

## The Beatitudes For The Church Age

Series 1-10

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### **Introduction – The Beatitudes For The Church Age**

The words of our Lord Jesus Christ in Matthew 5, commonly known as *The Beatitudes*, have been quoted, sung, painted, embroidered, and preached in countless ways for two thousand years. Yet, despite their familiarity, they are often misunderstood or misapplied—either reduced to vague moral platitudes or wrongly lifted out of their proper dispensational setting. In the Sermon on the Mount, these eight blessed statements are not simply “good advice” for general human decency, but rather a Kingdom manifesto revealing the character God approves, the attitudes He blesses, and the eternal reward He promises.

For the Church Age believer—those saved by grace through faith in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 15:1–4)—the Beatitudes are not a legalistic checklist to earn salvation, but a Spirit-born description of what Christ is producing in us. They are the fruit of a new nature, not the works of the flesh. They are the divine fingerprints of Christlikeness impressed upon the life of one who has been made “a new creature” (2 Corinthians 5:17).

### **The Kingdom Context and the Church Age Connection**

When Jesus first spoke these words, He was presenting Himself as Israel’s Messiah, announcing that “the kingdom of heaven is at hand” (Matthew 4:17). The Beatitudes perfectly reflect the moral and spiritual qualifications of that coming earthly Kingdom. However, with Israel’s rejection of her King, the fullness of the Kingdom was postponed, and God began to unfold the mystery program of the Church (Ephesians 3:1–9).

This means that while the ultimate fulfillment of the Beatitudes awaits Christ’s millennial reign, the principles they embody apply directly to us today—not as the basis of our justification, but as the blueprint for our sanctification. They reveal the heart God delights in now, and they point us forward to the rewards that will be fully realized when the Kingdom is established.

## **Blessedness in a Hostile World**

The word “blessed” here is more than “happy.” It speaks of an inner approval from God—a deep, settled joy that is independent of circumstances. In a world that chases fleeting pleasure, Jesus pronounces blessing on those the world often despises: the poor in spirit, the mourners, the meek, the persecuted. To the unregenerate mind, these are marks of weakness. But in God’s economy, they are marks of grace.

For the believer in the Church Age, these blessings shine even brighter because we live in a world increasingly hostile to righteousness. The same Lord who calls us to humility, mercy, and purity also tells us to expect opposition. Yet, paradoxically, persecution for Christ’s sake is itself a seal of divine approval and a cause for rejoicing (Matthew 5:10–12).

## **Why This Series Matters Now**

We are living in an age of compromise, where professing Christians often seek cultural acceptance over biblical faithfulness. The Beatitudes cut through that compromise like a two-edged sword, reminding us that true discipleship is countercultural. They invite us to examine whether we value what Christ values, whether our joy is rooted in eternal reward rather than temporal comfort, and whether we are willing to endure reproach for His name.

In this series, **The Beatitudes For The Church Age**, we will walk through each statement of blessing with careful attention to both its original Kingdom context and its present application for the Body of Christ. We will see how these blessings are not merely poetic ideals but practical realities that flow from life in the Spirit. We will connect each Beatitude to its eternal reward, showing that God’s approval is worth infinitely more than the applause of men.

## **Looking Ahead**

Over the course of these studies, we will discover that:

- Spiritual poverty is the gateway to Kingdom riches.
- Mourning over sin opens the door to divine comfort.
- Meekness is not weakness, but strength under God’s control.
- Hunger and thirst for righteousness is the mark of the Spirit-filled life.
- Mercy mirrors the very heart of God.

- Purity of heart enables us to see God clearly.
- Peacemaking flows from being reconciled to God.
- Persecution for righteousness' sake is the hallmark of genuine discipleship.
- Rejoicing in reproach for Christ's name is evidence of eternal reward.

May this series not only inform your mind but transform your heart. As we study, let us remember that these blessings are not earned by human effort—they are the outworking of Christ's life in us. And as we live them out in this present age, we testify to a watching world that our hope is not here, but in the Kingdom to come.

## **1 of 10: God's Attributes Every Believer Should Know – God Is Love: The Heartbeat of Redemption**

**Key Text: 1 John 4:8**

### **Introduction: More Than a Phrase**

"God is love." These three words from 1 John 4:8 are among the most quoted—and most misunderstood—truths in all of Scripture. They adorn greeting cards, echo in pop songs, and get tossed around in sermons and debates alike. But far too often, they are used not as a declaration of God's holy character, but as a defense mechanism against conviction, judgment, or accountability.

To say "God is love" is not to say "God is lenient," "God is tolerant of sin," or "God just wants us to be happy." Biblical love is not soft, vague, or sentimental. It is deep, sacrificial, rooted in truth, and perfectly expressed in the bloody horror of Calvary. In fact, God's love is inseparable from His holiness, justice, and truth.

Let's open the Scriptures and explore what it truly means when the Bible declares: "**God is love.**"

## **I. The Biblical Definition of God's Love**

### **A. What 1 John 4:8 Actually Says**

1 John 4:8 doesn't merely say that God loves—it says **God is** love. Love is not just something God does; it's something God **is**. But that doesn't mean love is His only attribute or that His love cancels out His holiness, wrath, or justice. Instead, His love works **in perfect harmony** with His other attributes.

This verse, “He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love,” is sandwiched in a section where John is instructing believers how to love one another as a reflection of God's love that was **manifested at the cross**. God's love is not merely a concept—it's an **action**, revealed most powerfully in what He **gave**.

### **B. Biblical Love Is Always Sacrificial**

The very next verse in 1 John 4:9–10 clarifies:

“In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the **propitiation** for our sins.”

God's love is **sacrificial**. It is not based on the worthiness of the recipient. He didn't wait for us to clean ourselves up. “While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). Biblical love is **a giving love**, not a taking one. It's not about how we feel—it's about what God gave, and what Christ bore in our place.

### **C. Love Is Defined by Truth**

1 Corinthians 13:6 says that **love “rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth.”** In other words, real love doesn't excuse sin; it confronts it lovingly. Real love doesn't enable rebellion; it invites repentance. God's love is **never divorced from truth**.

So when someone says, “God is love,” but then uses that phrase to endorse or excuse sin, they are twisting Scripture and turning divine love into **license** rather than **liberty**.

## **II. Love and Justice: Two Sides of the Same Coin**

### **A. The Cross Is the Intersection**

At the cross, we see the **love** of God and the **justice** of God meet in perfect harmony. God is not only love—He is also holy and just. His love does not overlook sin; it pays for it. That's the very heart of redemption.

“To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus” (Romans 3:26).

God remained **just** (He didn't ignore sin), and yet became the **justifier** (He provided the payment for sin). This is divine love in action—not soft sentiment, but bloody sacrifice.

## **B. Wrath and Love Are Not Opposites**

Many people falsely believe that wrath is the opposite of love. It's not. **Indifference** is the opposite of love. God's wrath is actually a **manifestation of His love**, because He hates what destroys His creation. He hates sin **because** He loves us.

Hebrews 12:6 says, "Whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth." Love that does not discipline, that does not correct, is not love at all.

## **III. God's Love Is Covenantal**

### **A. Old Testament Examples**

Throughout the Old Testament, we see a powerful, faithful love described by the Hebrew word "**chesed**"—often translated "lovingkindness" or "steadfast love." It is a **covenantal** love, not based on feelings but on promises.

God's covenant love for Israel remained even when they were unfaithful. His love caused Him to discipline them, but also to pursue them. Just read Hosea to see how far God's love goes.

### **B. The New Covenant in Christ**

Under the New Covenant, God's love is poured out through Jesus Christ—not just to Israel, but to all who believe. This love is still covenantal—it secures **eternal life**, not just temporary favor.

Romans 8:38–39 makes it clear: **nothing can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus.**

## **IV. What Love Is NOT**

### **A. Love Does Not Excuse Sin**

Today, "God is love" is often used as a spiritual shield to **deflect conviction**. People say things like:

- "God loves me just as I am."
- "Jesus hung out with sinners."

- “Love wins.”

While all of these statements can be partially true, they’re often weaponized against truth. Yes, Jesus loves you as you are—but He also loves you **too much to leave you that way**. He didn’t die so you could stay in sin; He died to **free** you from it.

## **B. Love Is Not Tolerance of All Lifestyles**

There is a difference between loving someone **as a person made in God’s image** and endorsing every decision they make. God’s love never means accepting sin as good. Jesus told the woman caught in adultery, “Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more” (John 8:11). That’s love in truth.

## **V. Love Is Meant to Be Reflected in Us**

### **A. Love One Another**

1 John 4:11 says:

“Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.”

This doesn’t mean compromise; it means **Christlike care**. It means sacrifice. It means bearing with one another, forgiving, helping, and sometimes even rebuking when necessary (Galatians 6:1).

### **B. Love for God Means Obedience**

Jesus said in John 14:15: “**If ye love me, keep my commandments.**” Love isn’t just a feeling toward God—it’s action. True love for God leads to holiness, not rebellion. We’re not trying to earn His love—but we live in response to it.

## **VI. The Three Dimensions of God’s Love**

### **A. Past: Demonstrated at the Cross**

Romans 5:8: “But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” The past demonstration of God’s love **proves** that He is for us.

### **B. Present: Shed Abroad in Our Hearts**

Romans 5:5 says the love of God is **shed abroad in our hearts** by the Holy Ghost. It’s not just a theological fact—it’s an experiential reality. God’s love **abides in us** through the Spirit.

## C. Future: Perfected in Eternity

In eternity, we will be glorified, and God's love will be fully perfected in us. Revelation 21:4 promises a future with no more pain or tears, where God dwells with His people. That's love fulfilled.

## VII. What Happens When We Misunderstand God's Love?

### A. It Leads to False Doctrine

Many cults and liberal denominations elevate "love" above all else but **redefine it**. They create a god who looks more like a smiling grandfather than the righteous King of the universe. A "loving" god who never judges is **not the God of Scripture**—he's a golden calf made for comfort.

### B. It Leads to Sinful Living

When people think God's love means He'll "understand" and "overlook" their sin, it breeds rebellion. Grace is not a license to sin (Romans 6:1–2). The cross wasn't cheap, and neither is grace.

