

# Before Genesis, Redemption Planned

- What was the situation before Genesis 1:1 “In the beginning”?
- What is true about God?

## A. God Exists in Sublime Glory

- He is eternal, He has neither beginning nor end.
- He is totally self-sufficient and needs nothing more than Himself in order to exist or to act.
- “God has a voluntary relation to everything He has made,” A W Tozer.
- God needs nothing, neither the material universe nor the human race, and yet He created both.

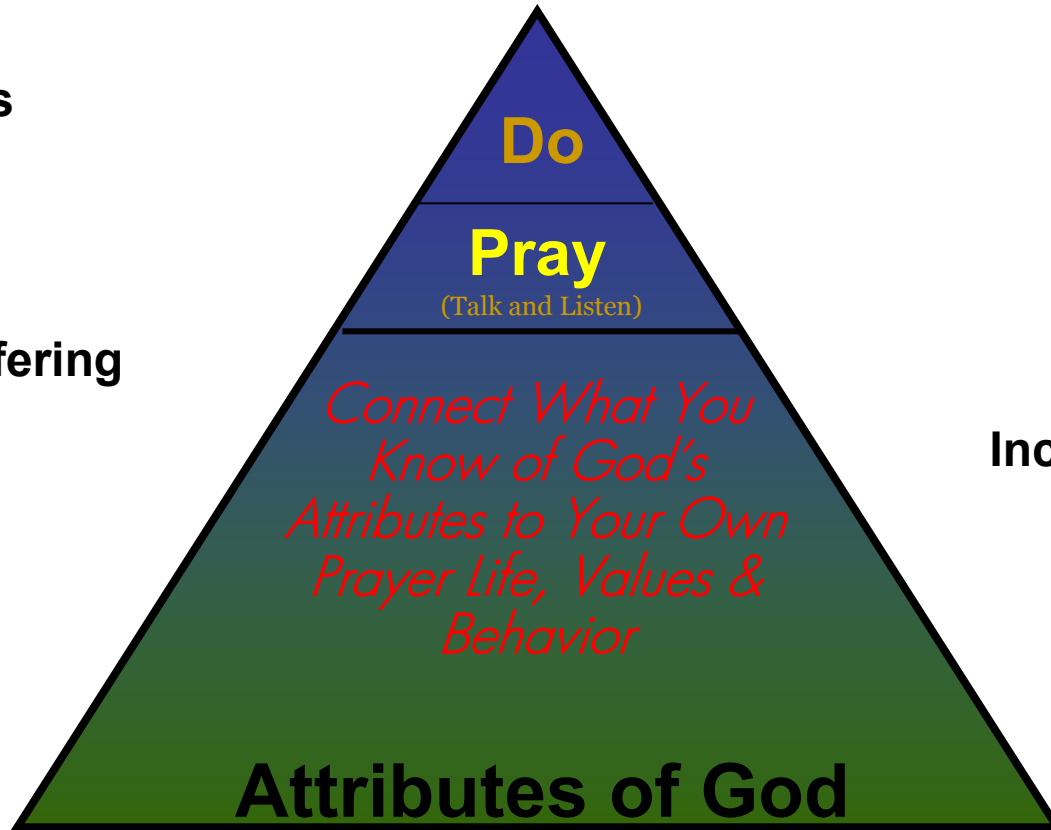
**God's Moral,  
Communicable  
Attributes**

1. Holy
2. Righteous
3. Just
4. Merciful
5. Long-Suffering
6. Wise
7. Loving
8. Good
9. Wrathful
10. Truthful
11. Faithful
12. Jealous



**God's Natural,  
Incommunicable  
Attributes**

- Omniscient - 1
- Omnipotent - 2
- Omnipresent - 3
- Eternal - 4
- Immutable - 5
- Incomprehensible - 6
- Self-existent - 7
- Self-sufficient - 8
- Infinite - 9
- Transcendent - 10
- Sovereign - 11



***Jeremiah 17:14***

**Heal me, O LORD, and I will be healed;  
Save me and I will be saved, For Thou art my praise.**

# In Praise of God

- **Moses wrote in Psalm 90:2:**  
Before the mountains were born,  
Or Thou didst give birth to the earth and the world,  
Even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God.
- **But the God of the Bible is eternal and had no beginning. He is infinite and knows no limitations in either time or space. He is perfect and cannot “improve” and is immutable and cannot change.**

# Before Genesis, Redemption Planned

## 2. The Divine Trinity was in loving communion

- **The one true God exists as three Persons:**
  - God the Father,
  - God the Son and
  - God the Holy Spirit (see Matt 3:16-17; 28:18-20; John 3:34-35; 14:15-17; Acts 2:32-33,38-39; 10:36-38; 1 Cor 12:1-6; 2Cor 13:14; Eph 1:3-14; 4:1-6; 2 Thess 2:13-14; Titus 3:4-6; 1 Peter 1:1-2).
- **As the Nicene Creed (A.D. 325) states it, “We believe in one God – And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, begotten of the Father, light of light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father – And in the Holy Ghost.”**

