Devotional Questions The Attributes of God – Omnipotence

- 1. What does omnipotence mean? Genesis 17:1
- 2. How does God's omnipotence help us to live for God today?
 - a. Genesis 1:9, 11, 24, Psalm 29:3-9, 33:6-9
 - b. Job 38:1-11
 - c. Psalm 19:1-4
 - *d. Daniel* 4:35
 - e. Hebrews 1:3
- 3. What is too hard for God?

Genesis 18:14, Jeremiah 32:17, 27

Job 42:2, Psalm 115:3

Zechariah 8:6

Matthew 3:9

Matthew 19:26, Mark 10:27, Luke 1:37, 18:27

- 4. If God is so powerful is there anything He cannot do?
 - a. John 8:45-46, Titus 1:2, Hebrews 6:10
 - b. 2 Timothy 2:13
 - c. James 1:13
- How does God's omnipotence give us confidence? John 10:27-30, Romans 8:35-39

God has power over:

- a. Creation: Genesis 1, Exodus 14:21-22, Joshua 10:12-14, John 6:15-21
- b. Satan, demons*: 1 john 3:8. *See the Ruckman Reference Bible p 1269. The correct term is "devils" Leviticus 17:7, Deuteronomy 32:17, 2 Chronicles 11:15, Psalm 106:37, Matthew 4:24, 7:22, 8:16, 28, 31, 33, 9:34 twice, 10:8, 12:24 twice, 12:27, 28, Mark 1:32, 34 twice, 39, 3:15, 22 twice, 5:12, 6:13, 9:38, 16:9, 17, Luke 4:41, 8:2, 27, 30, 33, 35, 36, 38, 9:1, 49, 10:17, 11:15 twice, 18, 19, 20, 13:32, 1 Corinthians 10:20 twice, 21 twice, 1 Timothy 4:1, James 2:19, Revelation 9:20, 16:14, 18:2, 48 verses, 55 references in all.
- c. Health issues: Matthew 4:23
- d. Practical things i.e. money: Matthew 17:27, Philippians 4:19
- e. Death and resurrection: Ephesians 1:19-20, Revelation 1:18
- f. The Church and its growth: Matthew 16:18, 2 Peter 1:2-3
- g. Deliverance i.e. God has power to rescue: Exodus 13:3, Hebrews 7:25

Devotional Questions – Answers to Questions The Attributes of God – Omnipotence

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

1. What does omnipotence mean?

Genesis 17:1 states "And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, <u>I am the Almighty God</u>; walk before me, and be thou perfect."

The expression "<u>the Almighty God</u>" points to God's omnipotence as His unchallengeable, universal and everlasting reign over all things, as the following scriptures show. Note the matching expressions "<u>the Almighty God</u>" Genesis 17:1, "<u>O Lord God Almighty</u>...<u>hast reigned</u>" Revelation 11:17, "<u>the Lord God omnipotent reigneth</u>" Revelation 19:6.

"<u>The LORD hath prepared his throne in the heavens;</u> and his kingdom ruleth over all" Psalm 103:19.

"And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, <u>The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord</u>, <u>and of his Christ</u>; <u>and he shall</u> <u>reign for ever and ever</u>. And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, We give thee thanks, <u>O Lord God Almighty</u>, which art, <u>and wast</u>, <u>and art to come</u>; <u>because thou hast taken to thee thy great power</u>, <u>and hast reigned</u>. And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; <u>and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth</u>" Revelation 11:15-18.

"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>: <u>for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth</u>" Revelation 19:6.

- 2. How does God's omnipotence help us to live for God today?
 - a. Genesis 1:9, 11, 24 "<u>And God said</u>...<u>and it was so</u>," *Psalm* 29:3-9 "<u>The voice of the LORD</u> is powerful; the voice of the LORD is full of majesty</u>" Psalm 29:4, *Psalm* 33:6-9 "<u>By the</u> word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his <u>mouth</u>" Psalm 33:6.

Those scriptures emphasise the certainty of the fulfilment of the Lord's *words* in the life of today's believer as Paul testifies. "Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me" Acts 27:25.

- b. Job 38:1-11 "<u>Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth</u>? declare, if thou hast understanding. <u>Who hath laid the measures thereof</u>, if thou knowest? <u>or who hath stretched the line upon it</u>?" Job 38:4-5. God has His own GGPS, God's Global Positioning System as distinct from man's <u>en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global Positioning System</u> so that David testifies as it is for today's believer "<u>Thou hast beset me behind and before</u>, <u>and laid thine hand upon me</u>" Psalm 139:5.
- c. Psalm 19:1-4 "<u>The heavens declare the glory of God</u>; and the firmament sheweth his <u>handywork</u>" Psalm 19:1. That is a reminder to today's believer of how the Lord would have His word viewed, though few take any notice for now. "For all those things hath mine <u>hand made</u>, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word" Isaiah 66:2.

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- d. Daniel 4:35 "<u>And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing</u>: <u>and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven</u>, <u>and among the inhabitants of the earth</u>: <u>and none can stay his hand</u>, <u>or say unto him</u>, <u>What doest thou</u>?"

