Devotional Questions The Attributes of God – God's Omnipresence

- 1. What does 'omnipresence' mean?
- 2. I can't escape God's knowledge of me (Psalm 139:1-6).
- 3. I can't escape God's presence (Psalm 139:7-12).
- 4. I can't escape God's power and sovereignty* (Psalm 139:13-18). *The Bible believer should avoid the term sovereignty with respect to God. The correct term is omnipotence. "And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, <u>Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth</u>" Revelation 19:6. See attached study **The Sovereign Power of Darkness**.
- 5. What do the following verses teach us about God's omnipresence?

1 Kings 8:27, Isaiah 66:1, Acts 7:48-49

Acts 17:28, of Christ Matthew 18:20, 28:20

Jeremiah 23:23-24, of Christ Ephesians 1:23, 4:10, Colossians 3:11

- 6. In what ways is God's omnipresence great news or terrifying news?
- 7. How does God's omnipresence help us to live for God today?

Devotional Questions – Answers to Questions The Attributes of God – God's Omnipresence

See *Theological Studies* Book Number 2 *The Personality of God* pp 22-27 by Dr Ruckman for detailed comment.

1. What does 'omnipresence' mean?

See en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Omnipresence.

Omnipresence or **ubiquity** is the property of being present everywhere. This property is most commonly used in a religious context as an attribute of a deity or supreme being.

The Biblical description of God's omnipresence is Jeremiah 23:24, see *Question 5*, "Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him? saith the LORD. Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD."

The issue for today's believer is to be filled with the Lord's presence as the early disciples were, noting the particular outcome of that infilling. It's notable that their prayer shook a place. Later "These...turned the world upside down" Acts 17:6.

"And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness" Acts 4:31.

2. I can't escape God's knowledge of me (Psalm 139:1-6).

The key expressions are "Thou knowest my downsitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off...For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether" Psalm 139:2, 4.

Today's believer should therefore pray as King David did. "<u>Let the words of my mouth</u>, <u>and the meditation of my heart</u>, <u>be acceptable in thy sight</u>, <u>O LORD</u>, <u>my strength</u>, <u>and my redeemer</u>" Psalm 19:14.

3. I can't escape God's presence (Psalm 139:7-12).

The key expressions are "Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?...Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to thee" Psalm 139:7, 12.

Today's believer should therefore pray to be the kind of man that God is looking for. "For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him..." 2 Chronicles 16:9.

4. I can't escape God's power and sovereignty* (Psalm 139:13-18). *The Bible believer should avoid the term sovereignty with respect to God. The correct term is omnipotence. "And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, <u>Alleluia</u>: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth" Revelation 19:6. See attached study **The Sovereign Power of Darkness**.

The key expressions are "I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvel-lous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well...How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the sum of them!" Psalm 139:14, 17.

Today's believer should therefore pray that the Lord brings forth that power from him so that he is effective as one of the "witnesses unto me." "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" Acts 1:8.

5. What do the following verses teach us about God's omnipresence?

1 Kings 8:27 "...behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee...," Isaiah 66:1 "Thus saith the LORD, The heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool," Acts 7:48-49 "Heaven is my throne, and earth is my footstool...saith the Lord" Acts 7:49

God is beyond His visible creation as Job states with respect to "...the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament..." Genesis 1:7 "He hath compassed the waters with bounds, until the day and night come to an end" Job 26:10. Isaiah 66:1 would refer to "...the third heaven" 2 Corinthians 12:2 whereby "...the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men..." Daniel 4:17, 25, 32. Acts 7:49, without the definite articles, may have wider application to the aftermath of the Second Advent when "...Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men..." Revelation 21:3 and, noting "the heavens" plural, the complete fulfilment then of Psalm 103:19 "The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all."

Jeremiah 23:23-24 "...Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD" Jeremiah 23:24, of Christ Ephesians 1:23, 4:10 "He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things" Ephesians 4:10, Colossians 3:11 "Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all"

God is wholly with His creation because "he walketh in the circuit of heaven" Job 22:14 and thereby typifies the intimacy of the Lord Jesus Christ, Who is "The mighty God" Isaiah 9:6 and therefore omnipresent, with His church as Paul explains. "... Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body...even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it" Ephesians 5:23, 25 "And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence" Colossians 1:18.