# The Trinity

- **This doesn't mean that one God manifests Himself in three different forms, or that there are three gods; it means that one God exists in three Persons who are equal in Their attributes (essential being and character) and yet individual and distinct in Their offices and ministries.**
- **The doctrine of the Trinity wasn't clearly revealed in the Old Testament, because the emphasis in the Old Testament is that the God of Israel is one God, uncreated and unique, the only true God. But the Old Testament does give glimpses and hints of the wonderful truth of the Trinity, a truth that would be clearly revealed in the New Testament by Christ and the apostles.**

# The Trinity

- The “let us” statements in Genesis (1:26; 3:22; 11:17; see also Isaiah 6:8), suggest that the Persons of the Godhead worked together in conference; and the many appearances of “the angel of the Lord” indicate the presence of the Son of God (see Gen 16:7-11; 22:11,15; etc).
- Messiah (God the Son) speaks about Himself, the Spirit and the Lord (God the Father) in Isaiah 48:16-17; 61:1-3) and Psalm 2:7 indicates that Jehovah has a Son. Jesus applied Psalm 2:7 to Himself (Matthew 22:41-46).
- In Genesis 1:2 and 6:3, the Spirit of God is distinguished from the Lord (the Father) (also see Numbers 27:18; Psalm 51:11; Isaiah 40:14; 48;16 and Haggai 2:4-5).

# The Trinity

- **Worshipping the false gods of their neighbors was the great temptation and repeated sin of Israel, so Moses and the Prophets hammered away on the unity and uniqueness of Israel's God.**
- **The faithful Jewish worshiper recites "the Shema" every day: "Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might" (Deut 6:4-5).**

# The Trinity

- **The God revealed in Scripture has no peers and no rivals.**
- **All three Persons of the Godhead are all involved in planning and executing the divine will for the universe, including the plan of salvation.**

# The Divine Trinity Planned Redemption

- The wonderful plan of redemption wasn't a divine afterthought, for God's people were chosen in Christ "before the foundation of the world" (Ephesians 1:4; Revelation 17:8), and given by the Father to the Son to belong to His kingdom (Matthew 25:34) and to share His glory (John 17:2, 6, 9, 11-12, 24).
- The sacrificial death of the Son wasn't an accident, it was an appointment (Acts 2:23; 4:27-28), for He was "slain from the foundation of the world" (Revelation 13:8).

# The Divine Trinity Planned Redemption

- **In the counsels of eternity, the Godhead determined to create a world that would include humans made in the image of God.**
  - **The Father was involved in Creation (Gen 1:1; 2 Kings 19:15; Acts 4:24), but so were the Son (John 1:1-3, 10; Colossians 1:16; Hebrews 1:3) and the Holy Spirit (Genesis 1:2; Psalm 104:30).**
  - **God didn't create a world because He needed anything but that He might share His love with mankind.**

# The Divine Trinity Planned Redemption

- **The Godhead determined that the Son would come to earth and die for the sins of the world, and Jesus came to do the Father's will (John 10:17-18; Hebrews 10:7). The words Jesus spoke were from the Father (John 14:24) and the works He did were commissioned by the Father (John 5:17-21,36; Acts 2:22) and empowered by the Spirit (Acts 10:48). The Son glorifies the Father (John 14:13; 17:1,4) and the Spirit glorifies the Son (John 16:14). The Persons of the Holy Trinity work together to accomplish the divine will.**

# The Divine Trinity Planned Redemption

- **According to Ephesians 1:3-14, the plan of salvation is Trinitarian: we are chosen by the Father (v3-6), purchased by the Son (v7-12) and sealed by the Spirit (v13-14), and all of this is to the praise of God's glory (v6, 12, 14). The Father has given authority to the Son to give eternal life to those He has given to the Son (John 17:1-3). All of this was planned before there was ever a world!**

# Ephesians 1:3-14

- **3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before Him. In love 5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.**

# Ephesians 1:3-14

- **7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace, 8 which He lavished upon us. In all wisdom and insight 9 He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him 10 with a view to an administration suitable to the fulness of the times, *that is*, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things upon the earth. In Him 11 also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, 12 to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.**

# Ephesians 1:3-14

- **13 In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation - having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession, to the praise of His glory.**