## VIII. The Greatest Act of Love: Calvary

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends" (John 15:13).

This is the **centerpiece of love**. Not a feeling, not an affirmation—but a **bloody, sacrificial act**. God loved the world **enough to give** His only begotten Son. This is not sentimental love; it's **saving love**.

## IX. What Should This Mean for Us?

### A. Assurance of God's Heart

When you doubt God's goodness, remember: the cross **already settled** that question. God **loved** you enough to give His Son. That love doesn't change when life gets hard.

### B. Boldness in Evangelism

If God so loved the world, how can we remain silent? We carry the greatest message of love ever told—not a motivational slogan, but the **power of God unto salvation**.

## C. Depth in Worship

When you grasp the depths of God's love, your worship changes. It's no longer performance—it's **response**. You're not trying to get His attention; you're responding to the fact that **He already gave you everything**.

### Conclusion: God Is Love—But Don't Misuse It

To say "God is love" is to invoke the most powerful force in the universe—a force that didn't sweep sin under the rug but nailed it to a cross. God's love is not soft or sentimental. It's **strong, sacrificial, and severe** when necessary. It doesn't pamper sin; it **paid for it**.

The next time someone quotes "God is love," make sure you ask: **Whose definition are we using?** If it's the world's, it's a lie. But if it's the cross-shaped, blood-bought, truth-tethered love of the Bible—then that's the kind of love that saves souls, sanctifies lives, and secures eternity.

May we never water it down. May we never misuse it. But may we forever **praise Him for it**.

## 2 of 10: God's Attributes Every Believer Should Know – God Is Holy: The Flame That Never Fades

**Key Text: Isaiah 6:3 – "Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory."**

### Introduction: When Holiness Enters the Room

There are few moments in Scripture more arresting than Isaiah 6. The prophet is not simply told about God's holiness—he's overwhelmed by it. The temple shakes. Smoke fills the space. Heavenly creatures cover themselves in reverent awe as they cry out not "love, love, love," but "*Holy, holy, holy*." And Isaiah? He doesn't rejoice. He crumbles: "Woe is me!"

Holiness is the one attribute of God that colors all the others. His love is holy love. His justice is holy justice. His mercy is holy mercy. While the world today often rushes to emphasize God's love (and rightly so), many do so at the expense of His holiness. But Scripture doesn't present His love as an alternative to His holiness—it presents His love as *flowing from* His holiness. And if we misunderstand God's holiness, we will misunderstand the cross, the gospel, and even grace itself.

In this essay, we'll explore what it means that God is holy, how it affects mankind, why it required the cross, and why every believer should not only tremble at this truth—but rejoice in it.

## **I. Defining Holiness: Set Apart, But So Much More**

The Hebrew word for “holy” is *qadosh*, which means “set apart,” “separate,” or “distinct.” It is used over 600 times in the Old Testament. The Greek equivalent in the New Testament is *hagios*. But holiness is not just “different”—God is not just different in degree from us (as though He's just better); He is different in kind. He is *other*. There is none like Him. He is morally perfect, completely pure, and entirely righteous.

### **God's holiness has two key aspects:**

1. **Majestic Holiness** – God is separate from creation. He is transcendent, above all, and sovereign.
2. **Moral Holiness** – God is absolutely pure, without sin, without flaw, and without corruption.

When the Bible declares that God is holy, it's not just talking about moral cleanliness—it's describing a blazing purity so powerful that sin cannot survive in its presence.

In Isaiah 6, the seraphim repeat the word “holy” three times—emphasizing its supreme importance. No other attribute of God is elevated in this way. We never see "Love, love, love" or "Mercy, mercy, mercy" chanted in unison. But heaven echoes with “*Holy, holy, holy.*”

## **II. The Problem: God's Holiness vs. Man's Sinfulness**

Isaiah's response to God's holiness is immediate and devastating:

**“Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips”** (Isaiah 6:5).

He didn't say, "Wow!" He said, "Woe!" He didn't feel affirmed—he felt unworthy. The brightness of God's holiness reveals every speck of darkness in man. When you get a glimpse of God as He is, you can't stand tall. You fall to your knees.

This is the great problem of Scripture: **How can a holy God dwell with sinful man?**

We are not simply flawed creatures who occasionally do wrong—we are, by nature, unholy. Romans 3:10 declares, “*There is none righteous, no, not one.*” Romans 3:23 says, “*For all*

*have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*” That “glory” includes God’s holiness—and we all fall short of it.

God's holiness is dangerous to the unclean. In Leviticus, we see examples of people dying for mishandling the things of God (Nadab and Abihu in Leviticus 10; Uzzah in 2 Samuel 6). The holy presence of God was not something to be approached casually. One had to be cleansed, purified, and covered by blood.

And this is the heart of why the cross was necessary.

### **III. The Cross: Holiness and Love Collide**

Today, many speak of God’s love as though it nullifies His holiness. But that is an unbiblical—and dangerous—view of God. His love does not excuse sin; His love paid for it. And what demanded such a payment? **His holiness.**

Romans 3:26 says God is *“just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.”* He didn’t lower His standard to forgive us. He met His standard *in Himself*, through the offering of His Son.

#### **At the cross:**

- The holiness of God said: *“Sin must be punished.”*
- The love of God said: *“I will take that punishment Myself.”*

Jesus bore the wrath of God *because God is holy*. He satisfied justice so mercy could be given. He fulfilled righteousness so grace could be poured out.

This is why the doctrine of penal substitution—Christ taking our place under the penalty of sin—is non-negotiable. Without it, the cross becomes a moral example instead of a divine rescue.

### **IV. Misusing Holiness: Legalism and False Standards**

Just as some abuse God’s love, others twist His holiness into something it’s not. Holiness does not mean rigid, external religion. True holiness is not mere separation from the world in lifestyle—it’s separation *unto God* in heart.

Jesus rebuked the Pharisees who meticulously kept traditions but were filled with pride and hypocrisy. In Matthew 23:27, He called them *“whited sepulchres... full of dead men’s bones.”*

Holiness isn't about looking holy—it's about being pure in heart (Matthew 5:8). It is an inward transformation that radiates outward, not a set of external rules that hide internal decay.

We must avoid both ditches:

- The ditch of *license*—"God is love, so holiness doesn't matter."
- The ditch of *legalism*—"God is holy, so love doesn't matter."

Both are wrong. God is *holy* and *loving*. His love leads us into holiness, and His holiness purifies our understanding of love.

## V. Practical Holiness: Be Ye Holy

The New Testament repeatedly calls believers to live holy lives—not to earn salvation, but because they've been made new.

1 Peter 1:15–16 says:

**“But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.”**

This isn't just about morality—it's about identity. We are not sinners pretending to be saints—we are saints who have been set apart by God.

**Positional Holiness:** At salvation, we are declared holy in Christ.

**Practical Holiness:** Through the Spirit, we become more like Christ in our behavior.

This is sanctification—the daily walk of becoming who we already are in Christ. Not through willpower, but through yielding. Holiness isn't gritting your teeth and avoiding sin. It's drawing close to the One who burned it away at Calvary.

## VI. Why the World Hates God's Holiness

The world doesn't mind a god who is love. They love a Jesus who is compassionate. But the moment you mention holiness—the moment you say there is **a standard**—the mood changes.

John 3:19–20 says, *“men loved darkness rather than light... For every one that doeth evil hateth the light.”*

God's holiness exposes sin, and sin hates being exposed. That's why in today's culture, the phrase "God is love" is weaponized to dismiss conviction. But a love that denies God's holiness is not God's love—it's a counterfeit.

True love tells the truth. True love leads to repentance. And true love embraces holiness, because **real relationship with God is only possible on holy ground.**

## **VII. Heaven Is Holy: Why the Lost Can't Enter**

Heaven is not for good people. It is for **holy** people. And without holiness, "*no man shall see the Lord*" (Hebrews 12:14).

The unregenerate cannot enter heaven because they're not just unsaved—they're unclean. And nothing unclean can dwell in the presence of God.

This is why salvation is not behavior modification—it is spiritual transformation. We don't need to be better people; we need to be *new* people. Only by the blood of Christ are we made holy. Only by faith in Him are we fit for eternity.

Our entrance into glory isn't based on our record—it's based on His righteousness, credited to us.

## **VIII. Holiness as a Comfort: Not Just a Warning**

For the believer, God's holiness is not just a terror—it is a **comfort**. Why?

- Because His holiness means He cannot lie (Titus 1:2).
- His promises are pure, His judgments are right, and His justice will always prevail.
- He will never act in evil. He will never betray you. He will never fail.

Revelation 15:4 asks: "*Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for thou only art holy.*"

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom (Proverbs 9:10), but for the believer, it is not a fear of punishment—it is a reverent awe, a trembling joy.

We fear His majesty and rejoice in His mercy. Like Isaiah, we fall on our faces... but then we hear Him say, "Your iniquity is taken away."

## **IX. The Cross: A Burning Revelation of Holiness**

Think about this: if God were only love, and not holy, He could have simply forgiven sin without the cross. But He didn't. The cross was *necessary*—because He is holy.

The greatest proof of God's holiness is the crucifixion of Christ.

- God could not overlook sin, so He laid it on His Son.
- He could not compromise justice, so He executed it on Calvary.
- He could not allow uncleanness into heaven, so He offered cleansing through the blood.

The cross is not a contradiction of God's holiness—it is the ultimate expression of it.

## **X. Conclusion: Worship the Flame That Never Fades**

God's holiness is not just a doctrine—it is a fire. It burned in the bush before Moses. It filled the temple in Isaiah's vision. It shook Sinai and thundered in judgment. It sent Jesus to the cross. And it is the very glory of heaven.

The angels still cry, "*Holy, holy, holy.*"

Will you?

Let the holiness of God cause you to tremble. Let it bring you to repentance. But then let it lead you to worship. Because this flame, unlike earthly fires, **never fades**.

He is holy. He always has been. He always will be.

