



In His Image

Attributes of God Given to Humankind
Lesson Four

In His Image

- Ex. 15:11 - “Who is like You, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like You, glorious in holiness, Fearful in praises, doing wonders?”
- Psalm 113:5 - “Who is like the LORD our God, Who dwells on high”

Revealed Attributes Of God

- Has it occurred to you yet that these are only the revealed attributes of God? He has revealed only those things that He wants us to know in this world, that is the things we are capable of apprehending in this realm.
- In view of His infinite Greatness, it necessarily follows that there is much about Himself that He has chosen to reserve until He is fully revealed in all of His Glory in Heaven.

- 2Sam. 7:18-24 - “Then King David went in and sat before the LORD; and he said: Who am I, O Lord GOD? And what is my house, that You have brought me this far? 19 And yet this was a small thing in Your sight, O Lord GOD; and You have also spoken of Your servant's house for a great while to come. Is this the manner of man, O Lord GOD? 20 Now what more can David say to You? For You, Lord GOD, know Your servant. 21 For Your word's sake, and according to Your own heart, You have done all these great things, to make Your servant know them. 22 Therefore You are great, O LORD GOD. For there is none like You, nor is there any God besides You, according to all that we have heard with our ears. 23 And who is like Your people, like Israel, the one nation on the earth whom God went to redeem for Himself as a people, to make for Himself a name-and to do for Yourself great and awesome deeds for Your land, before Your people whom You redeemed for Yourself from Egypt, the nations, and their gods? 24 For You have made Your people Israel Your very own people forever; and You, LORD, have become their God.”

Revealed Attributes Of God

- Freedom - That attribute of God whereby He does whatever He purposes
 - Psalm 115:3 - “But our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases.”
 - Dan. 4:35 - “All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven And among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand Or say to Him, What have You done?”

Revealed Attributes Of God

- Perfection (completeness) - God completely possesses all excellent qualities and lacks no part of any qualities that would be desirable for Him.
 - Matt. 5:48 - “Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.”
 - Psalm 18:30 - “As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the LORD is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him.”

Revealed Attributes Of God

- “God’s... perfection is the sum and substance of all the... (noble - prb) attributes... Accordingly, when we speak of God’s perfection, we do not refer exclusively to His moral excellence, whether ‘goodness or holiness,’ but we mean that God is the sum-total of all excellences, the One (for) whom no greater, higher, better can exist either in thought or in reality. In other words, God answers fully to the idea of God” (Bavinck 246).

Revealed Attributes Of God

- Blessedness - God is joyful in Himself and in all of His character.
 - 1Tim. 6:15 - “He who is the blessed and only Potentate...”
 - “Blessed” - makarios means happy. God is perfectly happy and has fullness of joy in Himself.
 - Gen. 1:31 - “Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good.”
 - Isa. 62:5 - “...And as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, So shall your God rejoice over you.”

Revealed Attributes Of God

- Beauty - The attribute of God whereby He is the sum of all desirable qualities
 - Psalm 27:4 - “One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the LORD, And to inquire in His temple.”
 - Psalm 73:25 - “Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You.”

Revealed Attributes Of God

- Glory - The Divinely generated brightness that surrounds God's revelation of Himself. It emanates as an expression of His greatness and character; the appropriate outward expression of His own excellence
 - Psalm 104:1-2 - "Bless the LORD, O my soul! O LORD my God, You are very great: You are clothed with honor and majesty, 2 Who cover Yourself with light as with a garment"

Revealed Attributes Of God

- Luke 2:9 - “And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.”
- Matt. 17:2 - “He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.”
- Rev. 21:23 - “The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light.”

Revealed Attributes Of God

- “Though we do not now find ourselves surrounded by a visible light, there is a brightness, a splendor, or a beauty about the manner of life of a person who deeply loves God, and it is often evident to those around such a person. In the life to come, such brightness will be intensified, so that as we reign with Christ, it seems that we also will receive an outward appearance that is appropriate to that reign and to our status as image bearers of God and servants of the Lord Jesus Christ” (Grudem 221).

Revealed Attributes Of God

- Prov. 4:18 - “But the path of the just is like the shining sun, That shines ever brighter unto the perfect day.”
- Dan. 12:3 - “Those who are wise shall shine Like the brightness of the firmament, And those who turn many to righteousness Like the stars forever and ever.”
- Matt. 13:43 - “Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father.”
- 1Cor. 15:43 - “It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.”

Revealed Attributes Of God

- Invisibility - God's total essence, all of His spiritual being, will never be able to be seen by man, yet God still shows Himself through visible, created things.
 - John 1:18 - “No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.”

Revealed Attributes Of God

- John 6:46 - “Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father.”
- 1Tim. 1:17 - “Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.”
- 1Tim. 6:16 - “who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom be honor and everlasting power. Amen.”

Revealed Attributes Of God

- God shows Himself through visible, created things.
 - Gen. 18:1-33
 - Gen. 32:28-30

Revealed Attributes Of God

- Ex. 13:21 - “And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night.”
- Ex. 24:9-11 - “Then Moses went up, also Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, 10 and they saw the God of Israel. And there was under His feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and it was like the very heavens in its clarity. 11 But on the nobles of the children of Israel He did not lay His hand. So they saw God, and they ate and drank.”

Revealed Attributes Of God

- Isa. 6:1 - “In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.”
- Col. 1:15 - “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.”
- John 14:9 - “Jesus said to him, Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?”

Revealed Attributes Of God

- Patience - God's goodness in withholding of punishment toward those who sin over a period of time.
 - Num. 14:18 - "The LORD is longsuffering and abundant in mercy, forgiving iniquity and transgression; but He by no means clears the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation."

Revealed Attributes Of God

- Jonah 4:2 - “So he prayed to the LORD, and said, Ah, LORD, was not this what I said when I was still in my country? Therefore I fled previously to Tarshish; for I know that You are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger and abundant in lovingkindness, One who relents from doing harm.”
- Rom. 2:4 - “Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?”

Revealed Attributes Of God

- Peace (order) - In His actions, God is separate from all confusion and chaos
 - 1Cor. 14:33 - “For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.”
 - Rom. 15:33 - “Now the God of peace be with you all. Amen”
 - 2Thes. 3:16 - “Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord be with you all.”

In His Image

- “Without doubt, the mightiest thought the mind can entertain is the thought of God, and the weightiest word in any language is the name of God. For this reason the gravest question before the Church is always God Himself, and the most portentous fact about any man is ... what he in his deep heart understands God to be. We tend by a secret law of the soul to move toward our mental image of God. This is true not only of the individual Christian, but of the company of Christians that composes a Church. Always the most revealing thing about a Church is her knowledge of God, just as her most significant message is what she says about Him or leaves unsaid, for her silence is often more eloquent than her speech. Were we able to extract from any man a complete answer to the question, “What comes into your mind when you think about God?” we might predict with certainty the spiritual future of that man.” (A. W. Tozer, Knowledge of the Holy, p. 4)