# The Divine Trinity Planned Redemption

- **It's important to see that all three Persons in the Godhead share in the salvation of lost sinners.**
  - **As far as God the Father is concerned, I was saved when He graciously chose me in Christ before the foundation of the world; but I knew nothing about divine election until after I was converted.**
  - **As far as God the Son is concerned, I was saved when He died for me on the cross, and I knew that great truth only when I was born again.**
  - **As far as God the Holy Spirit is concerned, I was saved in 1984 when the Spirit of God birthed me into the body of Christ as I received Him as my Lord and Savior.**
  - **Then what God had planned from eternity all fell into place in my life and yours.**

# The Divine Trinity Planned Redemption

- **Spiritual birth is like human birth: you experience it but it takes time to understand it! After all, I wouldn't know my birthday if somebody hadn't told me. It's after we've been born into God's family that the wonder of it all is revealed to us from the Word, and then we want to share it with others.**

# Genesis: Redemption Promised

- **Before Genesis, redemption was planned**
- **In Genesis, after man sinned, redemption was promised.**
- **When God wrote the Bible, He didn't give us a theology book divided into sections labeled *God, Creation, Man, Sin*, etc. Instead He gave us a story, a narrative that begins in eternity past and ends in eternity future. It's a story about God and His dealings with all kinds of people and how they responded to His Word.**
- **As we read these narratives, we learn a great deal about God, ourselves and our world.**

# Genesis: Redemption Promised

- **Genesis 1-11 deals with humanity in general and focuses on 4 great events:**
  - Creation (Genesis 1-2),
  - the Fall of man (Genesis 3-5),
  - the Flood (Genesis 6-9), and
  - the Tower of Babel (Genesis 10-11).
- **Genesis 12-50 deals with Israel in particular and focuses on 4 great men, the patriarchs:**
  - Abraham (12:1-25:18),
  - Isaac (25:19-27:46),
  - Jacob (Gen 28-36) and
  - Joseph (Gen 37-50).
- **As you study Genesis, remember that Moses didn't write a detailed history of each person or event. He recorded only those things that helped him achieve his purpose, which was to explain the origin of things, especially the origin of the Jewish nation.**

# Genesis: Redemption Promised

- **You will notice that in Genesis, when man does his worst and reaches his lowest, God gives him a new beginning. Cain killed Abel, but God gave Seth to continue the godly line. The earth became violent and wicked, so God wiped out humanity but chose Noah and his family to carry on His work. Out of pagan Ur of the Chaldees, God called Abraham and Sarah and gave them a son, Isaac; and the future of God's plan of salvation rested with that son. Isaac and Rebekah had two sons, Esau and Jacob, but God rejected Esau and chose Jacob to build the 12 tribes of Israel and inherit the covenant blessings.**

# Genesis: Redemption Promised

- From beginning to end, Genesis is the story of God's sovereign will and electing grace. Whenever people rejected God's rule in their lives, He overruled and accomplished His divine purposes anyway.

## Psalm 33:11

The counsel of the LORD stands forever,  
The plans of His heart from generation to generation.

- What begins in Genesis is developed throughout the Bible and finds its fulfillment in the Book of Revelation.

<b>Genesis – Book of Beginnings</b>	<b>Revelation – Book of Endings</b>
<b>The first heaven and the first earth</b>	<b>The new heavens and the new earth</b>
<b>Earth created to be inhabited</b>	<b>A new Earth to be inhabited</b>
<b>Sun, Moon &amp; Stars govern time/day &amp; night</b>	<b>No need for sun, moon &amp; stars, no night</b>
<b>Gathering of waters called Seas</b>	<b>No more sea</b>
<b>The first garden / a river in the Garden</b>	<b>The “garden city” / a river in the City of God</b>
<b>Man made in the Image of God</b>	<b>Man restored to the Image of God</b>
<b>Disobedience of Man to God’s Word</b>	<b>Obedience of the Redeemed to God’s Word</b>
<b>Entrance of Sin, Sickness, Disease, sorrow, suffering, tears &amp; Death</b>	<b>No more Sin, Sickness, Disease, sorrow, suffering, crying or Death</b>
<b>The first Curses uttered by God</b>	<b>No more Curse for the Redeemed</b>
<b>Man driven out of Eden’s Paradise</b>	<b>Man restored to Heaven’s Paradise</b>
<b>Man forfeited the Tree of Life</b>	<b>Man restored to the Tree of Life</b>
<b>The Gate of Eden closed, barred by a Sword</b>	<b>Gates of the City never closed</b>

