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THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD  
BY  
A.W. PINK

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Living Hope Baptist Church

Home Group

Questions

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All page numbers in this document are the PDF page numbers

## Lesson 1 – The Solitariness of God (PDF Pages 3-5)

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According to the first four words of the Scriptures, what one being existed all alone by himself before any other thing came into existence?

What, if God was complete all by Himself, did He save people like you and me (Ephesians 1:5, 11)?

According to Nehemiah 9:5, does the worship of believers add anything to God?

Read Romans 11:34-36. Complete the following sentence by placing the words “God” and “man” in the right place: “\_\_\_\_\_ is not dependent on \_\_\_\_\_ for anything, but \_\_\_\_\_ is dependent on \_\_\_\_\_ for everything.” “

Scan through Isaiah 40. What is the most striking truth about God in that chapter?

List all the traits in 1 Timothy 6:15-16 that are true of God, and of Him alone.

According to the following verses, what are the obvious reasons that God cannot be known by man?

John 4:24

John 3:3

1 Corinthians 2:14

According to the following verses, how does God make Himself known to us?

2 Corinthians 4:6

2 Peter 3:18

In light of this solitary otherness of God, what is to be our greatest ambition (Colossians 1:10)?

## Lesson 2 – The Decrees of God (PDF pages 6-8)

What do you think is the significance of the use of the singular “purpose” in Ephesians 3:11 and Romans 8:28?

What other terms do the Scriptures use to refer to God’s decree?

Psalm 2:7

Acts 2:23

Romans 8:29

Ephesians 1:9

Ephesians 1:11

Ephesians 3:11

When was God’s decree established (Ephesians 1:4; 1 Timothy 1:9)?

Although we only experience our little part in God’s grand decree, what can we affirm about how He made the decree (Psalm 104:24; Romans 11:33)?

Who was all involved in establishing the decree (Isaiah 40:13-14)?

In the decree regarding salvation, what else did God provide to ensure the decree would occur (2 Thessalonians 2:13)?

How sure can we be of God’s decree being fulfilled as He purposed it to be fulfilled (Isaiah 46:10; Ephesians 1:11; Daniel 4:35)?

We might struggle to understand how God’s decree and human responsibility works together – it is by faith that we can acknowledge the reality of both. However, to *deny* the decree of God would strip our existence from all meaning, purpose, and enlightenment. What are the obvious benefits resulting from the reality of God’s undeniable decree (Romans 8:28; Romans 11:36)?

## Lesson 3 – The Knowledge of God (PDF pages 9-11)

*God is omniscient. He knows everything: everything possible, everything actual; all events, all creatures, 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.*

What does God have knowledge of?

Daniel 2:22

Psalms 139:2-4

Ezekiel 11:5

Hosea 7:2

Psalms 90:8

Job 23:10

Psalms 103:14

John 21:17

Proverbs 15:3

Psalms 147:5

How should God's perfect all-knowledge affect us?

Psalms 139:6

Hebrews 4:13

Psalms 139:23-24

Isaiah 65:24

## Lesson 4 – The Foreknowledge of God (PDF pages 12-15)

Using Acts 13:48 as your guide, which of the following two sentences is correct?

- a. God's foreknowledge is the *cause* of our salvation; our believing is the *effect*.
- b. God's foreknowledge is the *effect* of our salvation; our believing is the *cause*.

How do the following verses demonstrate that when God *knows* a person, there is more to it than mere factual knowledge?

Exodus 33:17

Jeremiah 1:5

Hosea 8:4

Amos 3:2

Matthew 7:23

John 10:14

1 Corinthians 8:3

2 Timothy 2:19

In Acts 2:23, is God's *foreknowledge* a result of what the people did, or is it a result of God's decree?

Romans 8:29-30 gives some of the steps in the fulfillment of our salvation. Replace the word "foreknew" with "determined to love" and see if the entire salvation process described in the verses doesn't make more sense. Also replace "foreknew" with "learned about beforehand" to expose the weakness of a wrong view of God's foreknowledge.

What is foreknown by God according to Romans 11:2 and 1 Peter 1:2? Do these passages talk about events or persons?

*God foreknows what will be because He has decreed what shall be.*

How does the teaching about salvation from Ephesians 2:8-9 affirm this *causative* view of God's foreknowledge?

## Lesson 5 – The Supremacy of God (PDF pages 16-18)

What, according to Psalm 50:21, does God consider one of the basic problems of sinful mankind?

How does Psalm 2:1-5 expose the supremacy of God?

How does king David in 1 Chronicles 29:11-12 describe God?

What did king Jehoshaphat know to be true about God (2 Chronicles 20:6)?

