

The Sovereignty of God

“Thus says the LORD: “Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.” Jeremiah 9:23-24

1. God’s character is revealed His attributes. God is limitless in all His attributes. He is perfect in every sense. They should fill us with Awe and Comfort.
 1. A.W. Tozer “What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.”

2. **Holiness** – *“This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.” 1 John 1:5*
 1. Definition:
 1. Apartness, separateness or otherness, defines difference between Creator and creature.
 1. *“Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?” Exodus 15:11;*
 2. *“For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: “I dwell in the high and holy place...” Isaiah 57:15*
 3. He alone is worthy of honor, reverence, adoration and worship
 1. *And one called to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!” Isaiah 6:3*
 4. Moral Excellency; absolute purity; unstained by sin.
 1. *“You who are of purer eyes than to see evil and cannot look at wrong...” Habakkuk 1:13*
 5. Man in the presence of a holy God is deeply conscious of his sin! *“Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!” Isaiah 6:5*
 2. God’s holiness is manifested in:
 1. His Works. *“And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.” Genesis 1:31*
 2. His Law: *Psalm 19*
 3. The Cross – The Gospel

3. **Immutability** - *“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.” James 1:17*
 1. Definition:
 1. Not mutable; unchangeable; changeless
 2. God is perpetually the same – He is infinite. There are not changes in his being, attributes or purposes.
 1. *“For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.” Malachi 3:6*
 2. *“God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.”... Exodus 3:14*

3. God is a rock! He cannot change for the better or worse because He's perfect. The difference between Creator and creature, one is perfect, and the other is marked by change. The creature is always becoming.

4. **Omniscience** *"He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names. Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure."* **Psalm 147:4-5. See Psalm 139**
 1. Definition:
 1. Infinite knowledge – The only being to have all knowledge, must be eternal and infinite.
 1. *"He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with him."* **Daniel 2:22**
 2. God's knowledge is all-comprehensive. He knows all things, past, present and future. Nothing is hidden from Him or forgotten by Him. His knowledge is perfect!
 1. *"And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account."* **Hebrews 4:13**
 2. *"You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence."* **Psalm 90:8**
 3. God's omniscience also consists of His wisdom. It's the virtue of God which manifests itself in the selection of worthy ends and in the best means for the realization of those ends. Those ends accomplish His purposes for His glory.
 1. *"Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!"* **Romans 11:33**

5. **Omnipotence** *"By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm."* **Psalm 33:6-9**
 1. Definition:
 1. Almighty or infinite in Power (having very great or unlimited power or authority)
 2. Gives life and action to all the perfections of the His divine attributes.
 3. God, from nothing created everything by His word alone
 4. *"God's power is infinite, eternal, and incomprehensible; it can neither be checked, restrained, nor frustrated by the creature."* (S. Charnock)
 2. God's Power in human activity
 1. Common grace: Restrains the natural corruption of man, and the power of Satan.
 3. God's power for the believer
 1. Nothing is too difficult for Him: no prayer, no need, any passion, any temptation or misery.
 1. *"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."* **Ephesians 3:20-21**

6. **Omnipresence** *"teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."* **Matthew 28:20**
 1. Definition:
 1. Present everywhere at the same time
 2. God is present everywhere at all times – immanent and transcendence
 1. *"For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly*

spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.” Isaiah 57:15

3. God is present in all time and space, but not limited to time and space.
 1. *“The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man; from where he sits enthroned he looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth,” Psalm 33:13-14*

7. **Goodness** *“Oh, how abundant is your goodness, which you have stored up for those who fear you and worked for those who take refuge in you, in the sight of the children of mankind!” Psalm 31:19*
 1. Definition:
 1. A euphemism of God
 2. God is good, that is, perfectly holy.
 3. Goodness that reveals itself in doing well to all His creatures
 1. *“The LORD is gracious and merciful; slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.” Psalm 145:8-9*

8. **Faithful** *“Know therefore that the LORD your God is God, the faithful God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, to a thousand generations,” Deuteronomy 7:9*
 1. Definition:
 1. True to your word; reliable, trusted, believed
 2. God is faithful in all things and faithful at all times. God is true, His promises are sure. His faithfulness gives us confidence.
 1. *“Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.” Hebrews 23:10*
 3. The veracity of God. This perfection of God describes Him as truth. He knows things as they really are, and is faithful in the fulfillment of all His promises.

9. **Love** *“Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.” 1 John 4:8*
 1. Definition
 1. A profoundly tender, passionate affection
 2. The Love of God is defined in action.
 1. *“Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends...” 1 Corinthians 13:4-8*
 3. The love of God is manifested in His grace and His mercy.