

SHEFFEY BIBLE COLLEGE — STUDENT HANDOUT

Course: Systematic Theology I

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Chapter 11 — The Incommunicable Attributes of God (Part 1: The Unity of God)

What You Should Learn From Today's Lecture

Define the unity of God.

Explain how God's attributes relate to His entire being.

Understand that God is always the same in His nature.

Recognize that no single attribute of God is most important.

Apply the doctrine of God's unity to theology and Christian living.

I. The Unity of God's Being

God is not made up of parts or divided attributes—He is a unified being.

Scripture teaches that God is fully all that He is at all times.

“This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.”

—1 John 1:5

“He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.”

—1 John 4:8

“And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,

Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear the guilty...”

—Exodus 34:6–7

Notes:

Key Truth:

God is a unified being, and every attribute is fully true of all that God is.

II. God's Attributes Characterize His Entire Being

Every attribute of God applies to His entire nature.

God's attributes are not:

- Separate parts
- Added features
- Isolated characteristics

Each attribute:

- Describes the whole of God
- Works in harmony with all other attributes

Notes:

Key Truth:

Every attribute of God describes His entire being and works in perfect harmony with all others.

III. God Is the Same God Always

God does not change in His nature or character.

“For I am the LORD, I change not...”

—Malachi 3:6

God is not:

- Loving in one time and just in another
- Different between the Old and New Testament

Every action of God reflects His full character.

Notes:

Key Truth:

God is always the same, and everything He does reflects His complete character.

IV. No One Attribute of God Is Most Important

No single attribute of God is greater than the others.

We must not elevate:

- Love above justice
- Holiness above mercy
- Any one attribute above the rest

God is:

- Fully all His attributes
- Perfectly balanced
- Completely unified

Notes:

Key Truth:

No single attribute defines God above the others; God's full being is what is most important.

V. Practical Implications of God's Unity

1. We must not divide God's character
2. We must interpret Scripture consistently
3. We must avoid theological imbalance
4. We must worship God for all that He is
5. We must trust that all God does is consistent

Notes:

Key Truth:

Understanding God's unity produces doctrinal balance, confidence, and proper worship.

Discussion Questions

1. Why is it incorrect to think of God as divided into separate attributes?
 2. How does understanding God's unity affect the way we interpret Scripture?
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Things to Know (Exam Review Section)

1. God is a unified being, not composed of parts.
 2. Every attribute of God is true of His entire being.
 3. God is fully each attribute at all times (love, justice, holiness, etc.).
 4. God's attributes are not additions to His nature.
 5. Each attribute qualifies every other attribute.
 6. God does not change in His character.
 7. God is not different in the Old Testament and New Testament.
 8. Every action of God reflects all of His attributes.
 9. No single attribute of God is more important than another.
 10. Understanding God's unity leads to balanced theology and worship.
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Closing Summary

The unity of God teaches that God is not divided or composed of parts but is a perfectly unified being in whom every attribute is fully present. Every action of God reflects His complete character. Therefore, we must understand, teach, and worship God in the fullness of who He is, without dividing or elevating any single attribute.

ASSIGNMENT

Read Chapter 11 — The Incommunicable Attributes of God (Unity of God)

