



Introduction

The Omnipotence of God

What do we mean when we call God Omnipotent?

“Omnipotence means in practice the power to do everything that in his rational and moral perfection (i.e., his wisdom and goodness) God wills to do. This does not mean that God can do literally everything: he cannot sin, lie, change his nature, or deny the demands of his holy character (Num. 23:19; 1 Sam. 15:29; 2 Tim. 2:13; Heb. 6:18; James 1:13, 17); nor can he make a square circle, for the notion of a square circle is self-contradictory; nor can he cease to be God. But all that he wills and promises he can and will do.¹”

“...refers to the attribute of having infinite or unlimited power. With regard to God, the word means that He can do all that He has determined to do, and no person or force can hinder Him or oblige Him to do the contrary. To say that God can do all things means that He can do all that is in agreement with His most holy, righteous, and loving nature. He cannot contradict Himself—He cannot be cruel or selfish; He cannot lie; He cannot break a promise; He cannot do the absurd (e.g. make square circles, triangles with four corners, or rocks so heavy that He cannot move them).²”

“Power in God, therefore, may be defined to be the effective energy inherent in his nature by which he is able to do all things. The exercise of that power is dependent upon his will or purpose, and is limited not by what he can do, but by what he chooses to do.³”

What we DON'T mean when we call God Omnipotent

1. He can do literally anything: *Absolute Omnipotence*

¹ Packer, J. I. (2001-02-01). *Concise Theology: A Guide to Historic Christian Beliefs* (p. 36). Tyndale House Pub. Kindle Edition

² Washer, Paul (2016-08-09). *Knowing the Living God (Biblical Foundations for the Christian Faith Book 1)* (Page 76). Media Gratiae. Kindle Edition.

³ James Boyce (2010-04-04). *Abstract of Systematic Theology* (p. 71). . Kindle Edition.



- ❖ Daniel 4:35—*all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, "What have you done?"*
- ❖ Titus 1:2—*in hope of eternal life, which **God, who never lies**, promised before the ages began*
- ❖ 1 John 1:5—*This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that **God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.***
- ❖ James 1:13—*Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for **God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.***
- ❖ 2 Timothy 2:13—*if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for **he cannot deny himself.***
- ❖ James 1:17—*Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom **there is no variation or shadow due to change.***

2. He does everything he CAN do: Not really omnipotence at all

- ❖ Matthew 26:53—*Do you think that I cannot appeal to my Father, and he will at once send me more than twelve legions of angels?*
- ❖ Psalms 115:3—*Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.*

Where does the Bible teach God's Omnipotence?

1. God's omnipotence is seen in the way he names himself

- ❖ Genesis 17:1—*When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "**I am God Almighty**; walk before me, and be blameless,*
- ❖ Revelation 4:8—*And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is **the Lord God Almighty**, who was and is and is to come!"*
- ❖ Psalms 24:8—*Who is this King of glory? **The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!***
- ❖ Psalms 61:3—*for you have been my refuge, a **strong tower** against the enemy.*

2. God's omnipotence is seen in creation

❖ **Genesis 1**

- ❖ Romans 1:20—*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.*



- ❖ Psalm 33:6-9—*By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.*
- ❖ Job 26:13-14—*By his wind the heavens were made fair; his hand pierced the fleeing serpent. Behold, these are but the outskirts of his ways, and how small a whisper do we hear of him! But the thunder of his power who can understand?"*
- ❖ Hebrews 11:3—*By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.*

3. God's omnipotence is seen in his miraculous works

- ❖ Psalms 77:14—*You are the God who works wonders; you have made known your might among the peoples.*

4. God's omnipotence in seen in salvation

- ❖ Psalms 20:6—*Now I know that the Lord saves his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with the saving might of his right hand.*
- ❖ Psalms 31:2—*Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily! Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me!*
- ❖ Ephesians 1:19—*and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might*

5. God's omnipotence in seen in judgement

- ❖ Isaiah 11:4—*he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.*
- ❖ Isaiah 30:28—*his breath is like an overflowing stream that reaches up to the neck; to sift the nations with the sieve of destruction*
- ❖ Deuteronomy 32:39-43'—*See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god beside me; I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; and there is none that can deliver out of my hand. For I lift up my hand to heaven and swear, As I live forever, if I sharpen my flashing sword and my hand takes hold on judgment, I will take vengeance on my adversaries and will repay those who hate me. I will make my arrows drunk with blood, and my sword shall devour flesh— with the blood of the slain and the captives, from the long-haired heads of the enemy.' "Rejoice with him, O heavens; bow down to him, all gods, for he avenges the blood of his children and takes vengeance on his adversaries. He repays those who hate him and cleanses his people's land."*



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- ❖ Revelation 19:15—*From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty.*

6. God's Power, Is Infinitely Greater Than Man's

- ❖ Matthew 19:26—*Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."*

❖ Job 38-41

Why is this important to us?

- 1. God's omnipotence is a truth that compels us to rightly fear and revere him**
- 2. God omnipotence is a truth that compels us to share the gospel**
- 3. God omnipotence is a truth that strengthens us in our inner man**

- ❖ 1 Thessalonians 5:23—*Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*
- ❖ Hebrews 13:5—*I will never leave you nor forsake you."*
- ❖ Hebrews 13:6—*The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?"*