*Ah, my reader, the God of Scripture is no make-believe monarch, no mere imaginary sovereign, but King of kings, and Lord of lords.*

List some of the miracles that God performed in the OT that visibly prove Psalm 135:6.

What unique rule of God is promised in Exodus 34:24?

How supreme is God over government (Proverbs 21:1)?

As much as we struggle to comprehend God's supremacy, Romans 11:36 guides us in a proper response to God's supremacy. What is it?

James 4:13-15 gives another application for us in light of God's supremacy. How will it help you respond when things don't go as planned? **Make plans in pencil – with the knowledge that God directs all things, and so, when my plans don't work out as I hoped, I will trust God and not complain, and I will do the next right thing and not despair.**

What comfort comes from Proverbs 16:9, Psalm 31:5 and Psalm 37:7?

## Lesson 6 – The Sovereignty of God (PDF pages 19-21)

*The sovereignty of God may be defined as the exercise of His supremacy. Being infinitely elevated above the highest creature, He is the Most High, Lord of heaven and 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. So His own Word expressly declares: "My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure" (Isa. 46:10)*

What does Psalm 115:3 state as the only determining factor in God's actions?

What is a common reaction to God's sovereignty that we should caution against (Isaiah 45:9)?

What "rights" do we have other than what God has sovereignly appointed?

*Human responsibility is based upon Divine sovereignty.*

With no right to salvation, what is the most wonderful gift ever granted by God's sovereignty (Romans 9:18)?

## Lesson 7 – The Immutability of God (PDF pages 22-24)

What is the simple truth about God revealed in James 1:17 and, according to Deuteronomy 32:4, what picture is used in the OT to illustrate this truth of God?

What does Malachi 3:6a teach about God's nature?

What is significant of the present tense in Exodus 3:14?

*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.*

Because God's being is immutable, His qualities are also unchanging. Which specific qualities are highlighted as unchanging in the following Scriptures:

Psalm 119:89

Jeremiah 31:3

Psalm 100:5

How does Genesis 6:6 and 1 Samuel 15:11 fit in with Numbers 23:19 and 1 Samuel 15:19?

What does Job 23:13, Psalm 33:11 and Hebrews 6:17 assert about God's purpose, will and counsel?

What are some of the implications for your life from Isaiah 54:10?



## Lesson 8 – The Holiness of God (PDF pages 25-28)

What do we all learn about God's holiness in the following verses?

Revelation 15:4

Exodus 15:11

Habakkuk 1:13

2 Chronicles 20:21

"Power is God's hand or arm, omniscience His eye, mercy His bowels, eternity His duration, but holiness is His beauty" (S. Charnock). It is this, supremely, which renders Him lovely to those who are delivered from sin's dominion.

How do angels respond to the experience of God's holiness (Isaiah 6:3)?

What should we do with the knowledge of God's holiness (Psalm 30:4)?

Holiness is the rule of all His actions. (Psalm 145:7)

What is for us the most objective evidence of God's holiness (Romans 7:12; Psalm 19:8-9)?

What attitude should define our worship of God (Psalm 99:5)?

Many of God's qualities are completely impossible for us to aspire to. How are we to think about being like His holiness (1 Peter 1:16)?

With such a standard, how can we continue with resolve and not just give up (1 Thessalonians 5:23)?

## Lesson 9 – The Power of God (PDF pages 29-32)

What undeniable truth, both from direct Divine revelation and obvious observation, is true about God (Psalm 62:11)?

Use the imagery from Psalm 18:13-15 to imagine what a battle against God would be like. Why is raging against God so futile?

When world powers come to salvation, what do they testify to (Daniel 4:35)?

What does Mark 14:62 imply about God's power?

What does Job 26:14 and Habakkuk 3:5 require of us when we see the great displays of God's power?

Well may the enlightened soul adore such a God! The wondrous and infinite perfections of such a Being call for fervent worship. If men of might and renown claim the admiration of the world, how much more should the power of the Almighty fill us with wonderment and homage. "Who is like unto Thee, O Lord, among the who is like Thee, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?" (Ex. 15:11).

Why is "absolute power corrupts absolutely" not true of God (Psalm 89:13-14)?

Creation-by-word-only is the obvious display of power. What is the more common and daily expression of God's power (Hebrews 1:3)?

What quality of God will He demonstrate to those whose rejection He had endured for their entire lives (Romans 9:22)?

How does God employ His power for those who believe (Ephesians 3:20-21)?

*How vain would be the eternal counsels, if power did not step in to execute them. Without power His mercy would be but feeble pity, His promises an empty sound, His threatenings a mere scarecrow. God's power is like Himself: infinite, eternal, incomprehensible; it can neither be checked, restrained, nor frustrated by the creature.*  
(S. Charnock)

## Lesson 10 – The Faithfulness of God (PDF pages 33-36)

There is no sphere of earthly life where unfaithfulness has not become the norm for human life. What can we know with confidence about God (Deuteronomy 7:9)?