<b>Genesis – Book of Beginnings</b>	<b>Revelation – Book of Endings</b>
<b>Man shall not see God's Face</b>	<b>They shall see His Face</b>
<b>Corruption of Art, Music and Religion</b>	<b>Perfect Beauty, Music and Relationships</b>
<b>Marriage of First Bridegroom and Bride</b>	<b>Marriage of Christ and His Church</b>
<b>The Rainbow as Token of the Covenant</b>	<b>Rainbow on the Throne, on the Son of God</b>
<b>Dominion given to Man and Lost</b>	<b>Dominion Restored to Man</b>
<b>Babylon Built</b>	<b>Babylon destroyed</b>
<b>Satan tempts Eve to sin</b>	<b>Satan thrown into the lake of fire</b>
<b>The Redeemer Promised</b>	<b>The Redeemer Reigns</b>
<b>Paradise Lost</b>	<b>Paradise Regained</b>
<b>Writer: The Prophet Moses</b>	<b>Writer: The Apostle John</b>
<b>In the Beginning – GOD</b>	<b>In the End – the LORD JESUS CHRIST</b>

# After Genesis: Redemption Accomplished

- **God revealed His great plan of salvation gradually. He first gave the promise of a Redeemer who would be born of a woman, defeat Satan and bring salvation to mankind (Genesis 3:15). This Redeemer would come from Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3) and would be a Jew, from the tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:10). God then revealed that the promised Redeemer would come from David's family (2 Samuel 7) and would be born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14), in Bethlehem, the city of David (Micah 5:2).**

# After Genesis: Redemption Accomplished

- **“But when the fulness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, in order that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons” (Galatians 4:4-5).**
- **“And the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which shall be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord’” (Luke 2:10-11).**
- **The promise of God has been fulfilled! And it all began in Genesis.**

# Genesis: The Book of Beginnings

Focus	Four Great Events								Four Great Persons				
<b>Divisions</b>	1	2	3	4	5	9	10	11	12	25:19	27	37:2b	50
	<b>Creation</b>		<b>Fall</b>		<b>Flood</b>		<b>Nations (Babel)</b>		<b>Abraham</b>	<b>Isaac</b>	<b>Jacob</b>	<b>Joseph</b>	
<b>Topics</b>	<b>Primeval History of Humanity</b>								<b>Patriarchal History of Israel</b>				
	<b>Beginning of the Human Race</b>								<b>Beginning of the Hebrew Race</b>				
<b>Loca- tions</b>	<b>East (Eden to Ur)</b>								<b>West (Canaan to Egypt)</b>				
<b>Time</b>	<b>2,000 + years (20% of Genesis)</b>								<b>About 286 years (80% of Genesis)</b>				

**Author:** Moses

**Date written:** after 1445 BC

**Theme:** Israel's Origin & Early Years

**Purposes:** 1) to present the beginning of everything but God  
 2) to record God's choice of Israel & His covenant plan for the nation  
 3) to show how the sin of man is met by the redemption of God

# Genesis: The Book of Beginnings

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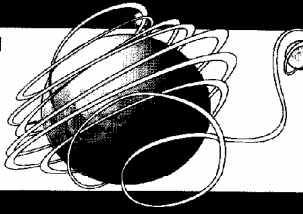
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Size of the visible universe is about 12-14 billion light years in all directions from the earth. How big is that? Mathematically, our galaxy is 100,000 light years across which is very small compared to the universe. If we shrink that down to 1 inch in diameter, then the visible universe is 2 miles in all directions from the earth. There is another galaxy every 7-9 inches throughout that 4-mile diameter. Note that there is also no thinning out of galaxies to the edges of the universe (Dr James Dobson)

At the speed of light you circle the earth seven times in one second . . .



. . . pass the Moon in two seconds . . .

Mars in four minutes . . .

. . . and Pluto in five hours.

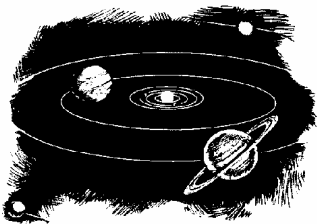
### The Milky Way Galaxy<sup>1</sup>

The band of stars you see in the night sky is part of a gigantic family of stars called the Milky Way Galaxy. There are approximately 100,000 million galaxies in the Universe, each comprising billions of stars. Galaxies come in clusters and super-clusters. There are about twenty galaxies in our cluster, and thousands of galaxies in our super-cluster.

At the speed of light, you will reach the closest star in 4.3 years, which means, each second of those years, you travel 186,000 miles (300,000 km)—a total distance equivalent to 25,284,000,000,000 miles (40,682,300,000,000 km).

Traveling at the speed of light, it would take 100,000 years to cross the Milky Way Galaxy.

Our star, the sun, is near the edge of the Milky Way Galaxy. Our entire Solar System with its orbiting planets could fit in this box.



At the speed of light, you will reach the next closest galaxy in 2,000,000 years . . .



. . . and the next closest cluster of galaxies in 20,000,000 years.

At this point you have only begun to travel the Universe.

