



## Introduction

God has characteristics that are unique to Him. These are attributes which no other created beings share. Knowing these truths is essential for a proper relationship with the Living God.

## He Never Changes (Immutability)

*"For I, the LORD, do not change; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed. (NAS)*

**Malachi 3:6**

*Every good thing bestowed and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation, or shifting shadow.*

**James 1:17**

*<sup>10</sup> "You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the works of Your hands; <sup>11</sup> They will perish, but You remain; and they all will become old as a garment, <sup>12</sup> And like a mantle You will roll them up; like a garment they will also be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not come to an end. "(NASV)*

**Hebrews 1:10-12**

- In each verse above, circle the phrase that identifies God as unchanging.

Change is the natural course of events for created beings. Our bodies and minds are constantly changing. Change for a believer is desirable. But change for God is impossible.

From the following List, place a check  in the box next to the statements that would support the truth that God does not change.

- He gets better as time goes by.
- He might revoke a promise He has made.
- His promise can be trusted.
- He is more righteous now than He was when Paul lived.
- He is exactly the same today as when He created the world.
- His power diminishes with each miracle He performs.
- He knows more now than He did when Adam walked the earth.

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***Change implies improvement or decay, getting better or getting worse. A God who is perfect can do neither. To improve would imply that he was not perfect before. To decline would prove that He is not as good now as He was before.***

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### Immutability

The concept that God does not change either in His wisdom, power, holiness, righteousness, love, grace or kindness.



Hebrews 13:8

### Consider:

If God were to change in any way, it would be impossible for us to know Him. His unchangeable immutability assures us that He will be consistent with us whether or not we are consistent with Him.

## He is Eternal

The idea that God is eternal involves the truth that He is free from the limits of time. He is the cause of time and is not subject to it.

*Ps 90:2-4*

*<sup>2</sup> Before the mountains were born Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God. <sup>3</sup> You turn man back into dust And say, "Return, O children of men." <sup>4</sup> For a thousand years in Your sight Are like yesterday when it passes by, (NASV)*

**Psalms 90:2-4**

*But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.*

**2 Peter 3:8**

- Circle the words that indicate that God exists outside of the boundaries of time.
- *Everlasting in the Old Testament means from the remotest time in the past to the remotest time in the future. It indicates the boundaries of time.*

*<sup>9</sup>"Remember the former things long past, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like me, <sup>10</sup>declaring the end from the beginning and from ancient times things which have not been done, saying, 'My purpose will be established, and I will accomplish all My good pleasure';(NAS)*

**Isaiah 46:9-10**

Often a verse of scripture will combine many aspects of God's character. Isaiah 46 does just that. Can you identify another quality of God's character besides his Eternal nature which is described in this verse?

Based upon Isaiah 46: 9-10 check  the things in the following list that can be attributed to the eternal nature of God's existence.

- God, not limited by time, can see the future and the past all at once.
- From the very beginning, God knew how everything would end.
- No one else sees all things as God does.

## God Knows Everything (Omniscient)

Omniscient means all knowing

***God knows Himself and all other things, whether they are actually or merely possible, whether they are past, present or future and He knows perfectly and from all eternity.***

- In the following verses, circle those phrases that indicate that nothing is hid from God

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

*Sheol and Abaddon lie open before the LORD, how much more the hearts of men!*

**Proverbs 15:11**

*<sup>1</sup>O LORD, You have searched me and known me. <sup>2</sup>You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You understand my thought from afar. <sup>3</sup>You scrutinize my path and my lying down, and are intimately acquainted with all my ways. <sup>4</sup>Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O LORD, You know it all. (NASU)*

**Psalms 139:1-4**

*Great is our Lord, and abundant in strength; His understanding is infinite.*

**Psalms 147:5**

Can you think of anything that God does not Know?

The 139<sup>th</sup> Psalm declares the very heart of God's Omniscience.

## He is Everywhere (Omnipresent)

- Consider Psalms 139:7-10. Circle every physical place where God is found.

