

Superhero
September 18, 2016

Have you ever daydreamed of being a superhero? Have you ever imagined yourself having some super powers or super-human powers? In the comics there are lots of different powers mentioned. Being really strong is true of most superheroes. And many can fly. Both of those would come in handy when fighting bad guys. Being able to turn invisible would be pretty good too.

I can only name a couple dozen superheroes. But one website lists about 400, including 100 female superheroes. The most well known are Superman, Batman, and Spiderman. I always liked a little-known superhero named Elongated Man.

All of these are imaginary of course. But there is one real superhero that I want to talk about this morning. And He has three super powers that should be a comfort to us. My goal this morning is that you will choose to call on Him to help you with whatever problems you are facing this week.

The superhero I know is God. God has three really super powers. Let me tell you about them.

God is everywhere, all the time. (omnipresent)

God is not a being of matter, like a human, who is confined to one place at a time. God is Spirit and is present everywhere at once. There is not a place that you can go to that God is not there. God created time and space and so is outside of time and space. See what God said to His prophet, Jeremiah...

Jeremiah 23:23-24 (NIV) "Am I only a God nearby," "and not a God far away? Can anyone hide in secret places so that I cannot see him?" declares the Lord. "Do not I fill heaven and earth?"

(Psalm 139:7-8; Acts 17:27-28)

The implied answer to that question is yes. God fills heaven and earth, and a whole lot more besides.

The preschool Sunday school teacher was explaining to her class that Jesus would always be with them even though they could not see him. "I already know that," piped up one 4-year-old. "He's the one who opens the door when we go into a store."

There is not a time when God is busy elsewhere and is not with you. Sometimes parents wish they could be with their children all day long to watch over them. We can't do that, but God is with all of us all the time, night and day.

God is with you as an individual. You may not be aware of Him constantly with you, but He is. You can walk up behind someone and follow them down the sidewalk and be with them though they may not have any idea you are there until you speak to them. God does not often manifest His presence to us, but He is none-the-less with us.

I encourage you to **Take comfort in God's constant presence with you.** There is nowhere you can go and God is not there. If you go to the lion's den, He is there. If you go to the moon and back, He is with you the whole way. If you go to the coldest places, or the hottest places on earth, He is there. If you go to the top of the highest mountain, or dive to the bottom of the deepest ocean, He is there.

Take comfort in the fact that you are never separated from God. He is never unreachable. If I go to my mom's house in Pennsylvania, you can't reach me on my cell phone. I have no signal at her house. But such is never the case with God. There is nowhere you can go and be out of God's sight, out of God's knowledge, out of God's care of you. Take comfort in God's constant presence with you.

God is all knowing (omniscient).

Hebrews 4:13 (NIV) Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight.

(Psalm 147:5; Proverbs 15:3; Matthew 6:8)

Nothing that happens in this world is a surprise to God. We are surprised by the news every night. We are surprised by the weather, by accidents, by fires, by terrorists, by criminals, by politicians, by sports. A year ago who would have thought the Cubs would be doing so well this year? Nothing on the evening news is NEW news to God. Nothing in all of history is unknown to God. Nothing that is happening now is a surprise to God. Nothing that will happen in the future is unknown to God. God knows everything.

Did you hear the story about the children lined up in the cafeteria of a religious school for lunch. At the head of the serving area was a large pile of apples. The teacher made a note: "Take only one, God is watching." At the other end of the serving area was a tray of chocolate chip cookies. A boy had placed a note on next to them that read: "Take all you want, God is watching the apples."

He was half right. God was watching the apples. But God was also watching the cookies. God is everywhere and knows everything that is going on.

God has complete knowledge of the past, the present, and the future. We worry about what might happen at some time in the future. "What if I don't get that job; what if I fail that test; what if I get sick; what if, what if, what if." God never says, "what if." God knows all the answers of what if. God knows all that could be. God knows all that will be.

He knows the world, but He also knows you as an individual. There is nothing about you that God does not know. He knows how many hairs are on your head. He knows your every thought. God can read your mind, your emotions, and your desires. God knows your hopes, your fears, your worries, your anxieties, and all of the little things that frustrate you. He knows all your sins against Him or others and all the sins of others against you.