Acts 17:28 "For in him we live, and move, and have our being...," of Christ Matthew 18:20, 28:20 "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them...lo, I am with you alway..."

God is *intimate* with His creation and as "<u>The</u> <u>mighty</u> <u>God</u>" Isaiah 9:6 and omnipresent, the Lord fulfils for both His immediate disciples and "<u>for them also which shall believe on me</u> <u>through their word</u>" John 17:20 His promise John 14:20 "<u>At that day ve shall know that I am</u> <u>in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you."</u>

The particular blessing for today's believer is as *Question 1* sets out with respect to God's filling of the believer in response to believing prayer that can have vivid observable effects.

"And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness" Acts 4:31.

6. In what ways is God's omnipresence great news or terrifying news?

By inspection, both are embodied for today's believer in Psalm 32:8-10 "I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye. Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee. Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about."

7. How does God's omnipresence help us to live for God today?

It does so in the same way as it did for King David. Note again the application for today's believer with respect to being "witnesses unto me" Acts 1:8 in what follows in that "my tongue was glad."

"For David speaketh concerning him, I foresaw the Lord always before my face, for he is on my right hand, that I should not be moved: Therefore did my heart rejoice, and my tongue was glad; moreover also my flesh shall rest in hope" Acts 2:25-26.

Today's believer has the advancements of "... <u>Christ in you</u>, <u>the hope of glory</u>" Colossians 1:27 and the Lord Jesus Christ discerned through "... <u>the holy scriptures</u>, <u>which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus</u>" 2 Timothy 3:15 "<u>a more sure word of prophecy</u>" as Peter exhorts with respect to living for God <u>now</u> "<u>till he come</u>" 1 Corinthians 11:26.

"We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts" 2 Peter 1:19.

PSALM 139

6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me It is high, I cannot attain unto it

7 Whither shall I go from thy spirit?
Or whither shall I flee from thy presence?

8 If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there If I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there

9 If I take the wings of the morning And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea

10 Even there shall thy hand lead me And thy right hand shall hold me

www.slideshare.net/patriciagroeller/psalms-119-150

The Sovereign Power of Darkness



IMAGE OF DARKNESS

Noted Christian writer and broadcaster Texe Marrs said this at the time of the attack on the World Trade Centre in NYC on the morning of September 11th 2001. See:

www.texemarrs.com/102001/face_of_devil.htm.

Where carnage, bloodshed, and destruction can be found, there you will also find Satan, aka the Devil. This mind-boggling picture is real. Printed on the web sites of The Philadelphia Inquirer newspaper, Cable News Network (CNN.com), and the pages of The Fort Worth Star-Telegram newspaper in Texas, this image was also broadcast over Fox TV News network. It clearly shows the devil's face in the fire and smoke of the explosions at the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. The Associated Press confirms that this is an unretouched photograph, a digitized close-up of the original.

The image itself however is not the central issue. The central issue is what it depicts as the Lord Jesus Christ said on the eve of "the suffering and death...that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man" Hebrews 2:9.

"This is your hour, and the power of darkness" Luke 22:53 THE SOVEREIGN POWER OF DARKNESS

Why, then, the title of this piece, as above? After all, fundamentalists repeatedly use the word *sovereign* to refer to the Lord Himself, by means of such well-known phrases as "the Sovereignty of God" and "God is Sovereign" etc. How does the word sovereign then come to be associated with "the power of darkness" Luke 22:53? Gail Riplinger explains why.

THE SOVEREIGN "MAN OF SIN" 2 Thessalonians 2:3

Gail Riplinger shows in *The Language of the King James Bible* p 66, her emphases, that the popular NIV *using the word sovereign* is a precursor to the encroaching satanic new world order that the Lord Jesus Christ called *"the power of darkness"* Luke 22:53.