## **3 of 10: God's Attributes Every Believer Should Know – God Is Just: The Judge Who Never Gets It Wrong**

**Key Text: Deuteronomy 32:4 – "He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he."**

### **Introduction: Justice Isn't Optional With God**

In our culture today, justice is a buzzword. Everyone wants justice—but often on their own terms. People demand fairness in politics, economics, race, and religion, but ironically,

when it comes to God, many prefer a Judge who winks at sin rather than a Judge who deals with it. Yet the Bible is emphatic: “*Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?*” (Genesis 18:25).

At the very core of God’s nature is His justice. He is not just a kind grandfather figure handing out blessings. He is the righteous Judge who weighs every motive, every act, every thought. His courtroom is never in recess, and His verdicts are never wrong. Deuteronomy 32:4 says plainly: “*He is the Rock... just and right is he.*”

This doctrine of God’s justice is not cold or rigid—it is the foundation upon which grace and mercy even make sense. Without justice, the cross becomes divine favoritism. But because God is just, the cross becomes the greatest act of love *and* justice ever displayed. This essay will explore God’s justice through Scripture, refute modern misunderstandings, and magnify how Christ fulfilled the demands of justice for our salvation.

## **1. Defining Divine Justice: God Always Does What’s Right**

Justice, in its purest biblical form, means **moral perfection applied to judgment**. God does not operate with a sliding scale. He doesn’t adjust His verdicts based on popularity, ethnicity, personality, or circumstance. He is the Rock—unchanging, unwavering, and perfectly righteous.

**“The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.”**

—Psalm 145:17

God’s justice is not like man’s justice. Human judges get it wrong. They’re limited by evidence, biases, or political pressure. But God is omniscient (all-knowing), so He never lacks context or clarity. He doesn’t rely on witnesses—He sees the heart (1 Samuel 16:7). He doesn’t just punish sin—He defines what sin is. He is the **standard** of justice, not subject to it.

That’s why Deuteronomy 32:4 says, “*all his ways are judgment.*” In other words, **everything God does flows from a judicially perfect heart.**

## **2. The Justice of God in the Old Testament: No Partiality**

From Genesis to Malachi, we see example after example of God judging righteously and without bias.

- **The Flood (Genesis 6–9):**

God judged a world that was “only evil continually.” Justice demanded that He wipe out wickedness—but Noah found grace. The flood was not an emotional reaction; it was divine justice acting on universal corruption.

- **Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19):**

God didn’t destroy the cities because of politics or prejudice—He destroyed them because “their sin [was] very grievous” (Gen. 18:20). Abraham even challenged God: “*Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?*” God’s response showed His integrity—He would not. If 10 righteous were found, He would spare the city. Justice is never reckless.

- **The Law (Exodus–Deuteronomy):**

The Mosaic Law was a living testimony to God’s justice—outlining what is right, what is wrong, and what the consequences would be. Whether a king or a peasant sinned, the same law applied.

Even when Israel sinned repeatedly, God’s justice didn’t falter. He sent prophets. He warned them. He waited. But when judgment came—Assyria, Babylon, exile—it was just. **God is not trigger-happy; He is patient—but He does not overlook sin.**

### **3. God’s Justice and Hell: The Reality of Eternal Judgment**

If God is truly just, then He cannot merely forgive sin with a shrug. Sin is not a clerical error—it is cosmic treason. The penalty for sin, according to God, is death—“*the soul that sinneth, it shall die*” (Ezek. 18:20). This penalty is not just physical—it is eternal:

**“These shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.”**

—Matthew 25:46

Hell is not a blemish on God’s character—it’s a **proof** of it. God doesn’t send people to hell because He hates them. He sends them there because **they rejected His righteousness** and clung to their sin. If He allowed sinners into heaven without dealing with their sin, He would cease to be just.

People often ask, “*How could a loving God send anyone to hell?*” But the better question is, “*How could a just God not?*”

### **4. God’s Justice and the Cross: Where Wrath Met Mercy**

Here lies the beauty of the Gospel. God did not cancel justice to show mercy—He **satisfied** justice to extend mercy.

**“To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.”**

—Romans 3:26

Christ's death was not a tragedy—it was a transaction. At Calvary, the gavel of divine justice came down—not on you, but on Jesus. **Your sin was imputed to Him. His righteousness is imputed to you.** God didn't sweep your sin under the rug. He punished it in full—on Christ.

This is why Paul said:

**“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us.”**

—Galatians 3:13

God's justice was not denied—it was **displayed**. Justice and mercy met at the cross, and neither compromised.

## **5. Justified by Faith: The Legal Exchange**

When we say someone is “justified,” we mean they've been **declared righteous** in the courtroom of God—not made righteous by works, but *declared* righteous by faith.

**“Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.”**

—Romans 5:1

You and I could never meet God's standard. The Law condemns us. Our conscience confirms it. But justification is not based on our performance—it is based on Christ's perfect life and substitutionary death. The Judge looked at the payment Christ made, and stamped “Paid in Full” on your record.

## **6. Modern Misunderstandings: Twisting Justice Into Injustice**

Many churches today only preach half the gospel—God's love, but not His justice. They emphasize mercy, but ignore wrath. They quote “*Judge not*” but forget “*God is angry with the wicked every day*” (Psalm 7:11).

This soft view of God creates confusion:

- **It neuters the Gospel.**

Without justice, the cross becomes unnecessary. If sin isn't serious, why would Jesus die such a brutal death?

- **It mocks holiness.**

When churches downplay sin in the name of grace, they deny God's holy hatred for wickedness.

- **It breeds entitlement.**

Instead of humbling ourselves before the Judge, people demand blessings as if God owes them something.

But the God of the Bible is no pushover. He doesn't conform to culture. He doesn't negotiate with sin. He is just—and He is to be feared.

## **7. Application: Living in Light of God's Justice**

Knowing that God is just should do several things in a believer's life:

- **It should make us grateful.**

If God had given us what we deserve, we'd be in hell. Grace isn't amazing until you realize what justice demanded.

- **It should make us reverent.**

The Judge of all the earth sees our every thought, word, and deed. That should lead to holy fear, not casual religion.

- **It should make us humble.**

We're not saved because we figured out a loophole. We're saved because Christ took our penalty.

- **It should make us evangelistic.**

The world stands condemned already (John 3:18). We carry the only message that can rescue them from eternal justice.

- **It should give us peace.**

In a world of corruption, injustice, and wicked rulers, we rest knowing the Judge never gets it wrong. Every lie will be exposed. Every crime will be accounted for. Every wrong will be righted—if not now, then at the judgment.

## **8. Final Judgment: The Books Will Be Opened**

The final proof of God's justice is still to come:

**“And I saw a great white throne... and the dead were judged... and the books were opened... and they were judged every man according to their works.”**

—Revelation 20:11–13

There is a Day of Judgment. No one will escape it. The righteous will be rewarded. The wicked will be condemned. God will not need lawyers, juries, or appeals. His verdict will be final, and no one will say He was unfair.

The only way to stand in that day is to be found **in Christ**. If your name is not written in the Lamb's Book of Life, no amount of religious effort will save you. God's justice is not for sale—but Christ has already paid your debt.

### **Conclusion: The Just Judge and the Justifying Savior**

To know that **God is just** is not a terrifying thought for the believer—it's a comforting one. It means that *everything* wrong in this world will one day be made right. It means you never have to carry guilt for your sin again—because Christ carried it for you. It means you can trust God's timing, even when life feels unfair.

But it also means we must preach the full gospel—not just the love of God, but also the justice of God. Without it, we have nothing but sentimental fluff dressed up as theology.

**“But let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream.”**

—Amos 5:24

Let that stream flow—from His throne to your heart, from your mouth to the world.

### **4 of 10: God's Attributes Every Believer Should Know – God Is Omniscient: He Knows Every Thought**

**Key Text: Psalm 139:1–4**

*"O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off."*

### **Introduction: The God Who Knows You Better Than You Know Yourself**

There's a sobering and awe-inspiring truth in Scripture: God knows everything. Not just everything in the universe at large, but everything about you. From your deepest motivations to your next breath, nothing is hidden from His eyes. He knows what you're going to say before you say it, the number of hairs on your head, and even the reasons you do what you do. This doctrine—**the omniscience of God**—is often overlooked in favor of His more "attractive" attributes like love and grace. But when rightly understood, it is both a comfort and a conviction.

God's omniscience is not cold surveillance. It's not like the government tracking your data or Big Brother watching you with robotic precision. God's omniscience is personal. It's relational. He searches us—not because He doesn't already know—but because He wants us to know that we are truly, deeply known.

This essay will walk you through what omniscience really means, how it affects your walk, and why it should drive you to your knees in worship.

## I. What Does It Mean That God Is Omniscient?

The word "omniscient" comes from Latin roots: *omni* (all) and *scientia* (knowledge). It literally means "**all-knowing**." When we say God is omniscient, we mean:

- He knows everything that can be known.
- He knows the past, present, and future with equal clarity.
- He knows what will happen, what could happen, and what would have happened under different circumstances.
- He knows not only **facts** but also **motives, desires, fears, and thoughts**.

Psalm 147:5 says, "*Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite.*" God never learns anything new. He never forgets. He never guesses. There is no "Aha!" moment for the Lord.

In theology, we say that God's knowledge is **intuitive** rather than discursive. He doesn't arrive at knowledge through logic or deduction like we do. He knows immediately and fully, without process.

## II. Psalm 139 – The Classic Text on Omniscience

David opens Psalm 139 with these words:

*"O LORD, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off." (Psalm 139:1–2)*

God knows when you sit and when you stand. He knows your thoughts **"afar off"**—before you even form them.

Verse 4 drives it deeper:

*"For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether."*

Even before a syllable escapes your lips, He knows it in full. Not just the words, but the tone, intention, and future impact.

### **III. God's Omniscience in the Life of Jesus**

Jesus Christ, being fully God, displayed omniscience in His earthly ministry.

- In **John 1:48**, He tells Nathanael He saw him under the fig tree before Philip called him.
- In **John 2:24-25**, it says, *"He knew all men, and needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man."*
- In **John 4**, He exposes the hidden past of the woman at the well: *"Thou hast had five husbands..."*

These moments weren't just prophetic flashes. They were glimpses of divine omniscience wrapped in human flesh.

### **IV. God's Knowledge of Sin: Nothing is Hidden**

Many people live as if God is blind to what they do in the dark. But Scripture declares otherwise.