How does our unfaithfulness impact God's faithfulness (2 Timothy 2:13)

*He never forgets, never fails, never falters, never forfeits His word.  
To every declaration of promise or prophecy the Lord has exactly adhered,  
every engagement of covenant or threatening He will make good.*

What is perhaps the most appreciated element of God's faithfulness (Lamentations 3:22-23)?

How do Jesus' words to Peter (John 13:7) fit in with God's faithfulness?

What are some of the benefits we experience because of God's faithfulness?

Psalm 119:138

1 Corinthians 1:9

Psalm 119:15

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

How can we use our knowledge of God's faithfulness when life is increasingly unpredictable, unfaithful, and difficult (1 Peter 4:19)?

*There are seasons in the lives of all when it is not easy, no not even for Christians, to believe that God is faithful. Our faith is sorely tried, our eyes bedimmed with tears, and we can no longer trace the outworkings of His love. Our ears are distracted with the noises of the world, harassed by the atheistic whisperings of Satan, and we can no longer hear the sweet accents of His still small voice. Cherished plans have been thwarted, friends on whom we relied have failed us, a profest brother or sister in Christ has betrayed us. We are staggered. We sought to be faithful to God, and now a dark cloud hides Him from us. Ah, faltering soul, severely-tried fellow-pilgrim, seek grace to heed Isaiah 50:10, "Who is among you that feareth the Lord, that obeyeth the voice of His servant, that walketh in darkness and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the Lord, and stay upon his God."*

## Lesson 11 – The Goodness of God (PDF pages 37-39)

*There is such an absolute perfection in God's nature and being that nothing is wanting to it or defective in it, and nothing can be added to it to make it better.*

*A NOTE ON TRANSLATIONS: Many OT texts on God's promise-making-and-keeping love (Hebrew: GeSeD), are translated very plainly as "goodness" in the KJV used by A.W. Pink. Since God's GeSeD flows from His goodness, look not only for "goodness" in the following verses, but also for "mercy", "kindness", "love", or more accurately "steadfast love".*

What two truths about God's goodness are revealed in Psalm 119:68?

What was the first demonstration of God's goodness to mankind (Genesis 1:31)?

What is the repeated demonstration of God's goodness (Psalm 145:15-16; 136:23)?

Why does God still show goodness to those who continually sins (Romans 2:5)?

Read the parable of Matthew 20:1-16. God shows kindness to each human being. Yet, for the most part we respond with grumbling. Why is that, and how does v.15 correct our thinking?

What is the proper response to God's goodness (Psalm 107:8)?

*When others behave badly to us, it should only stir us up the more heartily to give thanks unto the Lord, because He is good; and when we ourselves are conscious that we are far from being good, we should only the more reverently bless Him that He is good. We must never tolerate an instant's unbelief as to the goodness of the Lord; whatever else may be questioned, this is absolutely certain, that Jehovah is good; His dispensations may vary, but His nature is always the same. (C. H. Spurgeon).*

## Lesson 12 – The Patience of God (PDF pages 40-42)

What two of God's perfections exist continually within Himself, yet are rarely found together in mankind (Nahum 1:3)?

*The patience of God chiefly [regards] Himself, a restraint placed upon His acts by His will.*

*We define the Divine patience as that power of control which God exercises over Himself, causing Him to bear with the wicked and forbear so long in punishing them.*

*His longsuffering is His "power" of self-restraint.*

What of God's perfections are grouped together in Numbers 14:17-18 as working in perfect harmony with one another?

How do sinners typically respond to God's patience (Ecclesiastes 8:11)?

What do saints receive the "God of patience and encouragement" (Romans 15:4-5)?

How should the testimonies of God's patience in your own election inform your responses to others (Colossians 3:12)?

What perfection of God is most obvious in the story of Noah's flood (1 Peter 3:20)? How many years did it span (Genesis 6:3)? And, what else was God revealing at that time (2 Peter 2:5)?

What does God's dealings with the nations in the OT prove (Acts 14:16-17)?

*May our meditation upon this Divine excellency soften our hearts.*

*God bears long with the wicked notwithstanding the multitude of their sin,  
and shall we desire to be revenged because of a single injury?*

*Let us review our own lives. It is not long since we followed a multitude to do evil,  
had no concern for God's glory, and lived only to gratify self.*

*How patiently He bore with our vile conduct!*

## Lesson 13 – The Grace of God (PDF pages 43-46)

What are the opposites of grace (Romans 11:6; 4:4)?

