

The Attributes of God (6) - Omnipotence

Message Introduction

Like all of His attributes, God's omnipotence is co-extensive with His being. There is no area of the universe where He is not exerting His power. From a blade of grass to the stars of the sky, everything and everyone is dependent upon His immeasurable power for its existence. In this lesson, Dr. Lawson explores the nature and extent of this incomprehensible power.

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 40:28–31; Ephesians 3:20–21

Teaching Objectives

1. To show the extent of God's power
2. To commend worship of the One who controls all events at all times
3. To instil humility by considering our frailty in light of God's limitless power

Quotations

But however strong may be the purposes either of angels or of men, whether of good or bad, whether these purposes fall in with the will of God or run counter to it, the will of the Omnipotent is never defeated.

- Augustine of Hippo

We can do very little. God can do whatever He wills. We, beyond very narrow limits, must use means to accomplish our ends. With God means are unnecessary. He wills, and it is done. He said, Let there be light; and there was light. He, by a volition created the heavens and the earth. At the volition of Christ, the winds ceased, and there was a great calm. By an act of the will He healed the sick, opened the eyes of the blind, and raised the dead. This simple idea of the omnipotence of God, that He can do without effort, and by a volition, whatever He wills, is the highest conceivable idea of power, and is that which is clearly presented in the Scriptures.

- Charles Hodge

Study Questions

1. Even the power that Satan possesses comes from God.
 - a. True
 - b. False
2. God's omnipotence works most closely with His _____.
 - a. Sovereignty
 - b. Omnipresence
 - c. Omniscience
 - d. All of the above
3. Because God is omnipotent, all of the following are true *except* _____.
 - a. God's power is incomprehensible
 - b. God's power is like ours, but it is quantitatively greater
 - c. God's power influences human choices
 - d. God's power is present everywhere in the same degree
4. Since God is all-powerful and can do whatever He pleases, He is free to change His mind with respect to who will be saved.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Bible Study and Discussion Questions

1. Consider how any power that you possess has been delegated to you from God. How should this affect your relationships with others, whether in the workplace, the family, or among friends?
 2. Have you known individuals who have exhibited extreme hostility toward the gospel? How can a consideration of God's omnipotence provide encouragement when you pray for or witness to them?
 3. How should knowing that every moment of your existence is dependent on God influence how you spend your time? How should this bring humility to life's pursuits?
 4. Does God's omnipotence in and of itself provide you comfort? Or is it only in conjunction with His other attributes? Does this say anything about the benefits or dangers of elevating one aspect of His character to the exclusion of others?
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