**The Size of the visible universe is about 12-14 billion light years in all directions from the earth.**

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**Dr James Dobson:**

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**Note that there is also no thinning out of galaxies to the edges of the universe.**



## Genesis 1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 And the earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep; and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters. 3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. 4 And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. 5 And God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day. 6 Then God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." 7 And God made the expanse, and separated the waters which were below the expanse from the waters which were above the expanse; and it was so. 8 And God called the expanse heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, a second day. 9 Then God said, "Let the waters below the heavens be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so. 10 And God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of the waters He called seas; and God saw that it was good. 11 Then God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, *and* fruit trees bearing fruit after their kind, with seed in them, on the earth"; and it was so. 12 And the earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding

## Genesis 2

**1 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts. 2 And by the seventh day God completed His work which He had done; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. 3 Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made. 4 This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made earth and heaven. 5 Now no shrub of the field was yet in the earth, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the LORD God had not sent rain upon the earth; and there was no man to cultivate the ground. 6 But a mist used to rise from the earth and water the whole surface of the ground. 7 Then the LORD God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being. 8 And the LORD God planted a garden toward the east, in Eden; and there He placed the man whom He had formed. 9 And out of the ground the LORD God caused to grow every tree that is pleasing to the sight and good for food; the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. 10 Now a river flowed out of Eden to water the**

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14 **Then God said**, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days and years; 15 and let them be for lights in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth"; **and it was so.** 16 **And God made** the two great lights, the greater light to govern the day, and the lesser light to govern the night; **He made** the stars also. 17 **And God placed** them in the expanse of the heavens to give light on the earth, 18 and to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness; **and God saw that it was good.** 19 **And there was evening and there was morning, a fourth day.**

20 Then God said, "Let the waters teem with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth in the open expanse of the heavens." 21 And God created the great sea monsters, and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarmed after their kind, and every winged bird after its kind; and God saw that it was good. 22 And God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." 23 And there was evening and there was morning, a fifth day.

24 Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures after their kind: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth after their kind"; and it was so. 25 And God made the beasts of the earth after their kind, and the cattle after their kind, and everything that creeps on the ground after its kind; and God saw that it was good.

26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 And God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." 29 Then God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the surface of all the earth, and every tree which has fruit yielding seed; it shall be food for you; 30 and to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the sky and to every thing that moves on the earth which has life, I have given every green plant for food"; and it was so. 31 And God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

## Genesis 2

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15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it. 16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; 17 but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die."

18 Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him." 19 And out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the sky, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name. 20 And the man gave names to all the cattle, and to the birds of the sky, and to every beast of the field, but for Adam there was not found a helper suitable for him. 21 So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh at that place. 22 And the LORD God fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man. 23 And the man said,

"This is now bone of my bones,

And flesh of my flesh;

She shall be called Woman,

Because she was taken out of Man."

24 For this cause a man shall leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and they shall become one flesh. 25 And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

Each member of the Godhead – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – has the same attributes (essential being or character). His character is a composition of all His attributes. One attribute does not contradict the other, rather they make God who He is. Therefore, whenever God acts, in any given situation, all His attributes are used simultaneously in perfect harmony. He never suspends one so He can use another. There are two classes of God’s attributes:

a. His natural attributes relate to God *inwardly* as He is in Himself. These attributes belong to God and God alone and are sometimes called the “**Incommunicable Attributes of God**”. They define *who* God is:

Omniscient	Eternal	Self-existent	Infinite
Omnipotent	Immutable	Self-sufficient	Sovereign
Omnipresent	Incomprehensible	Transcendent	Holy (majestic)

b. His moral attributes reveal God *outwardly* in His relation to His creation. They are sometimes called the “**Communicable Attributes of God**”. These are what He expects of His creatures:

Holy (ethical)	Merciful	Loving	Truthful
Righteous	Long-suffering	Good	Faithful
Just	Wise	Wrathful	Jealous

God is also revealed through His names.

**Psalm 20:7** says, “Some boast in chariots, and some in horses;  
But we will boast in the name of the LORD our God.”

God’s name represents His character, His attributes, His nature. To boast in God’s name means to have confidence in who He is and what He describes Himself to be.

**Hebrews 11:6** says, “And without faith it is impossible to please *Him*,  
for he who comes to God must believe that He is,  
and *that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.*”

**John 17:3** says, “And this is eternal life, that they may know Thee, the only true God,  
and Jesus Christ whom Thou hast sent.”

To know God and Jesus Christ is eternal life, the quality of life that belongs to every true, born-again child of God.