*<sup>7</sup>Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? <sup>8</sup>If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. <sup>9</sup>If I take the wings of the dawn, If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, <sup>10</sup>Even there Your hand will lead me, And Your right hand will lay hold of me. (NASU)*

**Psalms 139:7-10**

### Consider:

The universe extends for billions of light years, and the atom is so small that it cannot be seen. Yet God holds the atom together and he measures the universe with the span of His hand.

To be in everyplace at once is a characteristic of God alone. No other created being can occupy every nook and cranny of the creation. Even Satan can only be in one place at a time. Not so God. He fills His creation.

- In the following verses circle why it is futile to try and hide something from God

*"Can a man hide himself in hiding places, so I do not see him?" declares the LORD. "Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?" declares the LORD.*

**Jeremiah 23:24**

*<sup>27</sup>Why do you say, O Jacob, and assert, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and the justice due me escapes the notice of my God"? <sup>28</sup>Do you not know? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable.*

**Isaiah 40:27-28**

### Extra Credit

Jonah thought that he could hide from God. Look at Jonah Chapter 1 and count the ways God displayed His Unique character as He dealt with the fleeing prophet

## He Has All Power (Omnipotent)

God's Omnipotence is essentially His ability to do whatever He wants.

*<sup>13</sup>And the LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, saying, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, when I am so old?' <sup>14</sup>"Is anything too difficult for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you, at this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son."*

**Genesis 18:13-14**

*"Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh; is anything too difficult for Me?"*

**Jeremiah 32:27**

*But He said, "The things impossible with men are possible with God."*

**Luke 18:27**

In establishing the creation God displayed His unique power by simply speaking things into being. Look at Genesis Chapter 1 and count the number of times God exercised His power by speaking.

There are some things God cannot do:

- He cannot commit sin
- He cannot lie
- He cannot deny Himself

- Circle the phrases above that imply that God has power to do whatever He wishes.
- Can you think of anything too difficult for God?

## What Do You Think?

Place a check ✓ in the column(s) indicating the attribute of God's character that makes the statement possible (more than one may apply)

Immutable	Eternal	All Knowing	All present	All Powerful	God can ...
					Foretell the future
					Calm a raging storm
					Answer prayer
					Keep a promise
					Keep track of every living thing
					Overrule natural law
					See every action, hear every thought
					Feed every creature
					Be faithful to His promises
					Bring about His plan
					Oppose the proud but give grace to the humble
					Heal diseases
					Grant eternal life
					Raise the dead
					Fill the universe

Summary

In the following chart, place a check ✓ in the appropriate column when the verse contains a reference to that characteristic of God.

Immutable	All Knowing	All Present	All Powerful	Isaiah 40: 12-30
				12 Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, and marked off the heavens by the span, and calculated the dust of the earth by the measure, and weighed the mountains in a balance, and the hills in a pair of scales?
				13 Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, or as His counselor has informed Him?
				14 With whom did He consult and who gave Him understanding? And who taught Him in the path of justice and taught Him knowledge, and informed Him of the way of understanding?
				15 Behold, the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are regarded as a speck of dust on the scales; behold, He lifts up the islands like fine dust.
				17 All the nations are as nothing before Him, they are regarded by Him as less than nothing and meaningless.
				22 It is He who sits above the vault of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers, who stretches out the heavens like a curtain and spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.
				23 He it is who reduces rulers to nothing, who makes the judges of the earth meaningless.
				24 Scarcely have they been planted, Scarcely have they been sown, Scarcely has their stock taken root in the earth, but He merely blows on them, and they wither, and the storm carries them away like stubble.
				26 Lift up your eyes on high and see who has created these stars, the One who leads forth their host by number, He calls them all by name; because of the greatness of His might and the strength of His power not one of them is missing.
				28 Do you not know? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable.

Isaiah 40 contains a wonderful view of the greatness of God. While the passage focuses on God Power and wisdom, his Immutability, Omnipresence and Eternity are implicitly present.

What effect on the truth of these verses would occur if God were not immutable? To put it another way, If God could change, would you place the same value on these verses as you do now? Why?

Similarly, why is God's Omnipresence essential to the truth of these verses? Could they be true if God could only be in one place at a time?

Finally, why does that fact that God is not limited by time important in these verses? If He were subject to time, would the meaning of these verses change?