

## Incommunicable Attributes of God – Belong to God Alone

### 1. Immutability

God's nature does not change in any way. His essence has always been and will always be exactly the same ([Psalm 90:2](#); [Malachi 3:6](#); [Hebrews 13:8](#)).

### 2. Infinite

God is without measure or limit in scope or duration. There are no constraints upon him from outside of himself that would restrict him in his scope or duration ([Genesis 21:33](#); [Deuteronomy 33:27](#); [Isaiah 40:28](#); [Psalm 90:2](#)).

### 3. Omnipotence

God is capable of performing anything he desires. ([Psalm 33:9](#); [Isaiah 40:28](#); [46:10](#)).

### 4. Omnipresence

God is in all places and in all dimensions simultaneously. Nothing in the universe exists outside the presence of God ([Psalm 139:7-12](#); [Jeremiah 23:24](#)).

### 5. Omniscience

God has perfect, complete knowledge. He never learns, nor does he forget. He knows all things that exist and all things that could have existed. God cannot grow in knowledge, understanding, or wisdom ([Romans 16:27](#); [Hebrews 4:13](#); [1 John 3:20](#)).

### 6. Self-existence, Non-contingency

God is not dependent upon anything else for his existence. He is uncaused—the infinite Being who has always existed ([Psalm 90:2](#); [93:2](#); [Hebrews 13:8](#); [1 Tim. 6:15](#); [Revelation 1:8](#)).

### 7. Self-sufficiency

God needs nothing outside of himself to maintain his existence; therefore, he does not need us to fill a void ([Psalm 102:24–27](#)).

### 8. Sovereignty

God is the supreme being who answers to no one and who has the absolute right to do with his creation as he desires ([1 Timothy 6:15](#); [Isaiah 46:10](#)).

### 9. Spirit



God exists completely and sufficiently as an immaterial being—without physical characteristics ([John 4:24](#); [Luke 24:39](#)).

#### 10. Transcendence

God's transcendence is the product of the relationship between God's essence and creation. God transcends space and time in that he is not dependent on them nor affected by them ([Psalm 139:7-10](#)).

#### 11. Uniqueness

God alone is God. There is no one like him. He is completely "other" than all things that exist ([Isaiah 43:10](#); [44:6-7](#)).

### **Communicable attributes of God – can be possessed by people**

#### 1. Holiness

Holiness is God's perfection of character and without flaw and without sin but with complete goodness, justice, mercy, love, etc. ([Psalm 71:22](#); [Isaiah 6:3](#); [1 Peter 1:16](#)).

#### 2. Goodness

Being good can only be understood in relationship to God and his character. Humans can be good in relation to one another, but their standard is subjective. Therefore, true goodness is understood in light of the revelation of God in his Word. We can emulate the goodness of God, but we can never be perfectly good. (2 Chron. 7:3; cf. Gen. 1:31; Pss. 119:68; 145:9; Mark 10:18).

#### 3. Wrath

God is a wrathful and vengeful God that He expresses daily. The wrath of God that humans deserve to endure because of our sin and rebellion against God was poured out on Jesus. (Ps. 7:11; cf. Deut. 29:28; Isa. 13:13; Rom. 1:18; 5:9; 9:22; Rev. 19:15).

#### 4. Justice

Where God always does what is perfectly right according to the law, we do not behave perfectly. We can be lawful, and in so doing we emulate the perfect justice of God. (Deut. 32:4; cf. Job 37:23; Psalm 99:4; Luke 18:7-8).



5. Knowledge

Where God knows all things ([1 John 3:20](#)), we only know partially. Our knowledge is incomplete and always will be incomplete.

6. Love

God is love ([1 John 4:8](#)) and expresses his love perfectly through Jesus. Because we are touched by sin, our expression of love towards others will always be tainted. But we are still able to express it. (Ps. 33:5,18, 22; cf. Exod. 15:13; Pss. 13:5-6; 89:2; Rom. 8:38-39; Eph. 3:17-19; 5:1-2).

7. Mercy

Mercy is not getting what we deserve. We can exhibit mercy to others though we do not always do it properly and perfectly. (2 Sam. 24:14; cf. Neh. 9:31; Dan. 9:9; Luke 1:50, 54).

8. Truthfulness

Truth is a quality where statements properly reflect actuality, but it is also a quality of character possessed by God. We can be truthful, but our ability to be truthful is damaged in part because of our lack of all knowledge and also because of our sin. (John 3:33; cf. Num. 23:19; Isa. 45:19; John 14:6).

9. Wisdom

People are capable of expressing wisdom, which is the proper use of knowledge. But this is best done in light of scriptural revelation. We can possess wisdom but not perfectly. God, however, possesses wisdom perfectly and always makes the right decisions as well as the best ways to accomplish his decisions. (Isa. 28:29; cf. Jer. 10:12; 1 Cor. 1:30; Col. 2:2-3)