To know (*ginosko*) God is to perceive, recognize, become acquainted with and understand *God!* What an awesome privilege that is the birthright of every child of God! These are some names of God that are found in the Bible:

Elohim	Adonai	Jehovah-Nissi	Jehovah-Raah
El Elyon	Jehovah	Jehovah-Mekoddishkem	Jehovah-Tsidkenu
El Roi	Jehovah-Jireh	Jehovah-Shalom	Jehovah-Shammah
El Shaddai	Jehovah-Rapha	Jehovah-Sabaoth	Qanna

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Jehovah-Tsidkenu  
Jehovah-Shammah  
Qanna

# The Natural Incommunicable Attributes of God

## 1. Omniscient

**Definition:** That perfection of God whereby He, in an entirely unique manner, knows Himself & all things possible & actual in one eternal & most simple act

### Its Nature

1. It is archetypal
2. It is characterized by absolute perfection
3. It is complete & fully conscious

### Its Extent

1. He sees all things (Pr 15:3)
2. He knows all things (Ps 147:4; Matt 10:29,30)
3. He knows mankind
  - a. our thoughts (Ps 139:2b; 44:21)
  - b. our words (Ps 139:4)
  - c. our deeds (Ps 139:3; Rev 2:2,9, 13,19; 3:1,8,15; 139:2a)
  - d. our sorrows (Ex 3:7)
  - e. our needs (Mt 6:32)
  - f. our devotion (Gen 18:17-19; 22:11-12; 2 Chr 16:9)
  - g. our frailties (Ps 69:5)
  - h. our foolishness (Ps 69:5)
  - i. His own (Jn 10:14; 2 Tim 2:19)
4. He knows the past, present & future (Ac 15:18)
5. He knows that might or could have been (Mt 11:23)

### Application

1. Prayer
2. Rest in God's love
3. The futility of hypocrisy
4. Surety of finding God's wisdom
5. Confidence amidst difficulty
6. Comfort for every situation

## 2. Omnipotent

**Definition:** That perfection of His Being by which He is the absolute & highest causality

- a. absolute power of God = God is able to do that which He will not do, but is possible to be done
- b. ordinate power of God = God does what He has decreed to do

### Misconceptions and Difficulties

1. While God's power extends beyond that which is actually realized, there are many things which God cannot do. He cannot sin, change or deny Himself.
2. God's power does not extend to anything which is self-contradictory.
3. Certain limitations are self-imposed.
4. He frequently acts through ordinary measures.

### Its Expression

1. God's power in creation (Ps 89:11-12)
2. God's power in preservation (Ps 36:6)
3. God's power in government
4. God's power in judgment
5. God's power in salvation
6. God's power in the resurrection

### Application

1. Tremble before such a God (Ps 2:12)
2. Adore such a God (Ex 15:11)
3. Trust in such a God (Ps 27:1; Eph 3:20-21)
4. Hope in such a God
5. Rest in God's power for victory
6. Humble yourself (1 Pet 5:6)

## 3. Omnipresent

**Definition:** God, in the totality of His essence, without diffusion or expansion, multiplication or division, penetrates & fills the universe in all its parts

- a. God's immanence = His nearness to & pervasion of, everything, organic & inorganic (Col 1:17)
- b. God's transcendence = His detachment, as self-existent, from His creatures (Ps 139:7-12)

### Common objections

1. If God is everywhere, He must be impure. Never! e.g. sunbeam
2. How can God be near & far when He is everywhere all the time – a relational nearness

### Applications:

1. Unbroken communion with God
2. God's abiding presence
3. Resisting temptation & pursuing godliness
4. Enduring suffering

## God's Natural, Incommunicable Attributes

4. **Eternal** - God has no beginning or end
5. **Immutable** - God never changes
  - a. in His essence (Mal 3:6)
  - b. in His attributes (Jer 31:3; Ps 100:5)
  - c. in His counsel (Ps 33:11; Heb 6:17)

Application

  - a. comfort
  - b. encouragement to prayer
  - c. terror for the wicked
6. **Incomprehensible** - God is beyond the understanding of men
7. **Self-existent** - God depends on nothing for His existence beyond Himself

Philosophical Arguments

  - a. universal belief argument
  - b. cosmological argument
  - c. ontological argument
  - d. anthropological argument
8. **Self-Sufficient** - God brings about His will without any assistance
9. **Infinite** - God has no limits
10. **Transcendent** - God is above all His creation & exists totally apart from His creatures or creation
11. **Sovereign** - God is in control, He is totally supreme over all His creation  
Egs. of God's sovereignty
  - a. angels
  - b. Adam
  - c. Israel
  - d. His elect

## God's Moral, Communicable Attributes

1. **Holy** - God is a morally excellent perfect being
  - a. Its Nature:
    - 1) The Majestic Holiness - produces awe in man
    - 2) The Ethical Holiness - produces awareness of sin in man
  - b. Its Manifestation:
    - 1) in the moral law
    - 2) in His dealings with man
    - 3) in Jesus Christ
    - 4) in His works
    - 5) in the church
    - 6) at the cross
  - c. Application:
    - 1) proof for the divine inspiration of scripture
    - 2) no acceptance with God on basis of man's work
    - 3) utter reverence
    - 4) desire for conformity to Christ
2. **Righteous** - God always does the right thing
3. **Just** - God is fair in all His actions
4. **Merciful** - God is actively compassionate
5. **Long-suffering** - God's righteous anger is slow to be kindled
6. **Wise** - God's wisdom causes Him to choose righteous ends
7. **Loving** - God's love is not based on the worth or merit of the object

