

God Revealed — Power

Being who He is, God cannot cease to be what He is and cannot act out of character with Himself. The attributes of God help us to understand the qualities of the substance and constitution of God.

- Substance is the independent essence of a thing.
- Constitution is the arrangement of parts or elements.
- Essence is the basic nature of a thing.
- Attributes are observable or describable properties that do not define the core essence.

While the Persons of the Trinity are known in different essence, each maintains perfect adhesion to the attributes of this nature. So, what may be said of the Father can be said of the Son and Holy Spirit.

The more than twenty-four known Biblical attributes of God are not parts of the essence of God.

The known Biblical attributes of God are: almightiness, eternity, faithfulness, grace, glory, goodness, holiness, immutability, infinity, justice, love, mercy, omnipresence, omniscience, patience, perfection, self-existence, spirituality, supremacy, truth (veracity or truthfulness), unchangeableness, unity, sovereignty, wisdom.

These attributes of God are the Biblical description of God's essence and they state Who God really is and what He is like. The whole essence is in each attribute, and the attribute is in the essence. The essence and attributes of God cannot be separated, neither can they be believed and accepted to the exclusion of the others. The vastness and almightiness of God is known throughout the combined infinitude of His individual attributes. All of the attributes of God refer to the personal character of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. After the Bible declares with absolute certainty God's existence, we are given a glimpse of His character, nature, and being.

Genesis 1:1 *"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."*

God revealed Himself as אֱלֹהִים ('elohiym), the true God. Before God took action to create, there was nothing but God. It is difficult to imagine nothing and then God demonstrated His amazing almighty power and wisdom by creating everything from nothing. The whole idea of creation can only be resolved by God the Creator. Genesis 1:1 predates Genesis 1:2 and it shows God in the fullness of His attributes and essence creating the universe and everything that is in it by the word of His mouth.

Hebrews 11:3 NKJV By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

John 1:3 NKJV All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

At God's command, the universe suddenly came into existence.

God can create anything by the sheer force of His command. When God spoke into nothing, at the sound of His voice the universe came into existence.

Can you imagine the dramatic instantaneous appearance of the universe?

As soon as the words left the Creator's mouth, trillions of molecules began to form and things came into existence. With all of the wisdom, power, omniscience, and presence that was necessary, God instantly brought everything into existence. Every aspect of the essence and attributes of God was manifest in the things that He created.

The magnitude of God's character, nature and being to accomplish this is beyond human comprehension. God's being, wisdom, and power was not challenged by the act of speaking everything into existence. His action was a demonstration of His immanent personal involvement and relationship to the universe and everything within it.

John 1:3 NKJV All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

Colossians 1:17 NKJV And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

Acts 17:28 NKJV For in Him we live and move and have our being.

After the initial creation of the heavens and the earth, during the next five days God continued speaking and from the depths of His own wisdom and power He formed every minute detail of everything.

- **On the first day,** God spoke and there was light and He separated the light from the darkness. Nothing is said about where the source of light came from. The sun and the moon were not created until the fourth day.
- **On the second day,** God spoke and separated the waters that were above from the waters under the firmament. The firmament He called Heaven.
- **On the third day,** God separated the seas and the dry land. Then God

spoke and made the earth, the fields, and the dust of the world to bring forth every grass, herb, and tree; and it was so.

- **Then on the fourth day**, God spoke and said, “Let there be lights in the firmament to divide the day from the night, and let them be signs for seasons, days and years.” God established a 24-hour day and made two great lights; the sun to rule the day and moon to rule the night.

Consider the magnitude of the wisdom, knowledge and power that was necessary to formulate all of this into a divine declaration, “Let there be.”

- **Then on the fifth day**, God spoke again and all living creatures in the waters and in the air abundantly came into existence.
- God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kind: cattle and creeping things and beasts of the earth” and it was so. So the evening and the morning were the fifth day. It is not enough to consider the vast species and kinds of creatures. Think about the things that were necessary for them to become living breathing creatures.
- **On the sixth day**, God said, “Let us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them have dominion over everything that moves on the earth.” So, God stooped down to the earth and carefully formed man of the dust of the ground, and gently breathed into the form of clay and it began to move, think, feel and become a living being.

This is the power of the active and living word of God.

John 1:1-4 NKJV In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.

Multiple times in the scriptures God demonstrated His almighty power.

In Egypt, God’s mighty plagues were sent against the land to demonstrate that He was God.

