

jan 8

attributes of God - part 2

6. God Is omnipresent – He Is always everywhere

“where can i go from Your spirit? or where can i flee from Your presence? If i ascend to heaven, You are there; if i make my bed in sheol, behold, You are there. if i take the wings of the dawn, if i dwell in the remotest part of the sea, even there Your hand will lead me, and Your right hand will lay hold of me.” psa 139:7-10

to be omnipresent is to be in all places, at all times. yet, it is important to understand that for God “to be” in a place is not the same way we are in a place. God’s being is all together different from physical matter, He exists on a plane wholly distinguishable from the one readily available to the five senses.

this ought to bring deep comfort to christians who struggle with loneliness and deep sorrow. in a very real way, God is always near us, “closer than our thoughts,” writes tozer. “the knowledge that we are never alone calms the troubled sea of our lives and speaks peace to our soul.”

7. God is wise – He is full of perfect, unchanging wisdom

“oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!” – rom 11:33

wisdom is more than just head knowledge and intelligence. a truly wise person is someone who understands all the facts and makes the best decisions. a wise person uses his heart, soul and mind together with skill and competence. but even the wisest man on earth would never come close to being as wise as God.

indeed, when we see wisdom like this, we realize just how much our limited, finite wisdom compares with the limitless, infinite wisdom of God. and how comforting and wonderful this is for man to dwell on! the fact that God can never be more wise means he is always doing the wisest thing in our lives. no plan we could make for our lives could be better than the plan he has already crafted and is carrying out for us. we might not understand His ways today, but we can trust that because God is infinitely wise, He truly is working all things out in the best possible way.

8. God is faithful – He is infinitely, unchangingly true

“know therefore that the Lord your God is God; He is the faithful God, keeping His covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands.” - deut 7:9

the fact that God is infinitely, unchangingly faithful means that He never forgets anything, never fails to do anything He has set out to do, never changes His mind or takes back a promise. and His faithfulness pours out from his love, so we can trust paul’s word that “in all things God works for the good of those who love

him.”

of course, we don't always understand or see how his plan is faithful. in our limited understanding and finite minds, God's faithfulness might look a lot like abandonment. for how could a faithful God allow his children to suffer, to hurt, to die? but Christians can take comfort in these moments by remembering these attributes of God, for when we go through hard times, we know that God is nevertheless unchangingly faithful, good, always with us and wise. faithfully trusting in who God says he is a great comfort. “for now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. now i know in part; then i shall know fully, even as i have been fully known.” 1 cor 13:12

9. God is good – He is infinitely, unchangingly kind and full of good will

“o, taste and see that the Lord is good” – psalms 34:8

as with God's other perfect attributes, christians find it easier to affirm the goodness of God when things are going well. when life takes a nosedive, though, that's when we begin to question God's goodness to and for us.

the psalmist covers that topic for us. "i would have lost heart, unless i had believed that i would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." psalms 27:13 we just need to take heart and believe we will see His goodness - yes, even in the land of the living.

10. God is just – He is infinitely, unchangeably right and perfect in all He does

"the Rock! His work is perfect, for all His ways are just; a God of faithfulness and without injustice, righteous and upright is He." – duet 32:4

in light of God's other attributes of goodness, mercy, love and grace, there are some who might, in error, say that God is too kind to punish the ungodly. but to believe this means we dull the reality of his infinite, unchanging justice. God will have justice for sin, either from Christ's atoning death or, for those who will not accept it, eternal wrath in hell.

"let's assume that all men are guilty of sin in the sight of God. from the mass of humanity, God sovereignly decides to give mercy to some of them. what do the rest get? they get justice. the saved get mercy and the unsaved get justice. nobody gets injustice" - r.c. sproul

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if you will bear with me for one more day, i will attempt my best to limit (at least in my writing) the glories and majesty of our God. they certainly cannot and would not be limited any other way. "one thing i have desired of the Lord, that will i seek: that i may dwell in the house of the Lord All the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple." psa 27:4