Today's believer's response should therefore openly be as King Nebuchadnezzar's. "<u>Now I</u> <u>Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are</u> <u>truth, and his ways judgment</u>: <u>and those that walk in pride he is able to abase</u>" Daniel 4:37.

- e. Hebrews 1:3 "Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high." That is a reminder that today's believer's very existence depends upon the Lord Jesus Christ as Paul testifies. "For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist" Colossians 1:16-17.
- 3. What is too hard for God?

Genesis 18:14 "Is any thing too hard for the LORD?," Jeremiah 32:17, 27 "Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?" Jeremiah 32:27

Job 42:2 "<u>I know that thou canst do every thing</u>, and that no thought can be withholden from thee," Psalm 115:3 "But our God is in the heavens: <u>he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased</u>"

Zechariah 8:6 "Thus saith the LORD of hosts; If it be marvellous in the eyes of the remnant of this people in these days, <u>should it also be marvellous in mine eyes</u>? <u>saith the LORD of hosts</u>"

Matthew 3:9 "And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: <u>for I</u> <u>say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham</u>"

Matthew 19:26 "With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible," Mark 10:27 "With men it is impossible, but not with God: for with God all things are possible," Luke 1:37 "For with God nothing shall be impossible," Luke 18:27 "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God"

The above scriptures testify to today's believer's open and right response to answered prayer. "<u>This is the LORD'S doing</u>; <u>it is marvellous in our eyes</u>" Psalm 118:23.

- 4. If God is so powerful is there anything He cannot do?
 - a. John 8:45-46 "<u>Which of you convinceth me of sin</u>?" John 8:46, *Titus 1:2 "God...cannot* <u>lie," Hebrews 6:10 "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love,</u> which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister"
 - b. 2 Timothy 2:13 "If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: <u>he cannot deny himself</u>"
 - *c. James 1:13 "Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: <u>for God cannot be</u> <u>tempted with evil</u>, neither tempteth he any man"*

The above admonitions on the Lord's omnipotence testify to the Lord as "<u>the Father of lights</u>, <u>with whom is no variableness</u>, <u>neither shadow of turning</u>"</u> James 1:17. Today's believer should therefore follow Paul's admonition. "<u>For ye were sometimes darkness</u>, <u>but now are ye</u> <u>light in the Lord</u>: <u>walk as children of light</u>" Ephesians 5:8.

5. How does God's omnipotence give us confidence?

John 10:27-30 "And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, <u>neither shall</u> any man pluck them out of my hand" John 10:28, Romans 8:35-39 "For I am persuaded, that <u>neither death</u>, <u>nor life</u>, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, <u>Nor height</u>, <u>nor depth</u>, <u>nor any other creature</u>, shall <u>be able to separate us</u> from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord" Romans 8:38-39

The confidence from God's omnipotence for today's believer that the above scriptures describe is the outcome of the profound oneness with the Lord Jesus Christ that Paul summarises, which cannot be closer. *"For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones"* Ephesians 5:30. See *summary scriptures* below with respect to the *applications* to today's believer that the scriptures listed below encapsulate.

God has power over:

a. Creation: Genesis 1, Exodus 14:21-22, Joshua 10:12-14, John 6:15-21

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them" Ephesians 2:10.

b. Satan, demons*: 1 john 3:8. *See the Ruckman Reference Bible p 1269. The correct term is "devils" Leviticus 17:7, Deuteronomy 32:17, 2 Chronicles 11:15, Psalm 106:37, Matthew 4:24, 7:22, 8:16, 28, 31, 33, 9:34 twice, 10:8, 12:24 twice, 12:27, 28, Mark 1:32, 34 twice, 39, 3:15, 22 twice, 5:12, 6:13, 9:38, 16:9, 17, Luke 4:41, 8:2, 27, 30, 33, 35, 36, 38, 9:1, 49, 10:17, 11:15 twice, 18, 19, 20, 13:32, 1 Corinthians 10:20 twice, 21 twice, 1 Timothy 4:1, James 2:19, Revelation 9:20, 16:14, 18:2, 48 verses, 55 references in all.

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. <u>Resist the devil</u>, and he will flee from you" James 4:7.

- c. Health issues: Matthew 4:23
 "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth" 3 John 2.
- d. Practical things i.e. money: Matthew 17:27, Philippians 4:19
 - "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work" 2 Corinthians 9:8.
- e. Death and resurrection: Ephesians 1:19-20, Revelation 1:18

"So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory" 1 Corinthians 15:54.

f. The Church and its growth: Matthew 16:18, 2 Peter 1:2-3

"Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied" Acts 9:31.

g. Deliverance i.e. God has power to rescue: Exodus 13:3, Hebrews 7:25

"<u>And the Lord shall deliver me from every evil work, and will preserve me unto his heavenly</u> <u>kingdom: to whom be glory for ever and ever.</u> <u>Amen</u>" 2 Timothy 4:18.