He knows everything you do, want to do, are afraid to do, would do if you could get away with it. He knows the best you and the worst you. God has perfect knowledge of you

Some people do not like that He knows so much about them. They do not like that He is watching, seeing, and remembering everything. But others take great comfort that someone

knows them as a person and cares. There are many people in the world who are lonely and feel uncared for. They don't know of anyone who knows the real them and cares for them. We know that God knows us better than anyone, and loves us deeply. He loves us so much He sent us the Savior we needed. Right now, Jesus is knowing your needs and praying for you.

They are glad that God knows them as an individual, not a number, not one part of a crowd. They are comforted by the personal, perfect knowledge God has of them.

I urge you to **Rejoice in God's perfect knowledge of you.**

Be comforted by the fact that God knows you better even than you know yourself. God is watching over you, not as a judge, but as a loving parent, wanting what is best for you, working to guide you in what is best.

Rejoice in the God's perfect knowledge of you.

With perfect knowledge comes perfect wisdom, so trust God's directions.

God always knows the right thing to do. God won't steer you wrong. God won't give you bad advice. Rejoice in God's perfect knowledge of you.

God is all-powerful. (omnipotent)

The most difficult thing in the universe is to make... the universe. God made the stars and planets and is the creator of all life.

When the angel appeared to Mary and told her she would have a baby. She wondered how that could happen. And the angel reminded her that...

Luke 1:37 (NIV) "For nothing is impossible with God."

(Jeremiah 32:17; Ephesians 3:20-21)

Nothing is impossible for God. God is stronger than all of the bad guys. God is stronger than all the good guys. In fact, if you could put all of the strength of everyone into one person, that person would be like a tiny insect to God. God controls all the power in the universe. There is nothing God cannot do.

There is no evil that God cannot overcome. There is no sin that God can not deal with. There is nothing God cannot do. That is how God raised Jesus from the dead. All life and death is under God's control. The Devil can do nothing against you without God's permission. Neither can anyone else.

God is all present, all knowing, and all powerful. Take comfort in Him. Rejoice in Him. He is YOUR superhero.

And because of His super powers, He is always faithful to keep His promises.

Because of God's omnipresence, omniscience, and omnipotence, He can keep all of His promises to us. Because of our limitations we let each other down. We fail each other.

Sometimes, circumstances prevent us from keeping our promises. Let's say you promised your children that you would be home in time to do something, but you got a flat tire. You had to work late. You got stuck in traffic. Such things happen and prevent us from keeping our promises.

That never happens to God because God knows everything that is going to happen. God knows He will keep His promise. So God never makes a promise He cannot keep. God has never failed anyone. God will never fail you.

That doesn't mean He will do what You want. An all wise parent knows the child sometimes wants things that are not best for them to have. So God doesn't always give us what we want. But He always gives us what we need. He always guides us in what is best and right.

Because of His superpowers He will never fail to do what He has promised. He will never fail to do what is best for you. There is no power in the universe that can prevent God from keeping His promises to us. Be encouraged by that fact. No power in the universe can prevent God from bringing you to eternal life. Rejoice in that. Praise God. Thank God.

Because God always keeps His promises trust God with your life.

There is no place you can be that God is not there. There is no problem you will ever have that God cannot solve. There is no difficulty you face that God cannot use His power to move you through it.

There is no limit to the wisdom of God. He knows His plans for you, plans to bless you, to save you, to improve you, to give you eternal life. And He has the power to see that His plans are carried out. So trust God with your life.

God knows the future, so trust Him with yours. You need not fear the future. Refuse to play the "what if" game of worry. Simply trust God with your life. Live what lies before you today, rejoicing in your Savior, and leave tomorrow for tomorrow. Live today in the presence, the knowledge, and the power of God. Live today in His goodness, His love, His grace.

God's plan is that you admit your sin against Him, admit you need a savior, believe in the savior God sent you, Jesus, receive Him as Your savior, and turn your life over to Him as your lord. God is doing everything good and right to bring you to that action. So trust Him today. Trust His presence, His knowledge, and His power to make good on His promise of eternal life if you will admit your sin and receive the Savior He sent you.