

What Are God's Attributes?

Eternal

God has no beginning and no end. He always was, always is, and always will be.

HAB. 1:12 / REV. 1:8 / IS. 41:4

God is incapable of anything but fidelity. He is loyally devoted to His plan and purpose.

2 TIM. 2:13 / DEUT. 7:9 / HEB. 10:23

Good

God is pure; there is no defilement in Him. He is unable to sin, and all He does is good.

GEN. 1:31/PS. 34:8/PS. 107:1

Gracious

God is kind, giving us gifts and benefits we do not deserve.

2 KINGS 13:23 / PS. 145:8 IS. 30:18

<u>Holy</u>

God is undefiled and unable to be in the presence of defilement. He is sacred and set-apart. REV. 4:8/LEV. 19:2/HAB. 1:13

Incomprehensible and Transcendent

God is high above and beyond human understanding. He is unable to be fully known.

PS. 145:3 / IS. 55:8-9 ROM. 11:33-36

Immutable

God does not change. He is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. 1 SAM. 15:29 / ROM. 11:29 JAMES 1:17

Infinite

God is limitless. He exhibits all of His attributes perfectly and boundlessly.

ROM. 11:33-36 / IS. 40:28

ROM. 11:33-36 / IS. 40:28 PS. 147:5

.Fealous

God is desirous of receiving the praise and affection He rightly deserves. EX. 20:5 / DEUT. 4:23-24

Just

JOSH. 24:19

God governs in perfect justice. He acts in accordance with justice. In Him, there is no wrongdoing or dishonesty.

IS. 61:8 / DEUT. 32:4 / PS. 146:7-9

Loving

God is eternally, enduringly, steadfastly loving and affectionate. He does not forsake or betray His covenant love.

JN. 3:16 / EPH. 2:4-5 / 1 JN. 4:16

$\underline{Merciful}$

God is compassionate, withholding from us the wrath that we deserve.

TITUS 3:5 / PS. 25:10 LAM. 3:22-23

What Are God's Attributes?

Omnipotent

God is all-powerful; His strength is unlimited.

MAT. 19:26 / JOB 42:1-2 JER. 32:27

Omnipresent

God is everywhere; His presence is near and permeating.

PROV. 15:3 / PS. 139:7-10 JER. 23:23-24

Omniscient

God is all-knowing; there is nothing unknown to Him.

PS. 147:4 / I JN. 3:20 HEB. 4:13

Patient

God is long-suffering and enduring. He gives ample opportunity for people to turn toward Him.

ROM. 2:4 / 2 PET. 3:9 / PS. 86:15

Self-Existent

God was not created but exists by His power alone.

PS. 90:1-2 / JN. 1:4 / JN. 5:26

Self-Sufficient

God has no needs and depends on nothing, but everything depends on God.

IS. 40:28-31 / ACTS 17:24-25 PHIL. 4:19

Sovereign

God governs over all things; He is in complete control.

COL. 1:17 / PS. 24:1-2 1 CHRON. 29:11-12

Truthful

God is our measurement of what is fact. By Him we are able to discern true and false.

JN. 3:33 / ROM. 1:25 / JN. 14:6

Wise

God is infinitely knowledgeable and is judicious with His knowledge.

IS. 46:9-10 / IS. 55:9 / PROV. 3:19

Wrathful

God stands in opposition to all that is evil. He enacts judgment according to His holiness, righteousness, and justice.

PS. 69:24 / JN. 3:36 / ROM. 1:18

Identify

Choose one of the attributes from the list on pages 2 and 3. Look up the corresponding verses in the Bible and search what a word means in the dictionary.
ATTRIBUTE:
DEFINITION:
DEFINITION.
Meditate
What do you learn about God's attributes from the corresponding verses?
How have you seen this aspect of God's character displayed throughout your life?
Pray
Write a prayer to the Lord, praising God for this attribute.

Why Study God's Attributes?

Read 1 Samuel 2:1-10.

What attributes of God do you see acknowledged in Hannah's prayer? Circle them in the passage and list them below.

¹ Hannah prayed:

My heart rejoices in the LORD; my horn is lifted up by the LORD. My mouth boasts over my enemies, because I rejoice in your salvation. ²There is no one holy like the LORD. There is no one besides you! And there is no rock like our God. ³Do not boast so proudly, or let arrogant words come out of your mouth, for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and actions are weighed by him. ⁴The bows of the warriors are broken, but the feeble are clothed with strength. ⁵ Those who are full hire themselves out for food, but those who are starving hunger no more. The woman who is childless gives birth to seven, but the woman with many sons pines away. ⁶The Lord brings death and gives life; he sends some down to Sheol, and he raises others up.

