

A look at who God is from definitions of His attributes. 7/9/07

A. There are two classes of God's attributes

- a. His **natural attributes** relate to God inwardly as He is in Himself. These natural attributes are as follows: Omniscient, Omnipotent, Omnipresent, Eternal, Immutable, Incomprehensible, Self-existent, Self-sufficient, Infinite, Transcendent, Sovereign.
- b. His **moral attributes** reveal God outwardly in His relation to His creation. These moral attributes are: Holy, Righteous, Just, Merciful, Long-suffering, Wise, Loving, Good, Wrathful, Truthful, Faithful, Jealous.

B. His natural attributes relate to God inwardly as He is in Himself

1. **Omniscient**- God knows all. He has a perfect knowledge of everything that is past, present, and future.
2. **Omnipotent**- God possess all power. He is able to bring about anything that He has decided to do, with or without the use of any source beyond Himself.
3. **Omnipresent**- God is present everywhere, in all the universe, at all times, in the totality of His character.
4. **Eternal** - God has no beginning, and He has no end. He is not confined to the finiteness of time or to man's reckoning of time. He is, in fact, the cause of time.
5. **Immutable** - God is always the same in His nature, His character, and His will. He never changes, and can never be made to change.
6. **Incomprehensible** - Because God is God, He is beyond the understanding of man. His ways, character, and the acts are higher than man's. Man only understands as God chooses to reveal Himself, His ways, or His purpose.
7. **Self-existent** - God depends upon nothing for His existence beyond Himself. The whole basis of His existence is within Himself. At one time nothing but God Himself existed. He added nothing to Himself by creation.
8. **Self-sufficient** - Within Himself, God is able to act, that is, to bring about His will without any assistance. Although He may choose to use assistance, it is His good pleasure, not His need that governs that choice.
9. **Infinite** - God has no limits or bounds whatsoever in His person or dominion.
10. **Transcendent** - God is above His creation, and He would exist if there were no creation. His existence is totally apart from His creatures or creation.
11. **Sovereign** - God is totally, supremely, and preeminently over all His creation. There is not a person or thing that has escaped His control and foreknown plan!

C. His Moral Attributes reveal God outwardly in His relation to His creation

1. **Holy** - God is a morally excellent, perfect being. He is totally other than man! His is purity of being in every aspect.
2. **Righteous** - God is always good. It is essential to His character. He always does the right thing. Ultimately since He is God, whatever He does is right.... He is absolute. His actions are always consistent with His character, which is love.
3. **Just** - God is fair in all His actions. Whether He deals with man, angels, or demons, He acts in total equity by rewarding righteousness and punishing sin. Since He knows all, every decree is absolutely just.
4. **Merciful** - God is an actively compassionate being. He responds compassionately toward those who have opposed His will in their pursuit of their own way.
5. **Longsuffering** - God's righteous anger is slow to be kindled against those who failed to listen to His warnings or to obey His instructions. His eternal longing for the highest good for His creatures holds back His holy justice.
6. **Wise** - God's actions are based on His character. His wisdom causes Him to choose righteous ends and to make the most fitting plans to achieve those ends.
7. **Loving** - Gods love moves Him to give Himself for another, even to the laying down of His own life. His love causes him to desire His creatures' highest good. This is not based upon the worth, response, or merit of the object being loved.
8. **Good** - In His goodness God gives to others, not to what they deserve but according to His good will and kindness toward them.
9. **Wrathful** - There is within God a hatred for all that is unrighteous and an unquenchable desire to punish all unrighteousness. Whatever is inconsistent with His holy standards must ultimately be consumed.
10. **Truthful** - All that God says is reality. Whether believed by man or not, whether seen as reality or not, what God has spoken is reality. Whatever He speaks is truth..
11. **Faithful** - God is always true to His promises. He can never draw back from His promises of blessing or of judgment.
12. **Jealous** - God is unwilling to share what is rightfully and morally His with any other creature.