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

What is the picture associated with grace in Ephesians 2:8-9?

Although God's grace is shown to us during our lifetime, when was grace planned for you and me (2 Timothy 1:9)?

What effect does grace have on us (Romans 5:21)?

What other perfection of God is closely associated to grace (Hebrews 4:16)?

Why is the Gospel called the "gospel of the grace of God?" (Acts 20:24)?

***Grace is a provision for men who are  
so fallen that they cannot lift the axe of justice,  
so corrupt that they cannot change their own natures,  
so averse to God that they cannot turn to Him,  
so blind that they cannot see Him,  
so deaf that they cannot hear Him, and  
so dead that He Himself must open their graves and lift them into resurrection.***

## Lesson 14 – The Mercy of God (PDF pages 47-49)

Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.  
Psalm 116:5

What are descriptions of God's mercy?

Luke 1:78

1 Peter 1:3

2 Samuel 24:14

Lamentations 3:22

Ephesians 2:4

Psalm 145:9

Grace and mercy both find their source in God's goodness, but differ in that grace presupposes *need*, while "mercy presupposes *sin*" (47).

What determines if mercy will be shown (Romans 9:15)?

What is the basis for our salvation (Titus 3:5; Ephesians 2:4-5; 1 Peter 1:3)?

What was the Divine basis for John the Baptist's birth (Luke 1:76-78)?

How does God's mercy and God's justice relate to each other (Exodus 34:6-7)?

How will God respond to those who presume upon His mercy (Deuteronomy 29:18-20)?

How are believers described in Romans 9:23?

What is God called in 2 Corinthians 1:3, and how does it affect the way you think about God?

## Lesson 15 – The Love of God (PDF pages 50-52)

What is the difference between “God loves” and 1 John 4:8?

What influenced God to love Israel (Deuteronomy 7:7-8)?

What influence do we need before we are capable of God-like love (1 John 4:19)?

What description of God’s love is found in Jeremiah 31:3, and how does it comfort you?

Why does God not rightly hate all sinful mankind, but instead love so many among sinful mankind (Romans 9:11-13)?

What is the extent of God’s love (Ephesians 2:4-5)?

Why is it folly to question or doubt God’s love (Ephesians 3:19)?

What can cause God to stop His love for His own (John 13:1; Romans 8:35-39)?

How does God’s love and holiness work together for loved sinners (Hebrews 12:6)?

*The Divine love is commonly regarded as a species of amiable weakness, a sort of good-natured indulgence; it is reduced to a mere sickly sentiment, patterned after human emotion. Now the truth is that on this, as on everything else, our thoughts need to be formed and regulated by what is revealed thereon in Holy Scripture. That there is urgent need for this is apparent not only from the ignorance which so generally prevails, but also from the low state of spirituality which is now so sadly evident everywhere among professing Christians. How little real love there is for God. One chief reason for this is because our hearts are so little occupied with His wondrous love for His people. The better we are acquainted with His love—its character, fullness, blessedness—the more will our hearts be drawn out in love to Him.*



## Lesson 16 – The Wrath of God (PDF pages 53-56)

How openly does God speak about His wrath (Deuteronomy 32:39-41)?

To whom does God direct his anger (Psalm 7:11-16)?

*The wrath of God is His eternal detestation of all unrighteousness. Insurrectionists against God's government shall be made to know that God is the Lord. They shall be made to feel how great that Majesty is which they despise, and how dreadful is that threatened wrath which they so little regarded.*

Compare the following two oaths by which God confirms how He acts appropriate to the faithful (Psalm 89:35-36) and the wicked (Deuteronomy 1:34-35)?

In Revelation 6:16, whose wrath is the cause for the destruction that will occur during the End Times?

How should knowledge of God's wrath affect believers (Hebrews 12:28-29)?

*We are ever prone to regard sin lightly, to gloss over its hideousness, to make excuses for it. But the more we study and ponder God's abhorrence of sin and His frightful vengeance upon it, the more likely are we to realize its heinousness.*

What truth about God did John the Baptist use in his evangelism of religious unbelievers (Matthew 3:7)?

What were you all saved from when Jesus died on the cross in your place (Romans 5:9)?

## Lesson 17 – The Contemplation of God (PDF pages 57-60)

How does Job 11:7-9 compare God's perfections to our ability to contemplate them in their fullness?

When King Nebuchadnezzar came to grips with God's perfections, what did he conclude (Daniel 4:34-35)?

1 Timothy 1:17 gives us a good example of how to praise God for His perfections. Review all the previous lessons and select five of the perfections of God that were most impactful. For each of those five, write a short prayer of praise to God from the details you learned. Be prepared to read one or two of those prayers at homegroup to encourage the saints.