

The Attributes of God: Omnipotence

Pastor Darrell B. Harrison
Redeemer Bible Church
Bible Hour
Saturday, January 17, 2026
4:00 p.m.

Omnipotence defined:

God's omnipotence describes His ability
to do anything consistent with His
nature.*

John MacArthur

*God the Father by John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue taken from *Biblical Doctrine* by John MacArthur and Richard Mayhue, copyright 2017, Crossway Books, a division of Good News Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois 60187, www.crosswaybooks.org. Page 177.

Omnipotence defined

Omnipotence is one of the traditional attributes of God.
[It is] the quality of being all-powerful, normally understood as the power to perform any action that is logically possible and consistent with God's essential nature.*

C. Stephen Evans

*C. Stephen Evans, *Pocket Dictionary of Apologetics & Philosophy of Religion* (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2002), 84.

Immutability defined

[Immutability] means that, being perfect, God cannot and does not change. In order to change, a moral being must change in either of two ways. Either he must change for the better or he must change for the worse. God cannot get better, because that would mean that He was less than perfect earlier, in which case He would not have been God. But God cannot get worse either, because in that case He would become imperfect, which He cannot be. God is and must remain perfect in all His attributes.*

James Montgomery Boice

*The Minor Prophets, Vol. 2, Baker Books (1986), p. 600.

Immutability defined

Immutability means that God is unchangeably true to Himself and thus to His purposes and promises. He is sovereign and is not subject to external agents or forces.*

Robert Letham

**TableTalk* Magazine, May 2022 issue

A.W. Pink on God's immutability

However unstable I may be, however fickle my friends may prove, God changes not. If He varied as we do, if He willed one thing today and another tomorrow, if He were controlled by caprice, who could confide in Him? But all praise to His glorious name, He is ever the same. His purpose is fixed, His will is stable, His word is sure.*

*Pink, Arthur W. *The Attributes of God*. Chapter: "The Immutability of God." Originally published 1930. Reprinted in various editions.

God's Immutability in Scripture

- **Malachi 3:6a:** “I, the LORD, do not change.”
- **Numbers 23:19a:** “God is not a man that He should lie, nor a son of man that He should repent.”
- **Job 23:13:** “But He is unique and who can turn Him?”
- **James 1:17:** Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.
- **Hebrews 13:8:** “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.”

J.I. Packer on God's attributes

Our aim in studying the Godhead must be to know God Himself better. Our concern must be to enlarge our acquaintance, not simply with the doctrine of God's attributes, but with the living God whose attributes they are.*

*Taken from *Knowing God* by JI Packer. Copyright©1973. Used by permission of InterVarsity Press, PO Box 1400, Downers Grove, IL 60515, p.23.

A.W. Pink on God's immutability

The permanence of God's character
guarantees the fulfillment of his
promises.*

*Pink, Arthur W. *The Attributes of God*. Chapter: "The Immutability of God." 1930.

1 John 5:20

And we know that the Son of God has come, and has given us understanding so that we may know Him who is true (alēthinós); and we are in Him who is true (alēthinós), in His Son Jesus Christ.

Blaise Pascal on God's omnipotence

The greatest single distinguishing feature of the omnipotence of God is that our imagination gets lost thinking about it.*

*Pink, Arthur W. *The Attributes of God*. Chapter: "The Immutability of God." 1930. 11

Stephen Charnock on God's omnipotence

As holiness is the beauty of all God's attributes, so power is that which gives life and action to all the perfections of the Divine nature. How vain would be the eternal counsels, if power did not step in to execute them. Without power

His mercy would be but feeble pity, His promises an empty sound, His threatenings a mere scarecrow. God's power is like Himself: infinite, eternal, incomprehensible; it can neither be checked, restrained, nor frustrated by the creature. . . . How foolish is every sinner. Can we poor worms strut it out against infinite power? Oh, that every obstinate sinner would think of this, and consider his unmeasurable boldness in thinking himself able to grapple with omnipotence! What force can any have to resist the presence of Him before whom rocks melt, and the heavens at length shall be shriveled up as a parchment by the last fire! As the light of God's face is too dazzling to be beheld by us, so the arm of His power is too mighty to be opposed by us.*

John Calvin on God's omnipotence

The Hebrew noun El, which is derived from [the word] power, is here put for God. The same remark applies to the accompanying word שַׁדַּי, (shaddai,) as if God would declare that he had sufficient power for Abram's protection: because our faith can only stand firmly while we are certainly persuaded that the defense of God is alone sufficient for us, and can sincerely despise everything in the world which is opposed to our salvation.*

* Commentary on Genesis 17:1

El Shaddai

God Almighty

Jeremiah 32:17

**“Ah Lord God! Behold, You have made
the heavens and the earth by Your great
power and by Your outstretched arm!
Nothing is too difficult for You.”**

Jeremy Taylor (1613-1667)

“It is impossible for that man to despair
who remembers that his Helper is
omnipotent.”*

*Taylor, Jeremy. *The Rule and Exercises of Holy Living*. London, 1650.

Discussion Questions

1. How can God's omnipotence guard us against discontentment and bitterness of heart?
2. How should God's omniscience and immutability help deepen our love for and level of trust in Him?
3. How does immutability correct common misconceptions about what it means for God to be "all-powerful"?

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