Hebrews 4:13 – *"Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do."*

Imagine trying to hide a needle from a magnet. That's how absurd it is to hide sin from God. Even when David sinned with Bathsheba, thinking his plan was airtight, God sent Nathan the prophet with a message: *"Thou art the man."*

Your browser history, your secret grudges, your internal pride—it's all visible to Him. This should stir conviction, not condemnation.

## V. Omniscience and God's Justice

Because God knows everything, **He always judges rightly**. He never misinterprets motives. No one will be falsely accused at the Great White Throne. There will be no missing evidence, no reasonable doubt, no hung jury.

Deuteronomy 32:4 says, *"He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he."*

God doesn't just know what you did. He knows why. He doesn't need to cross-examine; He already has the full record.

## VI. Omniscience and Predestination: Does God Knowing Mean God Forcing?

This is where many stumble. If God knows everything that's going to happen, does that mean it's all predetermined? Did I ever have a real choice?

No.

**Foreknowledge is not causation.** Just because God knows what you will do doesn't mean He caused it. God lives outside of time. He sees the entire timeline—past, present, future—at once. His knowledge doesn't eliminate your free will; it transcends it.

Romans 8:29 says, *"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate..."*

Notice: **foreknow** comes before **predestinate**. God's predestination is based on His perfect foreknowledge—not the other way around.

## VII. Omniscience and Prayer: Why Pray If He Already Knows?

This is a common question: *"If God already knows what I need, why pray?"*

Jesus answers this in Matthew 6:8:

*"Your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him."*

But right after that, He teaches us **how to pray**.

Prayer isn't about informing God. It's about **aligning with God**. It's an act of humility, dependence, and relationship. Even Jesus prayed—not because the Father lacked knowledge—but because the Son wanted communion.

## VIII. Omniscience as Comfort for the Righteous

Now let's look at the bright side. For the believer walking with God, omniscience is a **comfort** beyond words.

- He knows your pain even when no one else does.
- He sees the injustices you've endured.
- He remembers the faithfulness you've shown in secret.
- He catches every tear and every sacrifice.

Malachi 3:16 says, *"A book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD."*

Nothing you do for God is forgotten—even if it was decades ago and unnoticed by man.

## IX. Omniscience as a Call to Integrity and Worship

When you grasp that God knows all, it should change how you live.

Proverbs 15:3 says, *"The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good."*

When you're alone with your phone, when you're in traffic, when you're making business decisions—God is there. Watching. Not as a dictator, but as a loving Father who wants your heart to match your hands.

David's prayer in Psalm 139:23-24 becomes our model:

*"Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."*

When you understand His omniscience, you invite it instead of hide from it.

## X. Nothing Surprises God—Not Even Your Sin

Let this sink in: God already knew **everything you would ever do** when He saved you. Every failure. Every doubt. Every rebellion.

And still, He chose to love you. Still, He called you. Still, He gave His Son.

You can't shock Him with your worst moment. It was already on the ledger—and already covered by the blood of Christ.

That's not an excuse to sin. It's an invitation to worship.

## **XI. Final Thoughts – Worship the God Who Knows You**

In a world of shallow relationships and half-truths, there is One who knows you to the core. He knows the mess. He knows the moments you didn't even know how to pray. And still—He calls you His.

God's omniscience is not a threat to be avoided, but a truth to be embraced. It humbles you, yet lifts you. It convicts, yet comforts. It's one of the most profound aspects of His nature—and one every believer should treasure.

### **Conclusion: The God Who Knew, and Still Chose You**

The omniscience of God levels us. It strips away all masks. It shows us that there is nowhere to run and nothing to hide. But it also lifts us, because the same God who knows our worst is the God who gave His best.

He sees you.

He knows you.

And He wants you.

Let Psalm 139 not just be a theological point—but a song of worship: *“Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain unto it.”* (Psalm 139:6)

## **5 of 10: God's Attributes Every Believer Should Know – God Is Omnipotent: Power With No Limits**

**Key Text: Revelation 19:6**

### **Introduction: The Thunder of Almighty Power**

There are words in Scripture that thunder like rolling waves across the ages. Revelation 19:6 is one of them:

“Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.”

It’s a scene painted in heaven’s final battle hymn. But that word—*omnipotent*—demands we pause. The Greek word used here is **pantokratōr**—literally, “the all-powerful one.” No limits. No weaknesses. No losses.

In a world where power corrupts and human strength fails, God's power stands in radiant contrast. He is the One who spoke light into existence. He is the One who laid down His life and took it up again. He is the One who is not merely **powerful**, but **all-powerful**.

This essay explores the omnipotence of God—the glorious, terrifying, and comforting truth that our God can do **anything He wills**, and **nothing can stand in His way**.

## I. What Does Omnipotence Mean?

To say God is omnipotent means that **He possesses infinite power**. Unlike us, He is not limited by resources, time, fatigue, or resistance. He is never overpowered. He never sleeps. He never consults an energy reserve. God doesn't **try** to do something—He **declares** it, and it is done.

“For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast.” (Psalm 33:9)

There’s no such thing as divine effort. God did not strain to form the stars. He breathed them out. He didn’t wrestle the Red Sea open. He **willed** it, and the waters parted like obedient servants.

Omnipotence is not raw force. It’s **sovereign ability**. He is not just strong—He is supreme.

## II. Omnipotence in Creation: Power on Display

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.” (Genesis 1:1)

God’s power is first revealed in creation. He spoke, and nothingness obeyed.

Let’s be clear: God created everything from **nothing**—a concept that stretches the human mind to its breaking point. No tools, no blueprints, no borrowed energy.

Genesis 1 is not poetry. It is a demonstration of holy power:

- **Light**—instant.

- **Firmament**—commanded.
- **Land, sea, stars, beasts, man**—summoned into being.

Hebrews 11:3 clarifies:

“Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God...”

God’s word doesn’t describe reality—it **creates** it. And that same power is still active today, “upholding all things by the word of his power” (Hebrews 1:3).

### III. Omnipotence in Judgment: Power Unleashed

God’s power is not just creative—it is destructive when necessary. This is a side of omnipotence many want to ignore. But Scripture will not allow it.

From the Flood (Genesis 6–9), to the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah (Genesis 19), to the plagues of Egypt (Exodus 7–12), God displays His ability to **unmake** what He has made.

When Pharaoh boasted in his power, God responded not with a debate, but with frogs, lice, boils, and death.

“And against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD.” (Exodus 12:12)

His power not only humbles men—it humiliates false gods.

And one day, Revelation tells us, He will shake the heavens, split the skies, and bring down Babylon with a word. His omnipotence is not just a comfort—it’s a **warning**.

### IV. Omnipotence in the Cross: The Power of Weakness

Here is the mystery: the most powerful moment in history looked like defeat.

At the cross, Jesus Christ—God in the flesh—was mocked, beaten, and killed. The One who spoke galaxies into being... fell silent.

But look closer.

“Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.” (1 Corinthians 1:24)

The cross was not powerlessness—it was **power perfectly aimed**. Christ absorbed the wrath of God, crushed the head of Satan, and bore the sin of the world.

“Having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.” (Colossians 2:15)

Hell threw everything it had at Jesus—and lost. Omnipotence **played dead** to draw the enemy in, then exploded from the grave three days later.

That is divine power: not brute strength, but *wise, sacrificial, triumphant love*.

## **V. Omnipotence in Salvation: Power to Save**

Only an omnipotent God can save sinners. Why?

Because salvation is a miracle. Not just an emotional decision. Not just moral improvement. Salvation is:

- Raising the spiritually dead (Ephesians 2:1),
- Giving a new heart (Ezekiel 36:26),
- Justifying the ungodly (Romans 4:5),
- Making sons out of rebels (John 1:12),
- Sealing with the Spirit (Ephesians 1:13).

Try doing that in your own strength. You can't.  
But God can.

“He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him...” (Hebrews 7:25)

Not *might*. Not *probably*. He is *able*. This is omnipotent salvation. His arm is never too short. His power never runs out. There is no sin too deep, no past too stained, no chain too heavy.

The God who said, “Let there be light” in the void now says, “Let there be life” in the sinner’s soul.

## **VI. Omnipotence in Preservation: Power to Keep**

What God starts, He finishes.

“Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it...” (Philippians 1:6)

Your security as a believer does not rest in your grip on God—it rests in **His grip on you**.

Jesus said:

“No man is able to pluck them out of my Father’s hand.” (John 10:29)

The omnipotent hand of God holds you, keeps you, corrects you, and leads you home. Even when you stumble, His power sustains you.

Jude 24 says it plainly:

“Now unto him that is **able** to keep you from falling...”

He doesn’t subcontract your sanctification. He doesn’t outsource your perseverance. His omnipotence **secures** you until glory.

## VII. Omnipotence in Promise: Power That Cannot Lie

God’s power is not only active in the past and present—it reaches into the future.

Every promise God has made rests on **His ability to perform it**.

“And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.”  
(Romans 4:21)

This is why believers can face death without fear, persecution without panic, and suffering without collapse. Because behind every promise stands **the One who cannot fail**.

- He **will** return.
- He **will** raise the dead.
- He **will** judge the wicked.
- He **will** glorify the saints.
- He **will** make all things new.

Why? Because He **can**.

Revelation 19:6 is a victory cry: “The Lord God omnipotent reigneth!” Not *might reign*, or *hopes to reign*—He **reigns**. Now and forever.

## VIII. What Omnipotence Does Not Mean

Let’s clear up a common objection: “*If God is omnipotent, can He make a rock so big He can’t lift it?*”

This is not a real dilemma. It's a word trick.

Omnipotence doesn't mean God can do **nonsense**. He cannot lie (Titus 1:2), deny Himself (2 Timothy 2:13), or act contrary to His nature. He is not the God of absurdity.

God's power is always **wise, holy, and purposeful**. He is not a genie. He is the sovereign King. His omnipotence is not for show—it is for **glory**.

## **IX. Responding to God's Power**

So what does this mean for you?

### **1. Worship**

When you realize who He is, you stop playing church. You bow. You weep. You rejoice. You sing,

“Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised...” (Psalm 145:3)

### **2. Trust**

If God can split seas, raise the dead, and sustain the universe—He can handle your life.

