

# GENESIS



GENESIS RESOURCES

## *“The Existence, Nature and Characteristics of God”*

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*“The most important fact about any human being is not what he at a given time may say or do, but what he in his deep heart conceives God to be like.”*

**A.W. Tozer**

*“There is no God. Man is condemned to be free; because once thrown into the world, he is responsible for everything he does.”*

**Jean-Paul Sartre**

*“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”*

**Genesis 1:1**

## **The Existence of God**

### **Cosmological (Cause or Origin of All Creation )**

Everything that begins to exist has a cause. The universe began to exist, so it must have a cause outside itself. That cause is God, the uncaused cause who set all things into motion (Genesis 1:1).

### **Teleological (Design and Order with the Universe)**

The complexity, beauty, order and precision of the universe points to an intelligent Designer. The fine-tuning of the world and the universe, most recognizable in the intricacies of life, reflects intentional design rather than random chance (Psalm 19:1).

### **Moral (Right and Wrong are Universal Concepts)**

Humanity’s universal sense of morality and our shared understanding of right and wrong only find resolution in a moral Lawgiver. Objective moral values (agreed upon or not) require an objective standard which are rooted in the character of God (Romans 2:14–15).

## **Ontological (Being and Awareness of Being)**

The very concept of a greatest conceivable Being implies God's existence, for he must exist both in the mind and in reality. Humanity's desire for meaning, a greater purpose, and relationships finds its fulfillment only in God (Acts 17:27–28).

## **The Nature of God**

### **Simplicity**

God is not made up of different parts; his attributes are identical with his being

That is, in Christ, God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and he has committed the message of reconciliation to us.  
2 Cor 5:19

God presented him to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so that he would be just and justify the one who has faith in Jesus. Rom 3:26

### **Aseity**

God's self-existence. God is not dependent or contingent on anything or anyone.

Our God is in heaven  
and does whatever he pleases. Ps 115:3

God replied to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you." Ex 3:14

And who has ever given to God, that he should be repaid? **36** For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be the glory forever. Amen. Rom 11:35-36

When I saw him, I fell at his feet like a dead man. He laid his right hand on me and said, "Don't be afraid. I am the First and the Last, **18** and the Living One. I was dead, but look—I am alive forever and ever, and I hold the keys of death and Hades. Rev 1:17-18

### **Immutability**

God's unchangeableness. He does not change, develop or evolve.

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. Jas 1:17

Long ago you established the earth,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands.

**26** They will perish, but you will endure;  
all of them will wear out like clothing.  
You will change them like a garment,  
and they will pass away.

**27** But you are the same,  
and your years will never end. Ps 102:25-27

“Because I, the LORD, have not changed, you descendants of Jacob have not been  
destroyed. Mal 3:6

## **Impassibility**

God’s incapacity for being overwhelmed by suffering or difficult circumstances.

Then the LORD said, “I have observed the misery of my people in Egypt, and have heard  
them crying out because of their oppressors. I know about their sufferings. Ex 3:7

Furthermore, the Eternal One of Israel does not lie or change his mind, for he is not  
man who changes his mind.” 1 Sam 15:29

Pay homage to the Son or he will be angry  
and you will perish in your rebellion,  
for his anger may ignite at any moment.  
All who take refuge in him are happy. Ps 2:12

## **Eternity**

Transcendence of time. God is also everywhen.

Before the mountains were born,  
before you gave birth to the earth and the world,  
from eternity to eternity, you are God. Ps 90:2

Where can I go to escape your Spirit?  
Where can I flee from your presence?  
**8** If I go up to heaven, you are there;  
if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. Ps 139:7-8

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever  
and ever. Amen. 1 Tim 1:17

# **The Characteristics of God**

## **Knowledge, Wisdom, and Power**

LORD, you have searched me and known me.

**2** You know when I sit down and when I stand up;  
you understand my thoughts from far away.

**3** You observe my travels and my rest;  
you are aware of all my ways.

**4** Before a word is on my tongue,  
you know all about it, LORD.

**5** You have encircled me;  
you have placed your hand on me.

**6** This wondrous knowledge is beyond me.  
It is lofty; I am unable to reach it. Ps 139:1-6

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand  
or marked off the heavens with the span of his hand?

Who has gathered the dust of the earth in a measure  
or weighed the mountains on a balance  
and the hills on the scales?

**13** Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD,  
or who gave him counsel?

**14** Who did he consult?  
Who gave him understanding  
and taught him the paths of justice?

Who taught him knowledge  
and showed him the way of understanding? Isa 40:12-14

“Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented in sackcloth and ashes long ago. Matt 11:21

## **Goodness, Love and Mercy**

“Why do you call me good?” Jesus asked him. “No one is good except God alone.  
Mk 10:18

For the LORD is good, and his faithful love endures forever;  
his faithfulness, through all generations. Ps 100:5

For he tells Moses, I will show mercy to whom I will show mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. Rom 9:15

## Holiness, Righteousness and Justice

No one undergoing a trial should say, "I am being tempted by God," since God is not tempted by evil, and he himself doesn't tempt anyone. Jas 1:13

And one called to another:

Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of Armies;  
his glory fills the whole earth. Isa 6:3

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are subject to the law, so that every mouth may be shut and the whole world may become subject to God's judgment. **20** For no one will be justified in his sight by the works of the law, because the knowledge of sin comes through the law. **21** But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been revealed, attested by the Law and the Prophets. **22** The righteousness of God is through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe, since there is no distinction. Rom 3:19-22

## Jealousy and Wrath

Pay homage to the Son or he will be angry  
and you will perish in your rebellion,  
for his anger may ignite at any moment.  
All who take refuge in him are happy. Ps 2:12

Because the LORD is jealous for his reputation, you are never to bow down to another god. He is a jealous God. Ex 34:14

I am the LORD. That is my name,  
and I will not give my glory to another  
or my praise to idols. Isa 42:8

## The Triune God

