

# Attributes of God

## Week 4 – Omnipotence and Sovereignty

**Omnipotence:** God’s ability to do **anything** consistent with His **nature**.

1. God is all-**powerful** (Genesis 18:14, 17:1, 28:3, 35:11; Jeremiah 10:6; Daniel 2:20; Revelation 4:8)

*“There can be no successful resistance against His purpose. Any lesser power used by His creatures is simply temporarily on loan from God.” – Steve Lawson*

2. God is all-**creating** (Genesis 1:1, Psalm 33:6, Isaiah 48:13, Jeremiah 32:17)

*“To create requires infinite power. All the world cannot make a fly. God’s power in creating is evident, because He needs no instruments to work with. He can work without tools, because He needs no matter to work upon. He creates matter, and then works upon it.” – Thomas Watson*

3. God is all-**sustaining** (Colossians 1:17, Hebrews 1:3)

4. God is all-**controlling** (Daniel 2:21, John 19:11)

5. God is all-**victorious** (Exodus 15:6; Psalm 2:1-4, 98:1, 1 John 4:4)

6. God is all-**saving** (Matthew 19:26, Ephesians 2:5)

7. God is all-**strengthening** (John 15:5, Acts 1:8, 2 Corinthians 12:9, Ephesians 3:16, Colossians 1:11, 2 Timothy 1:7)

You may be asking:

- If God is omnipotent, why did He rest on the seventh day of creation (Genesis 2:2)? (Hint: cessation vs. reinvigoration)
- Is there really nothing God cannot do? (Hint: God’s nature)

*“The normal meaning of omnipotence is that God has absolute power over His creation. He rules His creation; the creation does not rule Him. God has the entire universe under His control... He cannot stop acting consistently with His nature.” – R.C. Sproul*

### **Take aways – Omnipotence**

1. God’s omnipotence allows Him to accomplish His sovereign will.

*“His power is as great as His will; that is, whatsoever can fall within the verge of His will falls within the compass of His power.” – Stephen Charnock*

2. As believers, no matter what obstacles we face, we can be sure God will provide all-sufficient power for us to follow Him.

*“No prayer is too hard for Him to answer, no need too great for Him to supply, no passion too strong for Him to subdue, no temptation too powerful for Him to deliver from, and no misery too deep for Him to relieve.” – A.W. Pink*

3. God’s omnipotence guarantees His promises.

4. Allow your understanding of God’s omnipotence to drive you to a reverent fear of Him.

**Sovereignty:** God's undisputed **right** to **govern** all that He has created.

*"God always does as He pleases, when He pleases, where He pleases, with whom He pleases. No attribute of God recognizes His throne rights more than this truth." – Steve Lawson*

1. God is **supreme** (Psalm 103:19, 1 Timothy 6:15, Psalm 47:8, Isaiah 66:1, Hebrews 4:16, Daniel 4:30-35)
2. God is **predeterminer** (Ephesians 1:11,4,5)
3. God is **creator** (Psalm 104:24, Colossians 1:16)
4. God is **executor** (Isaiah 46:9-11)
5. God is **meticulous** (Job 14:5; Psalm 139:16; Proverbs 16:9, 19:21)

*"The smallest occurrences in a person's life are but small threads woven by God into the larger tapestry of His predetermined plan." – Steve Lawson*

6. God is **overruling** (Psalm 33:10-11, Proverbs 21:1)
7. God is **completing** (Revelation 17:17)
8. God is **ultimate** (Revelation 19:6)

You may be asking:

- If God is sovereign, does it really matter what people do?

*"God is sovereign. Man is free. Man's freedom is limited, however, by God's sovereignty. God's sovereignty is not limited by man's freedom. This is simply to say that man is not God. God is free and man is free. But God is more free than man. Man's freedom is always and everywhere subordinate to God's freedom." – R.C. Sproul*

- If God is sovereign, why is there evil in the world?

*"The presence of evil in the world lets God display the fullness of His nature, both in His anger, His righteousness, His holiness, His wrath and His judgment, and all that side, as well as His mercy and compassion, and grace on the other side. And He has a right to put Himself on full display in order that He might be forever glorified for the God that He is." – John MacArthur*

### **Take aways – Sovereignty**

1. Be comforted knowing that God is always in control, regardless of your circumstances. (Rom. 8:28-29)

*"There is no attribute of God more comforting to His children than the doctrine of Divine Sovereignty. Under the most adverse circumstances, in the most severe troubles, they believe that Sovereignty hath ordained their afflictions, that Sovereignty overrules them, and that Sovereignty will sanctify them all." – Charles Spurgeon*

2. In recognition of God's sovereignty, submit to Him with thankfulness and obedience.

*"He is God, and has a sovereignty over us; therefore, as we received life from Him, so we must receive a law from Him, and submit to His will in all things. This is to kiss Him with a kiss of loyalty, and it is to glorify Him as God." – Thomas Watson*

3. Rejoice knowing that God's sovereignty will ensure the success of His church.

*"No matter how dark the world scene may become, nothing will prevent Jesus from successfully executing His worldwide mission of building His church... His overruling sovereignty guarantees its success." – Steve Lawson*