Stop acting like God is overwhelmed by your to-do list, your diagnosis, your bills, or your children. He is not nervous. You may be. He's not.

“Be still, and know that I am God.” (Psalm 46:10)

### **3. Repent**

God's power is not just comfort—it is confrontation. You cannot resist Him. You cannot hide.

“Thou God seest me...” (Genesis 16:13)

If you're playing games with sin, stop. He can humble you in a moment. He **will not** be mocked. But if you turn to Him in repentance, the same power that judges also forgives.

## **Conclusion: The Reign of Omnipotence**

When John saw heaven open in Revelation 19, he didn't see a committee. He didn't see an angel. He saw Christ on a white horse. His name?

“KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.” (Revelation 19:16)

That is the One we serve.

He is not weak. He is not tired. He is not outnumbered.

He is omnipotent—and He reigns.

### **So why are you afraid?**

If you're saved, this power is on your side. If you're lost, this power will judge your soul.

Don't underestimate Him. Don't redefine Him. Don't replace Him.

### **Worship Him. Trust Him. Obey Him.**

"Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth." (Revelation 19:6)

Amen.

## **6 of 10: God's Attributes Every Believer Should Know – God Is Omnipresent: There's Nowhere He Isn't**

### **Key Text: Psalm 139:7–10**

*"Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?  
If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there.  
If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea;  
Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me."*

### **Introduction: Always Present, Never Absent**

In a world of absences, God is the ever-present constant. Friends may leave, family may forget, leaders may fall, but God remains. He doesn't clock out. He doesn't leave voicemails. He doesn't need to commute, relocate, or refocus. God is omnipresent—present everywhere at once, in all places and all times. And for the believer, this is both astonishing and comforting.

Psalm 139 is one of the most intimate chapters in Scripture. David, overwhelmed by the knowledge that God is both infinitely powerful and infinitely personal, asks the question every rebel and every worshipper eventually wrestles with: "Where can I go where You are not?" His conclusion is sobering—there is no such place.

Omnipresence isn't just a theological word for God being everywhere like the air or filling space like the ocean—it's about His active, personal, real-time awareness and engagement in all things. There is nowhere you can go where God isn't already there in full.

And that truth can either heal or haunt, depending on who you are.

## I. What Does “Omnipresent” Really Mean?

The word **omnipresent** comes from the Latin *omni* meaning “all” and *praesens* meaning “present.” Simply put: **God is everywhere, at all times, completely.**

Let's be precise. This doesn't mean God is **spread out** like peanut butter, diluted across creation. Nor does it mean He's simply watching from afar like a cosmic security camera. It means His **whole being** is present in every place, fully aware, fully involved, fully sovereign.

God is not partly in one place and partly in another. He doesn't send an angel to “cover” for Him while He's occupied. He is simultaneously and completely present in every molecule of space and every moment of time.

Jeremiah 23:24 confirms this:

*"Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD."*

He doesn't just *know* what's happening—He's *there*.

## II. Omnipresence in the Old Testament: Fire, Cloud, and Stillness

The omnipresence of God is subtly woven throughout the Old Testament.

- **Genesis 3** – God *walks* in the Garden. Adam and Eve tried to hide, but they couldn't vanish from the One who fills all space.
- **Exodus 3** – Moses meets God at the burning bush. It's a remote desert location, and yet God is present, revealing His name.
- **1 Kings 8:27** – At the dedication of the temple, Solomon rightly declares:  
*"Behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded?"*

God was not confined to the Ark of the Covenant or the Holy of Holies. He dwelt in the temple to manifest His presence to Israel, but He was not limited to it.

He appeared as:

- A **cloud** by day and a **pillar of fire** by night (Exodus 13:21)
- A **whirlwind** (Job 38:1)
- A **still small voice** (1 Kings 19:12)

These weren't God's entirety—just manifestations. The God who thundered from Sinai was also present in the innermost cry of David in a sheepfold.

### III. Omnipresence in the New Testament: In Christ and In the Church

In the New Testament, omnipresence becomes even more intimate.

When Christ came, God **became flesh** (John 1:14). While Jesus had a physical body that occupied space, the **divine nature of God was not limited to His incarnation**. Jesus could say:

*"No man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man **which is in heaven**."* (John 3:13)

Think about that. Jesus, standing on earth, says He is **in heaven**. A divine paradox. He was omnipresent, even while incarnated.

And after His resurrection and ascension, He promised:

*"Lo, I am with you **always**, even unto the end of the world."* (Matthew 28:20)

He is with **each believer**, in **every location**, at **all times**.

Even the **Holy Spirit**, who dwells in the hearts of believers (1 Corinthians 6:19), is also called **the Spirit of Christ** (Romans 8:9). God is not confined to one temple anymore—He is present in every born-again believer, simultaneously.

### IV. Omnipresence: The Terror of the Guilty

For the unbeliever or the unrepentant sinner, God's omnipresence is not comforting—it's terrifying.

Psalms 139 says,

"If I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there."

No secret sin goes unseen. No thought is hidden. No crime committed in darkness escapes the all-present God.

Hebrews 4:13 declares:

*“Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.”*

You may silence your conscience. You may erase the browser history. You may hide it from family, friends, and even your own mind. But you will **never** hide it from God.

Jonah thought he could flee “from the presence of the Lord” (Jonah 1:3). He found out quickly—you can’t outrun God when He’s already waiting for you at your destination.

## **V. Omnipresence: The Comfort of the Redeemed**

But for the believer, this doctrine is a **refuge**. The same omnipresence that terrifies the rebel comforts the child of God.

### **1. In Suffering:**

When you sit alone in the hospital room, God is there. When the tears fall on your pillow and no one else notices, God is present.

Isaiah 43:2 –

*“When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee... they shall not overflow thee.”*

### **2. In Loneliness:**

God’s presence isn’t limited by geography or circumstance. Even in the prison cell (Acts 16), in exile (Daniel), or in isolation (John on Patmos), God draws near.

### **3. In Prayer:**

You never need to schedule a time with God. The throne room is always open (Hebrews 4:16). You never get voicemail. Never “please hold.”

Matthew 6:6 –

*“Enter into thy closet, and...pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father...shall reward thee openly.”*

### **4. In Death:**

Psalm 23:4 –

*“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: **for thou art with me.**”*

When the final breath comes, the believer does not cross alone.

## VI. God Is Near... and That Changes Everything

The omnipresence of God should radically shape the believer's life.

- **It encourages holiness.**

Knowing God is present curbs sin. Joseph said in Genesis 39:9, *"How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"* He knew God was watching—not from afar, but from *there*.

- **It fuels worship.**

The God who fills the galaxies also fills the room where you open your Bible.

- **It strengthens faith.**

Even when you don't feel Him, He is there. His presence is **not a feeling**—it's a fact.

- **It stirs boldness.**

God's presence gave Moses courage, Joshua resolve, and David strength. Hebrews 13:5 – *"I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."*

- **It inspires peace.**

Isaiah 26:3 – *"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee."* Why? Because you're always in His presence.

## VII. No Place Without God, No Person Beyond God

Whether you're standing on a mountaintop or kneeling in a jail cell—whether you're feeling spiritually alive or emotionally dead—God is **already there**.

His omnipresence means:

- He's not far from the broken (Psalm 34:18).
- He's present in every gathering (Matthew 18:20).
- He's accessible at all times (Jeremiah 29:13).

Even in hell, His presence is known—*not in blessing, but in judgment*.

## Conclusion: A God Who Is Never Absent

Psalm 46:1 –

*“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.”*

When others are absent—He is present.

When the world ignores you—He attends to you.

When darkness surrounds—He shines from within.

The omnipresence of God is not a cold, impersonal theological fact—it is the **warm breath of the Comforter** beside you in your sorrow, the **steady hand of the Father** guiding you in confusion, the **righteous judge** present in the courtroom, and the **eternal Savior** who says, “I will never leave thee.”

There’s nowhere He isn’t—and there’s no one He can’t reach.

The question is not, “Is God near?”

The question is, “Are you acknowledging Him?”

He is present.

Right now.

Right here.

Always.

### **Key Scripture Reminders:**

- **Psalm 139:7-10** – There is nowhere we can flee from His presence.
- **Jeremiah 23:24** – God fills heaven and earth.
- **Matthew 28:20** – Jesus promises His presence to the end.
- **Hebrews 13:5** – He will never leave nor forsake us.

### **7 of 10: God Is Immutable – He Never Changes**

**Key Text: Malachi 3:6** – “For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.”

## **1. Introduction – The Anchor in a Changing World**

If there's one certainty in our world, it's that everything changes. Styles, governments, values, weather, moods—everything shifts like sand. The cultural tide turns fast, and even within Christianity, doctrines get rebranded, morality is redefined, and truth is treated like it's on a sliding scale. But amid this whirlwind of change, the Bible gives us an anchor: *God never changes*. He is immutable. That means who He was in Genesis, He still is in Revelation—and forever beyond.

This is not some dry academic doctrine. God's immutability is not a dusty theological term to be shelved and ignored. It's the very foundation of why we can trust Him. It's why His promises are secure, His standards don't shift with public opinion, and why your salvation is safe in His hands. When everything around you feels uncertain, *He is not*.

## 2. Understanding Immutability – What It Means That God Never Changes

“Immutable” means incapable of change. Not merely that He *doesn't* change, but that He *can't*. There's nothing in God's nature that needs improvement, development, evolution, or retirement. He doesn't grow older, get wiser, adapt to new information, or adjust to society.

James 1:17 calls Him “the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.” That means no fluctuation, no shifting shadows, no instability. His love isn't moody. His wrath isn't random. His grace isn't seasonal.

God's immutability touches everything about Him:

- His **character** doesn't change. He is always holy, always loving, always just.
- His **Word** doesn't change. What He spoke in the beginning is still true today.
- His **promises** don't change. What He vowed to Israel, to the Church, and to you is secure.
- His **purpose** doesn't change. His plan of redemption through Christ stands eternally.

## 3. God's Immutability in the Old Testament

The Old Testament is saturated with examples of God's constancy. Even when Israel wavered like a leaf in the wind, God remained faithful.