The NIV omits the powerful word "GOD" over 300 times [See The number of times 15 Major words differ from the King James Bible www.av1611.org/biblewrd.html by Terry Watkins]. It substitutes the weak word 'Sovereign.' This term was introduced into English by the French-speaking 'sovereigns' who governed England during the 12th century [See en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of English monarchs Henry I, Stephen, Henry II, Richard I].

According to the [Oxford English Dictionary's] corpus of English language, it has been used almost exclusively to indicate a mortal political leader, **not** the transcendent Almighty GOD. The recent unfortunate popularization of this word in some religious circles, no doubt owes its emphasis to John Calvin. The word 'Sovereign' capsulizes his French training for the priesthood, his denial of man's free-will and his teachings merging church and state. This merger looms frighteningly close as the Antichrist's shadow falls over the NIV's "Sovereign Lord," a term the OED cites as indicating a "man." Paul and John have identified that man.

"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition" 2 Thessalonians 2:3.

"Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for <u>it is the number of a man</u>; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six" Revelation 13:18.

"That man of sin...the son of perdition" is known by his Sovereign Catholic Version.

THE SOVEREIGN CATHOLIC VERSION

See <u>en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Douay%E2%80%93Rheims_Bible</u>. The first English Bible to use the term *"sovereign"* was the *Catholic* Douay-Rheims Bible 1610, revised 1749-1752.

The DR uses "sovereignty" in Judges 5:11 and "sovereign" in Isaiah 3:1, 10:16, 33, 51:22, Amos 5:14, Jude 4 i.e. 7 times. Jude 4 shows the DR's influence on the 1984, 2011 NIVs:

"For certain <u>men</u> are secretly entered in (who were written of long ago unto this judgment), ungodly <u>men</u>, turning the grace of our Lord God into riotousness and denying the only <u>sovereign</u> Ruler and our Lord Jesus Christ" Jude 4 DR.

"For certain <u>men</u> whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are godless <u>men</u>, who change the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only <u>Sovereign</u> and Lord" Jude 4 1984 NIV.

"For certain <u>individuals</u> whose condemnation was written about long ago have secretly slipped in among you. They are ungodly <u>people</u>, who pervert the grace of our God into a license for immorality and deny Jesus Christ our only <u>Sovereign</u> and Lord" Jude 4 2011 NIV. Note that the DR, NIVs use "Sovereign" to erase "<u>Lord God</u>" in Jude 4 and rob "<u>our Lord Jesus Christ</u>" of His Deity to help set up the Antichrist as the AV1611 shows:

"THE WORDS OF THE LORD" Psalm 12:6

"For there are certain <u>men</u> crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly <u>men</u>, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying <u>the only Lord God</u>, <u>and our Lord Jesus Christ</u>" Jude 4 AV1611.

DIFFERENT WORD, SAME THEFT, SAME SATANIC SET-UP

The Catholic JB, NJB, Jerusalem, New Jerusalem Bibles change "Sovereign" to the more familiar synonym "Master" but still erase "Lord God" to rob "our Lord Jesus Christ" of His Deity and promote "that man of sin...so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God" 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4. All modern bibles; RV, ASV, NASVs, RSV, NRSV, NIVs, NKJV footnote, CEV, ESV, GNT, HCSB, NCV, NET, NLT, NWTs, follow suit. That shows that they are from the same Catholic "troubled fountain, and...corrupt spring" Proverbs 25:26. Note also the gender-neutral changes in the 2011 NIV in Jude 4, to further the merging of the apostate End Times church with the satanic new world order that the Lord Jesus Christ called "the power of darkness" Luke 22:53.

"WATCH YE, STAND FAST IN THE FAITH" 1 Corinthians 16:13

In conclusion note that not merely 'the Sovereign Lord' but "the Lord God omnipotent reigneth" Revelation 19:6. "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?" Romans 8:31. Therefore "till he come" 1 Corinthians 11:26:

"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong" 1 Corinthians 16:13.