

# THE COMMON ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

## PART III IN A SERIES ON GOD'S ATTRIBUTES

*"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."*

~ Genesis 1:27

### 1. The Importance of Knowing God's Attributes

- a. Knowing the attributes is crucial for the "same-god" debate, kenosis, open theism
- b. Heresies are born when the unique attributes of God are ignored
- c. Without the unique attributes, God's perfections are diminished (he is made like us)

### 2. God's Common Attributes

- a. Common: God gave man these attributes, but only in similarity, in likeness
  - b. We do not have these attributes as God: God has them in unique perfection/excellence
  - c. These could be called the perfect attributes b/c he has these in common but perfect
  - d. We relate to them, b/c God made us in his likeness to know them/him – Gen 1:27
  - e. Now, man is sinful: our understanding, senses, will are corrupted – Gen 5:3, Ro 5:12
  - f. God uses these attributes to relate to his creation, so we can know him.
3. **Holy God** - perfect, pure, uncorruptible (Rom 1:23), majesty, dignity, honor
    - a. Majesty = greatness, dignity, honor - Ps 104:1; Heb 1:3, 8:1, 2 Pet 1:6; Rev 4:8
  4. **Living God** - (life, breathe, being, immortality) – John 1:4; 6:68-69
    - a. *"in him we live"* – Acts 17:28; Tim 6:17
  5. **Personal God** - (intellect, sensibility, will) – he has personality, he is in the world, he relates
    - a. He is the Godhead, we are His offspring - Rom 1:20, Acts 17:29
  6. **Wise God** – Intelligence, knowledge, wisdom, veracity – Col 2:3, Rom 11:33, 16:27
    - a. We are told to possess the wisdom of God – Col 1:9, 1 Cor 2:6-7; Eph 3:10
    - b. His understanding is infinite - Ps 147:5; Isa 41:22-23; Ps 139:1-6; Matt 10:29-31
  7. **Almighty God** – according to his will, liberty, freedom, authority, power, strong, great
    - a. I am the Almighty - Gen 17:1, Exo 6:3; Job 42:1
    - b. The great Mighty Lord – Jer 32:18
  8. **True God** – Integrity, genuine, veracity, faithfulness, certainty, righteous – Rom 3:4, Ps 51:4
    - a. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life – John 14:6; Deu 32:4
  9. **Jealous God** – Exo 34:14, Nah 1:2 –zeal, anger, vengeance, retribution – Deu 32:35
    - a. Godly jealousy is not envy, nor sin – 2 Cor 11:2 – Eph 4:26 vs. Matt 5:22
    - b. Zeal/desire/love for something that drives you to acquire, protect, defend, preserve
    - c. God tolerates no unfaithfulness (because he is true, holy, and good)
    - d. God changes his mind toward us in order not to change his character
  10. **Good God** – Ps 100:5, Jam 1:17
    - a. From goodness comes love, kindness, gentleness, mercy, grace, longsuffering, justice
    - b. God of comfort – 2 Cor 1:3, of peace Phil 4:9, of love 1Jo 4:16, of salvation Ps 68:20
  11. **Beautiful, lovely, joyous, glorious** – *"joy of the Lord"* - Neh 8:10
    - a. The beauty of the Lord – Exo 28:40, Ps 90:17, 96:6; Job 40:10
    - b. He is worthy to be praised ... Ps 18:3