- **Numbers 23:19** – “God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent...” God doesn't second-guess Himself or flip-flop on decisions.

- **Psalm 102:26–27** – “They shall perish, but thou shalt endure... Thou art the same, and thy years shall have no end.”

When God made a covenant with Abraham, it was forever. When He judged sin in Sodom, it was based on righteous consistency. When He gave the Law through Moses, it reflected His unchanging moral standard.

Even His mercy didn’t change. Though Israel repeatedly broke His covenant, God’s statement in Malachi 3:6 stands firm: *“I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.”* His immutability is the reason they weren’t wiped out.

#### **4. God’s Immutability in the New Testament**

In the New Testament, the doctrine of immutability becomes even more vivid through Jesus Christ.

- **Hebrews 13:8** – “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.”
- **Hebrews 6:17–18** describes God’s promise and oath as “immutable things” in which it is “impossible for God to lie.”

God’s plan didn’t evolve with the coming of Christ—it was fulfilled. He didn’t soften with time; His justice was satisfied at the cross. His grace didn’t override holiness—it upheld it.

Paul’s teaching in Romans 11:29 reminds us: *“For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.”* Once God extends a promise, He does not withdraw it. His faithfulness doesn’t operate on a performance-based contract. That’s the power of immutability.

#### **5. The Immutable Character of God: His Nature and Promises**

Let’s break this down practically. What does it mean for believers?

- **His love doesn’t change.** You don’t have to “earn” it again tomorrow.
- **His justice doesn’t change.** Every sin will be accounted for—either in judgment or at the cross.
- **His forgiveness doesn’t change.** If He says you’re clean, you are.
- **His gospel doesn’t change.** There’s still only one way: Christ alone.

Hebrews 6:19 calls this hope in God “an anchor of the soul.” Why? Because He isn’t fickle. He doesn’t offer salvation today and revoke it tomorrow. He doesn’t call something sin in 1000 BC and celebrate it in 2025. If the cross is sufficient today, it will be sufficient forever.

This should stir up worship. You’re not walking with a moody deity—you’re walking with the Rock of Ages.

## 6. Cultural Winds vs. God’s Constancy

Modern culture loves change. We’re told change is progress—even if it means redefining gender, truth, or family. Sadly, churches too have bowed to this false god of progress. “God is doing a new thing” becomes the excuse to do *our* thing.

But friend, God is not changing with the times. He is not voting on morality or polling the culture for updates. Truth doesn’t trend—it *stands*.

Isaiah 40:8 declares, “*The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.*”

This is why immutability matters: if God could change, you could never be sure of anything He said. Salvation might be temporary. Grace might be seasonal. Heaven might close.

But because He doesn’t change—you can build your life on His Word and not fear it shifting under your feet.

## 7. Misunderstandings About God’s Unchanging Nature

Some critics of immutability claim, “But God changed His mind in the Bible!” What about when God “repents” in passages like Genesis 6:6 or when He “relents” in response to intercession?

The answer is simple: these are **anthropomorphisms**—human ways of explaining divine action. God *appears* to change because man has changed position. But God’s essence and ultimate purpose remain unchanged.

Example: The sun seems to “move” across the sky, but in reality, it’s the earth that’s turning. Likewise, when sinners repent, God’s judgment is withheld—not because God changed, but because the terms of relationship were met.

His wrath and mercy are constant—how we experience them depends on where we stand.

## 8. The Immutability of Christ – Yesterday, Today, and Forever

Jesus is the perfect expression of God’s immutability in human flesh.

He didn’t become less holy to save sinners. He didn’t adjust His gospel to make it more appealing. He didn’t water down truth to grow His following.

In **John 8:58**, He said, “*Before Abraham was, I am.*” That’s timelessness. That’s immutability.

He was the Lamb slain **before** the foundation of the world (Revelation 13:8) and will reign as King of Kings **forever** (Revelation 11:15).

When He promised eternal life to those who believe on Him, that promise didn’t come with a cultural expiration date.

## 9. Why This Doctrine Brings Peace, Stability, and Trust

In a world where everything is in flux—politics, economics, families, emotions—God’s immutability is your firm foundation.

- **Peace** – You don’t have to worry if God’s still for you today. If you’re in Christ, you are sealed.
- **Stability** – Truth is not being rewritten every decade. His Word is settled in heaven (Psalm 119:89).
- **Trust** – You can trust that He will finish what He started in you. He’s not a God who ghosts people. Philippians 1:6 says He who began a good work *will* perform it.

When you’re tempted to doubt, remember: the God who walked with Abraham, saved Israel, died at Calvary, and raised Christ from the dead—is the same God walking with you now.

## 10. Conclusion – The Comfort and Power of a Never-Changing God

“I am the LORD, I change not.” That’s not a dry theological footnote—it’s a lifeline.

His immutability is why grace is still grace. Why the blood of Christ is still enough. Why you don’t have to wonder if God woke up in a bad mood today.

If God changed, He might stop loving you. He might decide sin’s not so bad after all. He might rewrite the path to salvation.

But because He doesn't change, the cross still stands. The tomb is still empty. And His Word still says, "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

That's the God we worship—not a shifting shadow, but a solid Rock.

Amen.

## **8 of 10: God Is Faithful – He Keeps Every Promise**

**Key Text: Lamentations 3:22–23**

### **God Is Faithful – He Keeps Every Promise**

**Key Text: Lamentations 3:22–23 – “It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.”**

#### **Introduction: The Anchor in the Storm**

When the world is shifting beneath your feet, when people let you down, when your own heart condemns you—there's a Rock that never moves. That Rock is God's faithfulness.

In an era of broken promises, disposable commitments, and revolving values, the idea of *faithfulness* is almost foreign. Marriages collapse, contracts get renegotiated, and politicians change positions like coats in winter. But God never does. His Word never fails. His covenants never weaken. His mercies never expire.

In Lamentations 3:22–23, Jeremiah is writing in the middle of desolation, after Jerusalem has been leveled by Babylon. Smoke still rises from the rubble. And yet, amid the ashes, he pens a song of hope: “Great is thy faithfulness.” That wasn't blind optimism. That was deep-rooted truth.

This essay will unpack what it means for God to be faithful—and why that truth can steady your soul in every season of life.

#### **1. What Does It Mean That God Is Faithful?**

To say God is faithful means that He is trustworthy, constant, and always true to His Word. Faithfulness isn't just what God *does*—it's who He *is*. It is part of His unchanging nature. He cannot lie (Titus 1:2). He cannot deny Himself (2 Timothy 2:13). He doesn't just tell the truth—He *is* the truth.

God's faithfulness refers to:

- **His loyalty to His Word**
- **His unwavering character**
- **His commitment to His promises**
- **His constancy in love and justice**

Unlike human faithfulness, which is fickle and often conditional, God's faithfulness is eternal and rooted in His holiness. He's not faithful because we are lovable—He's faithful because He is faithful.

## **2. The Faithfulness of God in the Old Testament**

From Genesis to Malachi, the Old Testament is a record of a faithful God and a faithless people. Israel constantly broke the covenant—but God never did. Let's look at just a few Old Testament examples.

### **A. Abraham**

God made Abraham a promise in Genesis 12:1–3—that his descendants would become a great nation. Abraham messed up plenty. He lied about Sarah (twice), took Hagar into his own plan, and laughed at God's timing. But in Romans 4:20–21, it says Abraham was “fully persuaded that, what [God] had promised, he was able also to perform.”

And perform it, He did. Isaac was born. Israel came into being. And ultimately, Christ—the seed of Abraham—came to bless all nations.

### **B. Joseph**

When Joseph was sold by his brothers and imprisoned unjustly, it looked like God had forgotten him. But Genesis 39:21 says, “The LORD was with Joseph.” Through betrayal, slander, and dungeon walls, God was writing a story of redemption—and Joseph rose to power to save many. God's faithfulness doesn't always look like comfort—it looks like purpose.

### **C. Israel**

Despite their rebellion, God remained faithful to Israel. Even when they were exiled, God preserved a remnant and promised to restore them. Nehemiah 9:33 says, “Howbeit thou art just in all that is brought upon us; for thou hast done right, but we have done wickedly.” God’s faithfulness doesn’t cancel justice—it upholds it, even in judgment.

### **3. The Ultimate Expression: Christ**

All of God’s faithfulness is wrapped up in the Person of Jesus Christ. Every promise God made found its “Yes” in Him (2 Corinthians 1:20). He fulfilled the Law (Matthew 5:17), bore our punishment, and rose again, just as He said He would.

- He promised a Savior (Genesis 3:15) — He sent Him.
- He promised a spotless Lamb (Isaiah 53) — Christ bore our iniquities.
- He promised resurrection (Psalm 16:10) — the tomb is empty.

At Calvary, God’s faithfulness collided with His justice. He kept His word to punish sin *and* to save sinners. Only a faithful God could be both just and the justifier of the ungodly (Romans 3:26).

### **4. God’s Faithfulness to His People Today**

If you are a believer, you can trace God’s fingerprints all over your life. Think about this:

- Has God ever broken a promise?
- Has He ever failed to forgive when you truly repented?
- Has He ever been late?
- Has His Word ever come back void?

You and I may stumble, but God never does. As Paul said to the wavering Corinthians: “God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of his Son” (1 Corinthians 1:9).

#### **A. He’s Faithful When You Fall**

“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us” (1 John 1:9). God’s faithfulness doesn’t encourage sin—it encourages repentance.

#### **B. He’s Faithful When You Doubt**

“Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it” (1 Thessalonians 5:24). God finishes what He starts—even when your confidence fades.

### C. He’s Faithful in Trials

“There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful...” (1 Corinthians 10:13). Your temptations are real—but so is your Deliverer.

## 5. God’s Faithfulness and Your Salvation

If God were not faithful, you could not be saved. Let that sink in. If He changed His mind, you’d have no security. If He evolved, you’d have no assurance. If He forgot, you’d be forgotten.

But He *is* faithful.

Romans 8:29–30 is a golden chain of His unbreakable promise—from foreknowledge to glorification. Philippians 1:6 assures us He will finish what He began in you. Hebrews 10:23 urges us to “hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised).”

