power? The ability to accomplish an end.

**God has all the ability to accomplish any end he desires.**

*John Frame* – “God can do what God can do.”

*Herman Bavinck* – “Scripture nowhere sets bounds to God’s power.”

*Wayne Grudem* – “God’s omnipotence means that God is able to do all his holy will.”

*James Boyce* – God’s power is “the effective energy inherent in his nature by which he is able to do all things. The exercise of that power is dependent upon his will or purpose, and is limited not by what he can do, but by what he chooses to do.”

*Stephen Charnock* – “The power of God is that ability and strength whereby He can bring to pass whatsoever he pleases, whatsoever His infinite wisdom may direct, and whatsoever the infinite purity of His will may resolve.... How vain would be the eternal counsels, if power did not step in to execute them.”

*Charles Spurgeon* – “God’s power is like Himself, self-existent, self-sustained. The mightiest of men cannot add so much as a shadow of increased power to the Omnipotent One.”

**God is all powerful. He can always do what He decides to do.**

### OTHER COMMON TERMS

Infinite power

Sovereignty

## God's Omnipotence is Seen in Scripture

### HIS NAMES

**Genesis 17:1** --- "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless..."

**Isaiah 1:24** – "Therefore the Lord declares, the LORD of hosts, the Mighty One of Israel..."

**Mark 14:62** – "And Jesus said, 'I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven.'"

**2 Corinthians 6:18** – "I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty."

**Revelation 19:6** – "Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, 'Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns.'"

### HIS DESCRIPTIONS AS STRONG

**Psalms 24:8** – "Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!"

**Psalms 62:11** – "Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God..."

### STATEMENTS THAT NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM

**Genesis 18:14** – "Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son."

**Job 42:2** – "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted."

**Jeremiah 32:17** – "Ah, Lord GOD! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you."

**Matthew 19:26** – "But Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'"

**Luke 1:37** – "For nothing will be impossible with God."

**Ephesians 3:20-21** – "Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

## WHERE DO WE SEE GOD'S POWER AT WORK?

EVERYWHERE! Here are a few places...

### 1. IN CREATION

**Genesis 1:1, 1:3** – “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.... And God said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light.”

**Psalms 33:6** – “By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host.”

### 2. IN HIS PROVIDENTIAL RULE OVER CREATION

Providence means that God constantly is involved in all of His creation, ruling over it all.

He sustains the creation He made.

**Nehemiah 9:6** – “You are the LORD, you alone. You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them; and you preserve all of them; and the host of heaven worships you.”

**Colossians 1:17** – “And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.”

**Job 34:14-15** – “If he should set his heart to it and gather to himself his spirit and his breath, all flesh would perish together, and man would return to dust.”

### 3. IN REDEMPTION AND THE GOSPEL

*“Redemption itself contradicts all human expectations. It is God’s mighty power entering a situation that, from a human viewpoint, is hopeless.” (John Frame)*

**Romans 1:16** – “For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.”

**1 Corinthians 1:23-24** – “But we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.”

## 4. IN HIS DEALINGS WITH HIS PEOPLE

**God's power is unchanging.**

**The same power we see in Scripture at work on behalf of God's people is still at work today.**

**Philippians 1:6** – “And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”

**Philippians 4:6-7** – “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

*“‘God can do all things’ is a normative premise that should govern the thinking of his people. When God promises something that seems impossible, God’s people should be thinking not only that ‘God’s word is always true,’ but also that ‘God can do all things.’” (John Frame)*

## ASPECTS OF GOD’S OMNIPOTENCE

### 1. Nothing is too hard for God

### 2. God is infinite. He could do more than He has done if He had willed to do so.

**Exodus 32:10-11** – “Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, in order that I may make a great nation of you.’ But Moses implored the LORD his God...”

**Luke 10:13** – “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes.”

**Matthew 3:9** – “And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham.”

### 3. No one and nothing can stop God.

**Job 23:13** – “But he is unchangeable, and who can turn him back? What he desires, that he does.”

**Isaiah 43:13** – “Also henceforth I am he; there is none who can deliver from my hand; I work, and who can turn it back?”

**Daniel 4:35** – “All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, ‘What have you done?’”



**THIS TRUTH MEANS THAT SATAN HIMSELF CANNOT HINDER OR STOP GOD IN ANY WAY.**

**Matthew 12:28-29** – “But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. Or how can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house.”



#### **4. There are some things God cannot do because those things would violate His character and other attributes.**

*God's power is the "power to do everything that in his rational and moral perfection God wills to do"*  
(J. I. Packer)

**Titus 1:2** – “...in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began”

**2 Timothy 2:13** – “If we are faithless, he remains faithful -- for he cannot deny himself”

**James 1:13** – “Let no one say when he is tempted, ‘I am being tempted by God,’ for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.”

## THIS IS A COMMUNICABLE ATTRIBUTE

**God has given to us power to bring about results.**

**Deuteronomy 31:7** – “Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, ‘Be strong and courageous, for you shall go with this people into the land that the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall put them in possession of it.’”

**Matthew 28:18-20** – “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

**But, remember that our power is...**

**1. Very limited**

**2. Dependent upon God**

*“Not a creature in the entire universe has an atom of power save what God delegates.” (A. W. Pink)*

## CHALLENGE

**GOD’S OMNIPOTENCE SHOULD LEAD US TO WORSHIP**

*“God does not reveal His omnipotence merely so that we can engage in philosophical speculation on what he can or cannot do.... God’s power drives his people to worship.” (John Frame)*

*“May all tremble before such a God! To treat with impudence one who can crush us more easily than we can a moth, is a suicidal policy. To openly defy him who is clothed with omnipotence, who can rend us in pieces or cast us into hell any moment he pleases, is the very height of insanity.... Well may the enlightened soul adore such a God! The wondrous and infinite perfections of such a Being call for fervent worship.” (A. W. Pink)*

**GOD’S OMNIPOTENCE SHOULD LEAD US TO PRAY**

*“Lord, please forgive me for not trusting your power to do anything you desire. So often my conception of you has been too small. I have not asked you to do things that I consider impossible. Please cause me to ask for big things and trust that if they are in your plan that you will do them for your glory.” (Rosemary Jensen)*

**GOD’S OMNIPOTENCE SHOULD LEAD US TO SHARE CHRIST WITH OTHERS**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How have you seen God's power at work?
2. How does God's omnipotence help us overcome fear?
3. How does God's omnipotence help us fight sin in our lives and strive for holiness?
4. How does God's omnipotence encourage us pray?
5. How does God's omnipotence provide motivation to do evangelism and missions?
6. Our power and strength is dependent upon God.  
Why then do we try to do things in our own strength and not rely on God?  
How can we encourage one another to rely on God for strength for each day?
7. What songs do you know that are about God's power?