Definition

  - a. Love is unselfish concern for another's welfare
  - b. Love is seeking the highest good of another
8. **Good** - that perfection of God which prompts Him to deal bountifully & kindly with all His creatures
9. **Wrathful** - God has a hatred for all that is unrighteous (Ps 5:5; 7:11; Pr 6:16-19)
10. **Truthful** - whatever God says is truth
11. **Faithful** - God is always true to His promises

Illustrations

God is faithful in:

  - a. preserving His people
  - b. disciplining His people
  - c. glorifying His people

Applications

  1. no worries
  2. no murmurings
  3. increasing confidence in God
12. **Jealous** - God is unwilling to share what is rightfully His

## PRAISE THE NAME OF JESUS

Praise the name of Jesus, (2x)  
He's my Rock, He's my Fortress,  
He's my Deliverer, in Him will I trust,  
Praise the name of Jesus.

Praise your Name Jehovah, (2x)  
He's my great, self-sufficient One,  
He's my great I AM, in Him will I trust,  
Praise your Name Jehovah.

Praise Jehovah Jireh, (2x)  
He's my Source, He's my Sufficiency,  
He's my Provider, in Him will I trust,  
Praise Jehovah Jireh.

Praise Jehovah Rapha, (2x)  
He's my Health, He's my Healing,  
He's my Physician, in Him will I trust,  
Praise Jehovah Rapha.

Praise Jehovah Nissi, (2x)  
He's my Flag, He's my Banner,  
He's my Victory, in Him will I trust,  
Praise Jehovah Nissi.

Praise Jehovah Mekoddishkem, (2x)  
He's my Light, He's my Holiness,  
He's my Sanctity, in Him will I trust,  
Praise Jehovah Mekoddishkem.

Praise Jehovah Shalom, (2x)  
He's my Peace, He's my Comfort,  
He's my Security, in Him will I trust,  
Praise Jehovah Shalom.

Praise Jehovah Raah, (2x)  
He's my Guide, He's my Shepherd,  
He's my Protector, in Him will I trust,  
Praise Jehovah Raah.

Praise Jehovah Tsidkenu, (2x)  
He's my Life, He's my Redemption,  
He's my Righteousness, in Him will I trust,  
Praise Jehovah Tsidkenu.

Praise Jehovah Shammah, (2x)  
He's my Friend, He's my Faithfulness,  
He's Omnipresent, in Him will I trust,  
Praise Jehovah Shammah.

### THE NAME OF THE LORD (Proverbs 18:10)

The name of the Lord is a strong & mighty tower;  
The name of the Lord is a refuge for my soul,  
The name of the Lord is a pillar I can lean on,  
The righteous run into the name of the Lord,  
The righteous run into the name of the Lord.

## Jesus, Name Above All Names

Jesus, Name above all names,  
Beautiful Savior, Glorious Lord,  
Emmanuel, God is with us,  
Blessed Redeemer, Living Word.

Anointed above His companions,  
Man of Sorrows,  
Lord of righteousness,  
Messiah, Life-giving Spirit,  
Mighty Deliverer, Priest and King.

I AM, Light of the Gentiles,  
Lord God Almighty,  
Prince of Peace,  
El Shaddai, God is sufficient,  
Shepherd of souls, King of kings.

Lily of the Valley,  
Son of David, Rose of Sharon,  
The Alpha and the Omega,  
Seed of Jesse, Morning Star.

Jesus, our Intercessor,  
Promised Messiah, Bread of Life,  
The Giver of Living Water,  
Mighty Baptizer, Son of God.

## God's Character

### Natural Incommunicable Attributes

1. omniscient
2. omnipotent
3. omnipresent
4. eternal
5. immutable
6. incomprehensible
7. self-existent
8. self-sufficient
9. infinite
10. transcendent
11. sovereign
12. Holy (majestic)

### Moral Communicable Attributes

1. Holy (ethical)
2. righteous
3. just
4. merciful
5. longsuffering
6. wise
7. loving
8. good
9. wrathful
10. faithful
11. jealous

### The Names of God

1. Elohim
2. El Elyon
3. El Roi
4. El Shaddai
5. Adonai
6. El Olam
7. Jehovah
8. Jehovah-Jireh
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10. Jehovah-Nissi
11. Jehovah-Mekoddishkem
12. Jehovah-Shalom
13. Jehovah-Sabaoth
14. Jehovah-Raah
15. Jehovah-Tsidkenu
16. Jehovah-Shammah
17. Qanna

a. God's Decretive will = that will by which God decrees whatever shall come to pass

b. God's Preceptive will = the rule of life which God has laid down for His moral creatures

