

THEOLOGY PROPER (71)

5) Hosea 9:15-17 - God not only aims hatred at the sinner, but He also aims His judgment and punishment at him.

6) Malachi 2:16 – God absolutely hates it when an Israelite man divorced his godly Israelite wife to marry a foreign, heathen woman who promoted idolatry (2:11).

7) Romans 12:9 – We are command to hate that which is evil and love what is good. Our job is to hate evil, not to avenge evil. God will do that (Rom.12:17-19). Sometimes God may use His ordained leadership to carry out His vengeance (Rom.13:1-4; I Thess.5:14).

This attribute should be meaningful to us in several ways:

1. This attribute should cause us to fear God who can love or hate.
2. This attribute should promote godliness so we may be loved by God at the ultimate level-
Deut.7:12-13; Jude 20-21
3. It should cause us to love what God loves and hate what God hates.
4. It should cause us to be more calculated and less emotional in what we love and what we hate.
5. It should cause all to realize God does not love everything and everyone. There are some things and some people that are detestable in His sight.

Communicable Attribute #9- Personality.

As we have already observed in these notes, God is a Person (pp.24-25). He has intellect, emotion and will, which are the component parts of personality. God's intellect is systematic and infinite. God's emotional system is pure and perfect in both love and hate, God's will is worked out everywhere, for makes it clear that God does what He pleases (i.e.Ps.135:6) and does what He purposes (i.e.Prov.16:4). God's personality is always infinitely perfect and never needs development or improvement,.

Some theologians do not classify God's personality as an attribute. Many make it the essence of God's being from which all other attributes stem. However, based on a text such as Genesis 1:26, it is perfectly legitimate to classify personality as a communicable attribute of God.

God created man in His own image (Gen.1:27), which means God gave to man a personality comprised of intellect, emotion and will. Our personality is flawed. It is limited and sinful and needs constant development and improvement in order to become the person God wants us to become. However, our personality is from God.

The ability we have to think, to feel and to choose is due to a personality given to us by God. The more we learn to think, feel and choose as God would think, feel and choose, the more righteous and godly we become. Our personality has been specifically given to us by God and each may use his personality for his own glory or for God's glory.

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Communicable Attribute #10- Veracity.

Veracity is the attribute of God which means it is not possible for God to lie! God must, by virtue of His own character, always be true and always tell the truth. Every word which God says must be true and everything God does will always be consistent with His perfect truth. It is not possible for God to ever do anything contrary to truth and therefore it is not possible for God to lie. God will always be the source of truth and Satan will always be the source of lies.

There are many passages in the Bible that speak of the veracity of God:

- 1) Num.23:19 - God is a God of His Word, He cannot lie and always do exactly what He has promised
- 2) Deut.32:4 - The law of God clearly declares that God is "a God of faithfulness" which means He will always be faithful and true to His Word, not deceitful in any way (v.5).
- 3) II Sam.7:28 - God's words are true words. Everything God says and promises will be fulfilled.
- 4) Ps.33:4 - All the words of God and all the work of God are in the context of veracity, His words are upright and He is faithful to His word and work- He is a true God.
- 5) Ps.146:6 - God keeps "faith"- "truth" forever. He will always be faithful to His promises. In this context this means that the one who trusts in the Lord for salvation, rather than in the works of mortal man will be blessed forever (v.3).
- 6) Rom.3:4 - God is at ultimate level of truth, to which no human has ever reached.
- 7) Titus 1:2 - God, is a God who "cannot" lie- God does not have the capability of possibility of every distorting or twisting truth,
- 8) Heb.6:18 - It is an impossibility for God to lie.

This attribute is meaningful to us in several ways:

- 1) It should give us the assurance that God will always keep His word and never go back on any promise He has given to us.**

Consider just some of the promises of God:

- A. "Whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life."(John 3:16)
- B. "and I give eternal life to them, and they shall never perish; and no one shall snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand." (John 10:28-29)
- C. "And through Him everyone who believes is freed from all things, from which you could not be freed through the Law of Moses." (Acts 13:3 9)
- D. "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved." (Acts 16:31)
- E. "And if I go to prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also." (John 14:3)
- F. "Therefore...be steadfast, immovable, always abounding the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord." (I Cor. 15:58)