You aren’t holding onto God nearly as tightly as He is holding onto you.

## 6. Common Misuses of “God Is Faithful”

Some Christians use God's faithfulness like a vending machine: “If I do X, God will give me Y.” But that’s not biblical. God is faithful to *His Word*, not to your wish list.

Here are a few corrections:

- **False view:** “God is faithful to bless me financially if I tithe.”  
**Truth:** God is faithful to supply your *needs* (Philippians 4:19), not all your *wants*.
- **False view:** “God is faithful, so He’ll heal me.”  
**Truth:** God is faithful whether He heals or not (Daniel 3:17–18).
- **False view:** “God is faithful to give me a good life if I’m a good Christian.”  
**Truth:** Many faithful believers suffer greatly (Hebrews 11:35–38).

God’s faithfulness does not mean *you’ll always feel good*. It means *He will always do good*—according to His will.

## **7. When God Seems Unfaithful**

Let's be honest—sometimes it feels like God is late. Silent. Absent. You prayed, fasted, believed—and the answer didn't come the way you expected. Maybe the job didn't happen. The healing didn't come. The marriage didn't survive.

But God's silence is not betrayal. His delay is not denial. His no is not neglect.

Psalms 89:33 says, "Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail." When you can't trace His hand, trust His heart.

Even in your worst moments—He is still faithful.

## **8. Living in Light of God's Faithfulness**

If God is truly faithful—and He is—then how should you live?

### **A. Trust Him Fully**

You don't need to understand everything to trust a God who is always faithful. Proverbs 3:5–6 still applies.

### **B. Obey Him Consistently**

He is faithful to reward those who diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6). Faithfulness should inspire faithfulness.

### **C. Wait on Him Patiently**

Faithfulness doesn't rush. If God promised it, it will happen—even if the clock ticks loudly.

### **D. Encourage Others Boldly**

Tell others of His faithfulness. Your testimony may be the anchor someone else needs.

## **9. Heaven: The Ultimate Proof of Faithfulness**

Jesus said in John 14:2–3 that He went to prepare a place for us—and He *will* come again. That promise stands like granite.

In Revelation 19:11, Jesus is described as "Faithful and True." He's not coming back with suggestions. He's coming back with crowns. Every promise He ever made—to redeem, to reign, to resurrect—He will fulfill.

If God kept every promise the *first time*, you better believe He'll keep the rest.

### **10. Final Thoughts: When You Are Faithless, He Is Still Faithful**

Let this settle into your heart: "If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself" (2 Timothy 2:13). Even when your grip slips—His doesn't. He is not faithful because you earned it. He is faithful because it's who He is.

He was faithful in the Garden.

Faithful on the Cross.

Faithful at the Tomb.

Faithful to save.

Faithful to return.

And until that trumpet sounds, He is faithful every morning. New mercies. New grace. Same God.

### **Summary**

God's faithfulness is more than a comforting idea—it's the unshakable foundation of your salvation, your sanctification, and your security. In a world of lies, you have One who cannot lie. In a world of betrayal, you have One who will never abandon you. In a world where everything changes, you have One who never will.

Great is His faithfulness.

### **9 of 10: God Is Sovereign – Supreme Over All Things**

#### **Key Text: Daniel 4:35**

*"And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?"*

### **Introduction: The Throne Above All Thrones**

In a world that seems to teeter on the edge of chaos, the doctrine of God’s sovereignty is not just a theological idea—it’s an anchor. But it’s one that has been hijacked, twisted, or ignored altogether depending on which theological aisle you wander down. Some have turned God’s sovereignty into an icy fatalism, stripping man of responsibility. Others, in an effort to protect free will, reduce God to a celestial spectator, wringing His hands while man runs wild. But the truth lies in the tension of both: God is absolutely sovereign, and yet man is fully accountable. Scripture never sacrifices one truth for the other.

God is not competing for power. He doesn’t rise or fall in elections. He doesn’t gain or lose influence based on human opinion. He reigns. Always has. Always will. The universe is not a democracy—it is a monarchy, and the throne is already occupied.

This essay will explore the meaning of divine sovereignty through the lens of Scripture, focusing on:

- God’s absolute rule over creation, nations, and individuals.
- How God’s sovereignty is compatible with human freedom.
- The difference between biblical sovereignty and Calvinistic determinism.
- Why this attribute should lead us to humility, worship, and trust.

## 1. Defining Sovereignty: What Does It Really Mean?

The word *sovereign* means “supreme in power and authority.” It denotes complete autonomy. When we say **God is sovereign**, we mean there is **nothing above Him, beyond Him, or out of His control**. As Daniel 4:35 declares, “none can stay his hand.” He doesn’t ask permission. He doesn’t need approval.

Unlike earthly kings who may have limited rule and flawed wisdom, God’s sovereignty is **absolute, wise, and righteous**. He is never arbitrary. His reign is not limited to heaven—it extends over:

- **Nature** – “He maketh the sun to rise” (Matt 5:45)
- **Nations** – “He removeth kings, and setteth up kings” (Dan 2:21)
- **History** – “Declaring the end from the beginning” (Isa 46:10)
- **Individuals** – “The very hairs of your head are all numbered” (Matt 10:30)

This is not partial sovereignty. It is not occasional sovereignty. It is **complete sovereignty**—and it never fails.

## 2. The Sovereign Hand Over Nations and Kings

One of the clearest displays of God’s sovereignty is seen in how He deals with **nations** and **rulers**. God isn’t just watching history unfold—He **orchestrates** it. He declares in Isaiah 46:10, “My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure.”

In Daniel 2 and 4, God shows Nebuchadnezzar who truly rules. The proud king who walked on the palace rooftop boasting of “this great Babylon that I have built” (Dan 4:30) was soon eating grass like an ox. Why? So he would know “that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men” (Dan 4:32).

God uses pagan kings (like Cyrus in Isaiah 45) and humble servants (like Moses and Daniel) to execute His plans. He raises up empires—and topples them. From Egypt to Babylon to Rome, God is behind the curtain of history, pulling the strings.

**Psalms 22:28** – “For the kingdom is the Lord’s: and he is the governor among the nations.”

Even today, as political turmoil and global conflict swirl, the believer finds rest in the fact that **nothing unfolds without His permission or His plan**.

## 3. Sovereignty and the Individual: Not Just Global—It’s Personal

The sovereignty of God isn’t just about big-picture politics. It’s **intimately personal**. God is sovereign over your life. Your birth, your breath, your boundaries, your burdens—all under His watch.

David wrote, “In thy book all my members were written” (Psalm 139:16). Paul declared, “By the grace of God I am what I am” (1 Cor 15:10).

God chose your family, your timeline, your struggles. Nothing is random. Even trials pass through the filter of His sovereign love. That doesn’t mean He causes evil—but it does mean He can **use it**. Joseph said to his brothers, “Ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good” (Gen 50:20).

Your pain is not wasted. Your path is not unseen. Your story is not unscripted. A sovereign God weaves every detail for His glory and your good (Rom 8:28).

## 4. Sovereignty vs. Fatalism: Rejecting the Robotic God of Calvinism

Now we must address a dangerous counterfeit: **Calvinistic fatalism**. In trying to exalt God's sovereignty, Calvinism **overcorrects**, turning man into a puppet and God into a cosmic programmer. In this system:

- God predestines some to salvation and others to damnation—**with no choice involved**.
- Free will is redefined or dismissed entirely.
- The love of God becomes limited, and the atonement becomes exclusive.

This is not biblical sovereignty—it is **determinism**, and it violates the character of God.

**The Bible teaches both:**

- God is sovereign.
- Man is responsible.

Jesus wept over Jerusalem (Luke 19:41), not because they fulfilled a script but because **they refused** His call. “Ye would not!” He cried (Matt 23:37). That’s not the language of fatalism. That’s the language of love and freedom.

Yes, God knows the future. But His foreknowledge is not **fore-causation**. He invites, draws, pleads—but never forces.

**2 Peter 3:9** – “Not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”

## **5. Sovereignty and Salvation: The Cross Wasn't Plan B**

From the beginning, God's plan of redemption was set. Jesus wasn't a backup option—He was the **Lamb slain from the foundation of the world** (Rev 13:8). The cross wasn't a reaction; it was the **culmination** of God's sovereign plan.

Yet—here's the glory—it wasn't forced. Judas was not coerced into betrayal. Pilate wasn't a mindless pawn. They acted **freely**, but their choices fulfilled prophecy.

God's sovereignty and man's responsibility are not at odds—they are two rails on the same track. Divine orchestration never eliminates human accountability.

**Acts 2:23** perfectly balances both: “Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain.”

The cross proves God's power, God's love, and God's sovereign ability to **bring good out of evil**. It wasn't a detour. It was the highway to redemption.

## 6. Why Sovereignty Matters in a Chaotic World

In an unstable world, the doctrine of sovereignty isn't academic—it's **essential**. Consider what it means:

- When your plans fail, **God's don't**.
- When nations crumble, **His kingdom stands**.
- When evil seems to win, **justice is coming**.
- When the future is uncertain, **He's already there**.

We don't have to understand everything to trust Him. As Isaiah 55:9 reminds us, "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways." His ways are not random—they're just **higher**.

The believer can say, "I don't know what's next. But I know the One who does." That's what sovereignty produces: not paralysis, but **peace**.

## 7. Worship the King: The Only Right Response

The throne of God is not just a theological construct—it is a **worship seat**. When Isaiah saw the Lord "high and lifted up" (Isa 6:1), he didn't draft a doctrinal statement. He **fell on his face**.

Too often, debates about sovereignty become dry and divisive. But the goal of this truth is **worship**. Adoration. Surrender.

Psalms 103:19 says, "The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all."

We don't crown Him king—**He already is**. The only question is whether we **bow**.

## Conclusion: The God Who Reigns Forever

God's sovereignty is not up for election. It cannot be overthrown. And it is never in danger.

He sits on the throne—unmoved by chaos, unshaken by rebellion, untouched by time.

Kings rise and fall. Empires burn and fade. But **God reigns**.

He doesn't control everything like a dictator—He governs everything with wisdom, mercy, and justice. His rule is not cold—it is **good**.

