A spiral-bound notebook with a light brown, textured cover. The spiral binding is on the left side. The text is centered on the cover.

“I AM”, the Holy One

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An introduction into the attributes of God




Selah

Romans 1:19-23

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For his invisible **attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature**, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

²¹ For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. ²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. --ESV



Remember those lessons on church membership and our origins as the EFCA?

Our backgrounds are

- Assemblies of God,
- Catholic,
- Evangelical Free Church,
- Lutheran (WELS, ELCA, LCMS),
- Pentecostal,
- Reformed,
- United Methodist,
- And more.

WE believe...

in **God the Father Almighty**, Maker of heaven and earth:

in **Jesus Christ his only Son**, our Lord;

...crucified, dead, and buried;

third day he rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven,

and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

in the **Holy Ghost**; The holy catholic [universal] church;

The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body;


and the life everlasting. Amen

A silver metal spiral binding is visible on the left edge of the page, with the wire looping through a series of holes.

What is God “like”?


Eze 1:1-28 (ESV)

- Like the sole of a calf's foot
- Like burnished bronze
- Like burning coals
- Like the appearance of burning torches
- Like the appearance of flashing lightning
- Like the gleaming of beryl
- Like awe-inspiring crystal
- Like the sound of many waters
- Like the sound of the Almighty
- Like the sound of an army
- Appearance like sapphire
- Like the appearance of fire enclosed all around
- Like the appearance of a [rain]bow




“The Church [corporate] has surrendered her once lofty concept of God and has substituted it for one so low, so ignoble, as to be unworthy of thinking, worshiping men.

This she has not done deliberately, but little by little and without her knowledge; and her very unawareness only make her situation all the more tragic.”³



What comes into our minds when we think about God
is the most important thing about us.³




“The history of mankind will probably show that no people has ever risen above its religion, and man’s spiritual history will positively demonstrate that no religion has ever been greater than its idea of God.

Worship is pure or base as the worshiper entertains high or low thoughts of God.”³

So how can I know Him better?

Be still, and know that I *am* God: I
will be exalted among the heathen,
I will be exalted in the earth.

--Psa 46:10, ESV



Get somewhere alone with Him,
read His words,
listen to Him,
pray (talk) to Him,
listen to Him,
worship Him.

In spirit and in truth.

A graphic of a spiral-bound notebook with a cream-colored page and a brown cover. The spiral binding is on the left side. A thin horizontal line is drawn across the page, approximately one-third of the way down from the top. The text "Backing up a bit..." is written in a brown, sans-serif font, centered horizontally and positioned below the line.

Backing up a bit...

Attributes

- So, what is an attribute?
- How many attributes does God have?

Attribute:

at·tri·bute, 'a-trə-byüt, noun

1. : a quality, character, or characteristic ascribed to someone or something
2. : an object closely associated with or belonging to a specific person, thing, or office
3. : a word ascribing a quality

--Merriam-Webster

Attribute of God

An attribute of God is whatever God has in any way revealed as being true of Himself.³

Attributes of God¹

- Eternal
- Infinite
- Immutable
- Omniscience
- Omnipotence
- Omnipresence
- Spirit
- Perfect
- Truth
- Love
- Grace
- Mercy
- Just

Attributes of God²

□ Natural attributes

- Omniscience
- Omnipotence
- Omnipresence
- Eternal
- Immutable

□ Moral attributes

- Holiness
- Righteousness
- Justice
- Mercy
- Lovingkindness
- Love

Attributes of God³

- Self-existent
- Self-sufficient
- Eternal
- Infinite
- Immutable
- Omniscient
- Transcendent
- Omnipresent
- Faithful
- Good
- Just
- Merciful
- Gracious
- Love
- Holiness
- Sovereign

John 14:6-10

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. **If you had known me, you would have known my Father also.** From now on you do know him and have seen him."

Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us."

Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? **Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.** How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works.



God has no equal on earth or in eternity.

He is our Creator; we are His creation. We cannot know Him completely;
we are not His equal.

We can only know what He has revealed of Himself to us by direct
revelation in His Word or through His creation, as in Rom 1:19-20.

Jesus, the Living Word, has shown us the heart of the Father.

So, how many attributes of God are there?

Ω

Luke 10:25-28


And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?"

26 He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?"

27 And he answered, "**You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.**"

28 And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live."

see also Shema; Deu 6:4-5; Mt 22:35-40; Mk12:28-34



The idea of purgatory or tollhouses or whatever form of judgement the church has taught us [you] always deals with the reality that whatever is not like God will be stripped from us at judgement. Like silver being refined, let us work well so there is enough of God in us for us to remain. --Isaac


Psa 66:10; Isa 48:10; Eze 22:18-22; Jer 13:9; Zec 13:9; Mal 3:3; 1 Pet 1:7




So, what is God “like” to me?

I Can Only Imagine

I can only imagine
What it will be like
When I walk by Your side
I can only imagine
What my eyes would see
When Your face is before me
I can only imagine



Surrounded by Your glory
What will my heart feel?
Will I dance for You Jesus
Or in awe of You be still?
Will I stand in Your presence
Or to my knees, will I fall?
Will I sing hallelujah?
Will I be able to speak at all?
I can only imagine



I can only imagine
When that day comes
And I find myself
Standing in the Son
I can only imagine
When all I will do
Is forever, forever worship You
I can only imagine

References

1. "The New Unger's Bible Dictionary", Merrill F. Unger 1957, editor R.K. Harrison, et al., revised edition 1988, Moody Press, Chicago, IL
2. "The Great Doctrines of the Bible" William Evans 1912, editor S. Maxwell Coder editor enlarged edition 1974, sixth printing 1978 Moody Press, Chicago, IL
3. "The Knowledge of the Holy" A.W. Tozer, HarperCollins, 1961, New York, NY
4. [brackets] are my insertions.
5. **Bold** for emphasis