

Radiant Church, June 21, 2020  
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## We Believe God Is

### Two “Pillars” of God’s Character: Grace, and Holiness

#### Let’s Start with How God Characterizes Himself

**Exodus 45:6-7** *The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children’s children, to the third and fourth generation.”*

#### God has Always Existed

**Genesis 1:1** *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.*

**Romans 1:20** *For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.*

#### God is Knowable

**Jeremiah 9:24** *But let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD.*

**John 17:3** *And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.*

#### God is Independent

**Acts 17:24-25** *the God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.*

Even though God doesn’t need us, He allows us to bring joy to His heart  
**Zephaniah 3:17** *the LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.*

#### God is Unchangeable

**Malachi 3:6** *for the LORD does not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed.*

Being, attributes, purposes and promises. God is not fickle.  
Does God ever change His mind?

In response to a present situation, but in how He expresses His purposes, etc.

### **God is Eternal**

**Psalm 90:2** *Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God*

His view of time is very different than our own

**Psalm 90:4** *for a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.*

### **God is Omnipresent**

**Jeremiah 23:23-24** *Am I a God at hand, declares the LORD, and not a God far away? Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the Lord.*

He has to be in order to sustain the universe

**Hebrews 1:3** *He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.*

### **God is Spirit**

Not limited to a spatial location

Not limited by time

Not limited by physical matter

**John 4:24** *God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.*

### **God is Invisible**

**John 1:18** *No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made known.*

God has, on occasion, taken on visible form to show Himself to people

### **God is Omniscient** (knows everything there is to know)

**1 John 3:20** *for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything.*

### **God is All Wise**

**Job 12:13** *With God are wisdom and might; he has counsel and understanding.*

### **God is All Truthful**

**Numbers 23:19** *God is not a man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. He has said, and will he not do it? or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?*

### **God is Good**

**Luke 18:19** *And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone?"*

### **God is Love**

**1 John 4:10** *In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.*

### **God is Holy**

**Psalm 99:9** *Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the LORD our God is holy!*

### **God is Righteous and Just**

**Deuteronomy 32:4** *The Rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is he.*

### **God is Jealous**

**Exodus 20:5** *You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God...*

**Isaiah 48:11** *for my own sake, for my own sake, I do it, for how should my name be profaned? My glory I will not give to another.*

### **God is Wrathful toward Sin**

**John 3:36** *Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.*

**Romans 1:18** *for the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.*

**1 Thessalonians 1:10** *and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.*

### **God Wills What He Will**

**Ephesians 1:11** *In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will.*

**Acts 2:23** *this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men.*

### **God has Freedom**

**Psalm 115:3** *Our God is in the heavens; he does all that he pleases.*

### **God is Omnipotent**

**Jeremiah 32:17** *Ah, Lord GOD! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you.*

### **God is Perfect**

**Matthew 5:48** *You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.*

### **God is Blessed**

He fully delights in Himself and in all that reflects His character

**Genesis 1:31** *And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good...*

## **God is Beautiful**

**Psalm 27:4** *One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.*

God is unified in All His Attributes  
He does not emphasize one of His attributes over another

We would do well to do the same

## **Jesus shows us God's unblemished character**

He shows us the result and of a life devoted to the Father  
He shows us the reward earned by obedient submission and unceasing service  
He makes His own undefiled garments our beautiful covering  
He makes His meekness at His death our boasting and glory

At the manger we learn how God came down to humanity  
And at the cross, we learn how humanity can go up to God

**Back to the story of God announcing Himself to Moses; what was Moses's most logical response, his only right response?**

**Exodus 34:8** *And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped.*