⁷The Lord brings poverty and gives wealth: he humbles and he exalts. ⁸He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the trash heap. He seats them with noblemen and gives them a throne of honor. For the foundations of the earth are the Lord's: he has set the world on them. ⁹He guards the steps of his faithful ones, but the wicked perish in darkness, for a person does not prevail by his own trength. ¹⁰ Those who oppose the Lord will be shattered; he will thunder in the heavens against them. The Lord will judge the ends of the earth. He will give power to his king; he will lift up the horn of his anointed. What attributes of God do you see acknowledged in Hannah's prayer? Circle them in the passage and list them here.

Why Study God's Attributes? ATTRIBUTES OF GOD ACKNOWLEDGED IN HANNAH'S PRAYER: Given what you have learned about the context of this prayer, which of God's attributes reflected in this prayer are related to Hannah's situation, and how? How does Hannah's knowledge of God and His attributes affect her relationship with God? How does Hannah's knowledge of God and His attributes affect her and her life? (Internally: her emotional state, her knowledge of truth, her correct thinking about God, etc. Or externally: her relationships, how she shows gratitude to God, etc.) Has there been a situation in your own life when you have seen how your knowledge of God and His attributes has benefited you?

Identify, Meditate, Pray

Psalm 90

- ¹Lord, you have been our refuge in every generation.
- ² Before the mountains were born, before you gave birth to the earth and the world, from eternity to eternity, you are God.
- ³ You return mankind to the dust, saying, "Return, descendants of Adam."
- ⁴ For in your sight a thousand years are like yesterday that passes by, like a few hours of the night.
- ⁵ You end their lives; they sleep. They are like grass that grows in the morning—
- ⁶ in the morning it sprouts and grows; by evening it withers and dries up.
- ⁷ For we are consumed by your anger; we are terrified by your wrath.
- ⁸ You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.
- ⁹ For all our days ebb away under your wrath; we end our years like a sigh.
- ¹⁰ Our lives last seventy years or, if we are strong, eighty years. Even the best of them are struggle and sorrow; indeed, they pass quickly and we fly away.
- ¹¹ Who understands the power of your anger? Your wrath matches the fear that is due you.
- 12 Teach us to number our days carefully so that we may develop wisdom in our hearts.
- ¹³LORD—how long? Turn and have compassion on your servants.
- ¹⁴ Satisfy us in the morning with your faithful love so that we may shout with joy and be glad all our days.
- ¹⁵ Make us rejoice for as many days as you have humbled us, for as many years as we have seen adversity.
- ¹⁶Let your work be seen by your servants, and your splendor by their children.
- ¹⁷ Let the favor of the Lord our God be on us; establish for us the work of our hands—establish the work of our hands!

God's Attributes in This Passage

Identify

As you read Psalm 90, look for the attributes of God listed in these verses. Remember to look for:

- Words about God or words from God (underline)
- God's actions (highlight)
- Direct commands from God (highlight with a different color)

Meditate

	Pick one attribute to meditate on further. How does knowing about this attribute grow your love for God? (For example, "God's eternality reminds me that though everything around me fades away, He never will. I can depend on Him forever.")
P	ray
	Thank God for this attribute and spend time praying to Him.

How to Use This in Our Daily Lives

As you study any passage of Scripture, follow these tips to help you identify the attributes of God. (Have the Attributes of God list with you as you read.)

Read each section (5–10 verses) slowly, carefully, and 2–3 times as you complete the following steps:

- Identify any words about God or words from God.
- Identify any of God's actions.
- Identify direct commands from God (things to do or things not to do).
- Look at these things you have identified about God, as well as at your list of His attributes.
- What attributes are present in this passage?

Choose a passage of Scripture that you like (or select one of the suggestions below) and complete the following steps with that passage.

Suggested passages: Genesis 4:1–16; Exodus 34:1–9; John 17:1–26; Romans 1:18–32

Read each section (5–10 verses) slowly, carefully, and 2–3 times as you complete the bulleted steps listed at the top of this page.. What words about God or words from God do you seein this passage? What actions of God do you see in the passage? What commands of God (things to do or things not to do) do you see in this passage? Look at your answers to the above questions and your list of attributes. What attributes of God from the list are present in this passage?