So whether you're standing in victory or walking through the valley, remember: **He is sovereign**. Supreme over nations, families, decisions, and destinies.

You can trust Him—because **nothing surprises Him, nothing overpowers Him, and nothing can stop Him**.

### **Key Takeaways:**

- God's sovereignty means He rules over all without exception.
- It is compatible with human responsibility—God doesn't force.
- Sovereignty gives peace in chaos, trust in uncertainty, and worship in humility.
- Calvinistic fatalism distorts God's character and the Gospel's invitation.
- The cross was the perfect display of sovereign mercy and justice.

Let your heart rest today—not in your ability to control, but in God's ability to reign. He is not just a King. He is **the King of Kings**, and **His kingdom shall never be destroyed** (Dan 2:44).

**Even when it looks like man rules—God overrules.** Always.

## **10 of 10: God's Attributes Every Believer Should Know – God Is Gracious: Giving What We Don't Deserve**

**Key Text: Ephesians 2:8**

### **Introduction: Grace Has a Face**

If mercy is God not giving us what we *do* deserve, grace is God giving us what we *don't* deserve. Grace is not a lifeless doctrine. It's not just a theological concept we memorize—it's the expression of God's heart in action. It's not just a New Testament theme. From the Garden of Eden to the gates of Heaven, God has always been a gracious God.

The Apostle Paul captures this beautifully in Ephesians 2:8:

*“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.”*  
(Ephesians 2:8, KJV)

This is one of the clearest declarations of divine grace in Scripture. It tells us that salvation is a **gift**, not a paycheck. It’s unearned, undeserved, and utterly free—not because it was cheap, but because Christ paid the full price.

And in a world where performance is rewarded and failure is punished, God’s grace is a revolutionary, undeserved kindness. It isn’t a loophole. It’s the lifeline.

## 1. The Definition of Grace: More Than Unmerited Favor

We’ve all heard that grace is “unmerited favor.” That’s true—but it’s also incomplete. Grace is not just a favorable feeling from God. It’s **active, transforming, generous, and constant.**

Grace is:

- The hand of God reaching down to a sinner.
- The strength of God empowering the weak.
- The patience of God with the slow learner.
- The kindness of God toward the rebellious.

Grace is **God giving Himself.**

And that’s the key—grace isn’t a “thing” He hands out like heavenly currency. Grace is a **Person**—Jesus Christ.

“And the Word was made flesh... full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14)

## 2. Grace in the Garden: The First Act of Grace

Before Paul ever wrote about grace, Adam and Eve experienced it firsthand. They had sinned. They had violated God’s one rule. By all rights, they should have died on the spot.

But what did God do?

- He sought them when they hid.
- He clothed them when they were naked.

- He promised a Savior when they were cursed.

That's grace. Right in Genesis.

“Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.”  
(Genesis 3:21)

Even the **covering** for their shame came through the **death of an innocent**. A shadow of Christ, who would one day die to cover us.

### **3. Grace in the Wilderness: Patient with Stubborn People**

The Israelites, freshly delivered from Egyptian slavery, were some of the most stubborn people ever recorded in Scripture.

- They grumbled about food.
- They doubted God's intentions.
- They made a golden calf.

Yet God, in His grace:

- Sent manna every day.
- Guided them with a pillar of cloud and fire.
- Gave them water from a rock.

Why didn't He just wipe them out?

“The Lord is gracious and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.” (Psalm 145:8)

God's grace is **not based on our performance**, but on His character.

### **4. Grace on the Cross: The Costliest Kind**

Nowhere is God's grace more vividly on display than at **Calvary**.

The cross was not only a payment for sin—it was the **receipt of grace**. Christ took our sin. We get His righteousness.

- He bore our shame.
- He endured our wrath.

- He gave us His standing before the Father.

“For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.” (2 Corinthians 8:9)

Grace isn't cheap. It cost Christ everything.

## 5. Grace in Salvation: The Gift of God

Ephesians 2:8–9 is a declaration of freedom:

“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”

You cannot earn salvation. You cannot buy it. You cannot work for it.

And that offends the religious ego.

Grace **levels the playing field**. The drug addict and the deacon both need it. The thief on the cross and the Sunday school teacher stand on the same foundation: grace alone.

There is **no Plan B**. Without grace, there is no hope.

## 6. Grace in Sanctification: Still Not of Works

Many Christians wrongly believe grace gets you *into* the kingdom, but after that, it's all effort. Wrong.

Paul asked the Galatians:

“Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?”  
(Galatians 3:3)

Grace saves us.

Grace grows us.

Grace keeps us.

Sanctification is not about **trying harder**—it's about **trusting deeper**.

As you abide in Christ, His life flows through you, producing fruit. That's grace. Not striving. Not sweat. Just surrender.

## 7. Grace in Discipline: Love that Corrects

Wait... isn't discipline the opposite of grace?

Not at all.

God's chastening is **an act of grace**. He loves you too much to let you destroy yourself.

"For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth."  
(Hebrews 12:6)

Grace is not God winking at sin. It's God **working to remove it**. He disciplines not out of wrath, but out of love.

It is grace that **corrects**, not condemns.

## 8. Grace in Suffering: Strength Made Perfect in Weakness

When Paul begged God to remove his thorn in the flesh, he got an unexpected answer:

"My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness." (2 Corinthians 12:9)

God didn't remove the pain—He **revealed His grace** in it.

- Grace doesn't always fix the problem.
- Grace doesn't always eliminate the storm.
- But grace carries you *through* it.

If you're weak, struggling, and barely hanging on—God's grace is **custom-designed for you**.

## 9. Grace in Daily Life: The Atmosphere of the Christian Walk

Grace is not just for salvation—it's the **air a believer breathes**.

Paul begins and ends nearly every epistle with the words:

"Grace be unto you..."

It's not a throwaway greeting. It's a reminder:

- You need grace to speak truth.

- You need grace to resist sin.
- You need grace to forgive others.
- You need grace to pray and live and hope.

Grace is not just your entry point into the kingdom—it’s your **every step**.

## 10. Grace Misunderstood: License vs Liberty

One of the dangers in modern Christianity is that “grace” has been hijacked by those who want to justify sin.

“Don’t judge me. God is gracious.”

Yes, He is. But His grace **never excuses sin**. It **paid for it**.

Titus 2:11–12 tells us what grace *really* teaches:

“For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly...”

True grace **teaches holiness**, not lawlessness.

If your version of grace makes you comfortable in sin, it’s not from God—it’s from hell.

## 11. Grace to Others: Freely You Have Received...

Grace received must become grace given.

“Be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you.” (Ephesians 4:32)

You can’t preach grace while living in bitterness.

You can’t believe in undeserved kindness while dishing out cold shoulders.

Christians who understand grace should be the **most gracious people on the planet**.

## 12. Grace and the End of All Things

Even at the end of the Bible, grace doesn’t go away.

The final verse says:

“The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.” (Revelation 22:21)

From beginning to end, God’s story is one of grace.

- Eden begins with grace.
- Calvary climaxes with grace.
- Heaven is filled with grace.

And those who walk with Him will sing forever:

“Worthy is the Lamb that was slain...”

Because grace never runs dry.

### **Conclusion: Grace Is the Greatest Gift**

The attribute of God’s grace ties all His other attributes together.

- His **love** motivates grace.
- His **holiness** requires grace.
- His **justice** is satisfied by grace.
- His **power** secures grace.
- His **faithfulness** guarantees grace.
- His **immutability** means His grace doesn’t change.
- His **sovereignty** dispenses grace perfectly.
- His **knowledge** applies grace wisely.
- His **presence** delivers grace constantly.

Grace is **God Himself—stooping, saving, sustaining.**

Let us never take it lightly.

Let us never forget that without it, we are nothing.

And with it?

We are **redeemed.**

“But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved).”

—Ephesians 2:4–5

Amen.

### **Conclusion – The Mountain Still Speaks**

The Beatitudes are not a relic of a bygone Jewish kingdom program, nor are they an unattainable ideal reserved for saints of another era. They are the living words of the King, spoken to His disciples, preserved by the Spirit, and perfectly suited for the pilgrim path of the Church Age believer. While the setting was Galilee and the audience first included Jewish followers, the truths are timeless—addressing the heart posture God blesses in *any* dispensation, yet with a special relevance for those who walk between the ascension of Christ and His return for the Church.

Across this series, we have seen that each Beatitude is a paradox in the world’s eyes. Poverty of spirit is the gateway to riches in grace. Mourning over sin is the key to true comfort. Meekness wins the inheritance of the earth. A hunger for righteousness satisfies more deeply than any earthly feast. Mercy toward others brings the mercy of God upon ourselves. Purity of heart unlocks the vision of God. Peacemaking, far from weakness, marks us as sons of the Most High. And persecution—what the flesh recoils from—becomes the evidence of divine approval and the seedbed of eternal reward.

In the Church Age, these words shine as a counter-cultural manifesto. They confront the pride, self-reliance, vengeance, impurity, and compromise of the age with a call to humility, repentance, mercy, and endurance. They remind us that we are not called to win the world’s applause but to bear the fragrance of Christ in a hostile world. They train our affections to rejoice, not in temporal gain, but in the promised glory to come.

And perhaps most striking of all, the Beatitudes are not merely commands to obey—they are portraits of Christ Himself. He is the poor in spirit, the Man of Sorrows, the meek King, the Righteous One, the merciful High Priest, the pure-hearted Son, the Prince of Peace, and the Suffering Servant. To live the Beatitudes is to be conformed to His image, which is the Father’s eternal purpose for every believer (Romans 8:29).

The mountain still speaks. The voice of the King still calls. And for the believer in the Church Age, the path of blessing still runs against the grain of the world. Yet for those who walk it,

there is joy, there is fellowship with Christ, and there is the unshakable promise: “*Great is your reward in heaven*” (Matthew 5:12).

So we end where the Sermon on the Mount began—not with a list of tasks to earn God’s favor, but with a declaration of His blessing upon those who, by grace, live out the character of His kingdom in the midst of a world that has rejected the King. Until the day we see Him face to face, may these Beatitudes be more than a study—they must be our heartbeat, our pattern, and our testimony to a watching world.