God told Moses to go to Pharaoh and tell him, “*Let My people go, that they may serve Me in the wilderness.*” (Exodus 7:16)

- When Pharaoh refused, God turned the water of the 4,132 mile long Nile River into blood.
- Then God sent frogs in abundance that covered the whole land of Egypt, (Exodus 8:1-15).
- Pharaoh still refused to listen to God, so, God sent lice and the dust of the earth became lice.

- Since Pharaoh hardened his heart, God sent swarms of flies, (Exodus 8:20-31) and then their cattle, horses, donkeys, camels, oxen and sheep died, (Exodus 9:1-7).
- Pharaoh became even harder in heart and boils broke out into sores on man and beast throughout Egypt, (Exodus 9:8-12).
- Pharaoh refused to listen to God and so the Lord sent hail and fire throughout Egypt, but he did not regard the word of the LORD, (Exodus 9:13-35).
- The hail and fire was so severe that every herb and tree was struck down.
- Then God sent locusts that covered the earth so that no green thing remained in Egypt, (10:1-20).
- Then God sent a darkness that covered the whole land except Goshen for three days that was so thick that it could be felt, (Exodus 10:21-29). *(Ancient Egypt covered roughly 387,000 square miles. Goshen, where the Israelites lived, was about 1,000 square miles in the east-central part of Egypt.)*
- The final plague was the death of the firstborn of all living things in the land of Egypt.

Then Pharaoh let God's people go.

Follow God's people across the Red Sea on dry ground, (Exodus 14).

Exodus 14:13-14 NKJV And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

In one act of supernatural power, God brought His people across the Red Sea and destroyed Pharaoh and his armies.

We should not forget the pillar of cloud and the pillar of fire that went before them throughout the wilderness wanderings. Throughout the forty years, God fed millions of people with manna from heaven, and gave water from a rock in the wilderness, and sent quail in abundance that they gathered in baskets.

Go to the base of Sinai and listen to the voice of God Almighty speak to His people.

Exodus 19:16 NKJV Then it came to pass on the third day, in the morning, that there were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so that all the

people who were in the camp trembled.

Exodus 19:17 NKJV And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain. Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly.

Exodus 20:18 NKJV Now all the people witnessed the thunderings, the lightning flashes, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they trembled and stood afar off. Then they said to Moses, “You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die.”

Exodus 20:22 NKJV Then the Lord said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: ‘You have seen that I have talked with you from heaven.

They heard the voice of God Who spoke the universe and all that is in it into existence.

Consider what happened at the tomb of Lazarus, (John 11).

Jesus came to the tomb where the decaying body was laid four days before. Standing outside by the tomb, Jesus cried out with a loud voice, “*Lazarus, come forth!*” Where death had reigned in Lazarus’ body for four days, life began to flow. The blood began to surge through his veins and his brain began to function. Consider the almighty power necessary to cause life to spring forth into a dead and decaying body. With a burst of life, Lazarus walked out of the tomb. That is the power of the living word of God.

The Lord our God is the eternal, almighty, all wise God.

He alone has the power to create living beings out of nothing. He can call worlds into existence by the power of His command. The depth of God’s staggering and awesome power is demonstrated in His omnipresence, omnipotence, and omniscience. Everything about God (His power, presence, knowledge, being...) is filled with every aspect of His being. Through the ages of man’s history, there is evidence of the almighty and powerful God. There are many things that we may learn and know about God as He continues to reveal Himself to us.

God is not finished!

A day is coming when all who are in the grave will hear the voice of the Lord God Almighty.

John 5:25 NKJV Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live.

John 5:28-29 NKJV Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.

We have the promise of prophecy that God is going to wrap up the reign of Satan and evil with victory through the Lord Jesus Christ.

This same God Who created the heaven and earth that now is will create a new heaven and a new earth wherein dwells righteousness.

Revelation 21:3 NKJV And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.

Revelation 21:4 NKJV And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

Revelation 21:5 NKJV Then He who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new.” And He said to me, “Write, for these words are true and faithful.”

What kind of God is this?

Colossians 1:16-17 NKJV For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.

God has been revealed in such a way that you may know Him.

He is the Almighty, Sovereign, all wise and ever-present King and LORD of all creation. He is the self-existent, eternal and only uncreated God Who transcends all others. He is greater than man or angels. He alone is God. The LORD our God calls into existence what does not exist, (Romans 4:17) and by His will all things were created, (Revelation 4:11). Heaven is His throne and the earth is His footstool. By His hand all things were made and came into being, (Isaiah 66:1-2). In Him we live and move and have our being, (Acts 17:28).