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## The Sovereignty of God

**Its Definition:** God is totally, supremely, & pre-eminently over all His creation. Not a person or thing escapes His control & foreknown plan. He is the absolute & sole ruler in the universe – seen in the exercise of His supremacy. He is the Most High, Lord of heaven & earth. Subject to none, influenced by none, absolutely independent; God does as He pleases, only as He pleases, always as He pleases. None can thwart Him, none can hinder Him (Isa 46:10; Dan 4:35; Eph 1:11)

**Its Expression:** He created all things *by His will*, & thus all of creation belong to Him & is dependent on Him. He makes His own plans & carries them out in His own time & way.

**The Will of God is the final cause of all things**

1) creation & preservation, 2) government, 3) election & reprobation, 4) the sufferings of Christ, 5) regeneration, 6) sanctification, 7) the sufferings of believers, 8) man's life & destiny, and, 9) even the smallest things of life

### Distinctions in the Will of God

- 1) *The decretive & preceptive will of God*
- 2) *The secret & revealed will of God*
- 3) *The active & permissive will of God*
- 4) *The necessary and voluntary will of God*

### Problems

- 1) If God is sovereign, how do we explain the problem of sin & evil?
- 2) If God is sovereign, how do we reconcile the responsibility & freedom of man?
- 3) Some possible contradictions between the decretive & preceptive will of God

### Application to our Lives

- 1) The security of our Salvation because it is based on Sovereign Election
- 2) Comfort in the midst of Trials and Tribulations because of God's Sovereignty
- 3) The Responsibility of Man to Obey His Lord

## Extent & Objects of God's Sovereignty

Dan 4:34-35

Isa 14:24,27

Job 1:6-2:6; Lk 22:31-32

Isa 46:9-10

Dan 4:17; 2:20-23

Isa 5:1-7

Deut 32:39

1Sam 2:6-8

Isa 45:6-7

### Illustrations

1. Job (1:6-2:6)

2. David (2Sam 16:5-11)

3. Jesus (John 19:10-11)

4. Joseph (Gen 37,39-45;  
50:15-21)

Ch 37: Joseph's 2 dreams

Ch 39: Joseph in Egypt (17 years old)

Ch 40: Joseph in Prison (about 27-28 years old)

Ch 41: Joseph before Pharaoh (30 years old)

Ch 42-45: Joseph & His Brothers (39 years old)

Ch 50: After Jacob's death (53 years old)

### Application

1. Mt 18:7

2. Rom 8:28-29

3. 1Cor 10:13

4. James 1:2-4

5. 1Thess 5:16-18

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<b>Genesis – Book of Beginnings</b>	<b>Revelation – Book of Endings</b>
<p>The first heaven and the first earth  Earth created to be inhabited  Sun, Moon &amp; Stars govern time/day &amp; night  Gathering of waters called Seas</p>	<p>The new heavens and the new earth  A new Earth to be inhabited  No need for sun, moon &amp; stars, no night  No more sea</p>
<p>The first garden / a river in the Garden  Man made in the Image of God</p>	<p>The “garden city” / a river in the City of God  Man restored to the Image of God</p>
<p>Disobedience of Man to God’s Word  Entrance of Sin, Sickness, Disease, sorrow, suffering, tears &amp; Death  The first Curses uttered by God  Man driven out of Eden’s Paradise  Man forfeited the Tree of Life  The Gate of Eden closed, barred by a Sword  Man shall not see God’s Face  Corruption of Art, Music and Religion</p>	<p>Obedience of the Redeemed to God’s Word  No more Sin, Sickness, Disease, sorrow, suffering, crying or Death  No more Curse for the Redeemed  Man restored to Heaven’s Paradise  Man restored to the Tree of Life  Gates of the City never closed  They shall see His Face  Perfect Beauty, Music and Relationships</p>
<p>Marriage of First Bridegroom and Bride  The Rainbow as Token of the Covenant  Dominion given to Man and Lost</p>	<p>Marriage of Christ and His Church  Rainbow on the Throne, on the Son of God  Dominion Restored to Man</p>
<p>Babylon Built  Satan tempts Eve to sin</p>	<p>Babylon destroyed  Satan thrown into the lake of fire</p>
<p>The Redeemer Promised  Paradise Lost</p>	<p>The Redeemer Reigns  Paradise Regained</p>
<p>Writer: The Prophet Moses</p>	<p>Writer: The Apostle John</p>
<p>In the Beginning – GOD</p>	<p>In the End – the LORD JESUS CHRIST</p>