



The Attributes of God
By

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Study Guide

Preface

Scripture: John 17:3

1. What do you think of Pink's statement, "A spiritual and saving knowledge of God is the greatest need of every human."?
2. Why is it important to have a "clear mental apprehension" of God's perfections?
3. List reasons why studying the character of God would be important.

Chapter 1 – The Solitariness of God

Scripture: Isaiah 40:12-26

1. How is God solitary? Explain
2. If God has an attribute of solitariness, why create? Cite Scripture...
3. How can we truly be acquainted with God?
4. Explain the value of knowing God. How might this affect how we live life?

Chapter 2 – The Decrees of God

Scripture: Psalm 119:12-16

1. Define Decree. What is Decree in Hebrew? Greek?
2. List and define the four properties of God's divine decrees.
3. How are God's decrees different from man's decisions or laws?
4. Describe life without God's decrees.
5. Read Colossians 1:13-14. What kind of impact does this decree of God's grace have on you? Be specific.

Chapter 3 – The Knowledge of God

Scripture: Psalm 139:1-16; Romans 11:33-36

1. Define omniscient.
2. How can God's omniscience be of comfort to believers?
3. How can it encourage prayer?
4. Pink says God's omniscience is not causative; as such what is the cause of all things? Prove scripturally.
5. Define open theism. Where in scripture would you go to disprove open theism?
6. How does Pink declare that God's infinite knowledge should impact believers? How does it impact you?

Chapter 4 – The Foreknowledge of God

Scripture: Romans 8:28-30; John 10:27-30

1. What two things (objectives of this chapter) would be useful in understanding the term foreknowledge or any theological term for that matter?
2. How is foreknowledge mis-defined in an effort to make it more palatable? Why is this so radically wrong?
3. How should we approach defining God's foreknowledge?
4. Define God's foreknowledge and cite scripture.
5. How is the atoning sacrifice of Christ related to God's foreknowledge?

Chapter 5 – The Supremacy of God

Scripture: Psalm 2; 1 Chronicles 29:10-13

1. Define the supremacy of God in your own words. List words that describe God's supremacy.
2. How is the supremacy of God affirmed? Cite Scripture
3. Describe how the supremacy of God should give each of us comfort.
4. Read Psalm 50:21. Why do we think God is like us? Provide examples of how we do that.

Chapter 6 – The Sovereignty of God

Scripture: Psalm 115; Daniel 4:2-3

1. Define God's sovereignty and how does it relate to His supremacy? Dig deep on this and go beyond the first sentence of this chapter.
2. How do you reconcile the Sovereignty of God and the responsibility of man?
3. J. I. Packer says that in Psalm 93, the fact of God's sovereignty is said to do three things. In light of what we learned in this chapter and reading Psalm 93 what are those three things? How should that make us feel?
4. Why is God's sovereignty so comforting and encouraging for believers?

Chapter 7 – The Immutability of God

Scripture: Psalm 102:24-28; Hebrews 13:8

1. What does the Immutability of God mean?
2. List and define the 3 ways Pink describes God's immutable nature.
3. How can the immutability of God be of comfort to us?
4. How should we respond when someone asks, why pray if God is immutable?
5. How does God's perfection rule out change? How does that immutability of God comfort and encourage you?
6. Extra Credit - Who is John Dick (the pastor)?

Chapter 8 – The Holiness of God

Scripture: Revelation 4; 2 Chronicles 20:21

1. In your own words define the Holiness of God.
2. How is God's Holiness revealed?
3. Because God is Holy, describe 3 ways this impacts our lives.
4. How is the Holiness of God displayed in the cross of Christ? What affect/impact does this have on you?
5. Extra Credit - two part question: Who is Stephen Charnock? Who is John Howe?

Chapter 9 – The Power of God

Scripture: Psalm 18:1-15; Habakkuk 3

1. How did Charnock define the power of God?
2. What did the prophet Habakkuk mean by "there was the hiding of His power" (3:4)?
3. What are the four ways in which Pink considers God's power?
4. Considering the power of God it is easy to see how all should tremble before such a God, but as believers what impact does God's power have on our lives?
5. Extra Credit: Who is C. H. Spurgeon?

Chapter 10 – The Faithfulness of God

Scripture: Psalm 117

1. What does it mean to you that our God is faithful?
2. There is a positive and negative aspect to the faithfulness of God as it relates to such an unfaithful people; describe.
3. List and define the 3 ways Pink says God shows His faithfulness to His people.
4. How can the faithfulness of God shape our lives?

Chapter 11 – The Goodness of God

Scripture: Psalm 145

1. Define the Goodness of God.
2. List and describe how the Goodness of God is seen. Give examples.
3. How can you reconcile the Goodness of God with the "mixture" of mercy and judgement?
4. What one word can describe the goodness of God as shown through Christ?
5. Extra credit: Who is Thomas Manton?
6. Extra Extra credit: How does grace relate to the Goodness of God?

Chapter 12 – The Patience of God

Scripture: 2 Peter 3:1-13

1. How would you define the patience of God?
2. List 3 ways we that we can see that patience is a divine characteristic. Prove scripturally...
3. Why is God so patient?
4. What does God's patience mean for us?
5. Read Romans 3:25-26 and Romans 9:22-26. Reconcile the work of Christ and God's patience. How is this encouraging?

Chapter 13 – The Grace of God

Scripture: Ephesians 2:1-10

1. Define the grace of God.
2. List and describe the 3 key characteristics of divine grace.
3. What does Pink mean by the distinguishing grace of God?
4. How does Pink describe the trinity's roles related to grace?
5. In light of this chapter, how has your view of God's grace been enhanced?

Extra Credit:

Who are Abraham Booth, James Hervey, and G. S. Bishop?

Chapter 14 – The Mercy of God

Scripture: Psalm 136

1. What is the difference between God's Mercy and Grace?
2. List and describe the 3 distinctions Pink outlines concerning the Mercy of God.
3. If God's mercy endures forever (Ps 136:1), then how can you reconcile the temporal nature of God's mercy to the unbeliever?
4. How does Pink explain that the eternal condemnation of unbelievers is an act of mercy?
5. How does your understanding of the mercy of God make you feel? How should we respond?

Chapter 15 – The Love of God

Romans 8:31-39; Ephesians 3:18-19; 1 John 4:19

1. List 3 characteristics of the nature of God revealed in scripture.
2. List and explain the 7 defining aspects of the wonderful love of God.
3. Explain how knowledge of the love of God can help in difficult times.
4. Extra Credit: Who is John Brine?

Chapter 16 – The Wrath of God

Scripture: Deuteronomy 32:36-43; Revelation 19:11-16

1. Pink makes the assertion that without wrath, the divine perfection of God would contain a blemish. Explain.
2. List and explain 3 considerations proving we should frequently meditate on the wrath of God.
3. How is our hesitance or willingness to meditate on the wrath of God a "sure" test of our attitude toward God?
4. Reflect on the righteous wrath of God and explain how this impacts your view of Christ and His work on the cross.

Extra Credit: Who is Robert Haldane? William Gurnall?

Chapter 17 – The Contemplation of God

Scripture: Job 42

1. Based on our study and a proper contemplation of God, list and explain 3 absolute and evident conditions of God's being. Support with scripture.
2. Describe in your own words why it is important to better understand the character and nature of our one true and living God.
3. How can a better understanding of God help with the competing priorities of life?
4. List any ways your view of God has been influenced through this study.