



Awaken 365
November 2025
Phil Playfoot

The Attributes, Nature and Character of God:

Who is God?
How does God act?
How do we know what God is like?



“What comes into our minds when we think of God is the most important thing about us.”

A W Tozer

What view do you have of God? What words or feelings come into your mind and emotions?

Exodus 20:3. “You shall have no other gods before me”

1 John 5:21. ‘Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.’

Idols are our ‘functional saviours’; what we look to for security, identity, protection, provision, comfort outside of God.

In what ways might we have a view of God that is one that we like or have thought up? God made in our image? An idea of God that we like or fits with our needs?

The Attributes of God:

To know God starts with knowing who God is.

How does the Bible describe God? What are God's attributes?

Incommunicable attributes:

Communicable attributes:

Does God have emotions and feelings? If so, how are these revealed in the Bible?



The divine attributes and the Trinity

1. All of the attributes are fully present in all three persons of the Godhead; what is theologically known as The Trinity; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
2. These attributes are eternally permanent. They have always existed and always will. He is God of the Old and New Testament.
3. All of God's attributes are inseparable and all are connected. There are no 'parts' of God like a slice of the pie with some being more prominent than others. Each attribute works in perfect unity with all the others.

'All of God is all of His attributes in their entirety'. R C Sproul

Why is it important to know the attributes of God?

- To have a relationship with God
- To challenges the misrepresentations we may have of God.
- To worship.
- Sound theology should shape the songs we sing, the prayers we pray and the fellowship we have with others.
- To determine our daily choices.
- To shape our evangelism.

How do we know of God's attributes?

1. **God reveals Himself to us through His Word (the Bible)**



- He is revealed by His names.
- He is revealed by what He has done.
- He is revealed by descriptions.

2. **He is revealed in creation.**

Romans 1:20

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

What does creation reveal of God's divine nature and eternal power?

3. **God has supremely revealed Himself in Jesus Christ**, The Word made flesh. God with us. (John 1:14 and Hebrews 1:1-3).

Jesus said that if we have seen Him, we have seen the Father. (John 14:9). He is the, 'I am...' (John 8:58)



Formation group discussion:

1. How would you describe your relationship with God?
2. What does it mean to 'know God'?
3. Are there any attributes of God with which you struggle and why?

Suggested reading

'Systematic Theology'. Wayne Grudem. Chapters 11 to 13.

'Incomparable: Exploring the Character of God'. Andrew Wilson

'A Radical Encounter with God: Seeing the God that Isaiah Saw'.

Greg Haslam.