

Revival Through Prayer  
*“Attributes Of God”*

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There are nine attributes that make up the essence of God, that make Him what He is, and He cannot vary from them. These nine attributes are: absolute sovereignty, righteousness, judgment, immutability, love, eternal life, omnipotence, omnipresence, and omniscience. Even though I would like to teach on all of them, for now I will concentrate on God's omniscience and His sovereignty.

In God's omniscience, which means all knowing without time, He was able to know us before the foundations of the world. But, because we are so time conscious, it is hard for us to understand this attribute of God. Nevertheless, He can and does know us from before the world was created or made. Along with creating us, He also conceived a perfect plan for our lives.

If it was up to God, not one person who has ever been born would be lost. But, unfortunately, it is not up to God. He is just as bound by our choices and our will as He was by Adam's choices and his will.

In God's sovereignty, He is not deciding who will be saved and who will not; or who will be healed and who will not. The best He can do for man's salvation is to provide a plan of redemption which is the cross. In the cross, sovereignty provides for our salvation, for our healing and for our prosperity. God has never sovereignly made the decision to send anyone to Hell. We make that decision on our own. God provides an alternate choice if we want it.

The devil has indicted God by convincing a good portion of the world that God just moves sovereignly here and there as He pleases. That He touches down at different times, in different places, saving people occasionally if He has a mind to, but, if not, He just passes over them and sovereignly lets them go to HELL!

People are deceived into a false humility and say things like "No man is going to get the glory for this move of God. God just simply began to move one day and sovereignly saved and healed people. We had nothing to do with it. It was all an act of God!"

We do not ever want to be deceived into believing the revivals we are believing for by faith can only be a sovereign move of God. God still receives the glory for it when men are obedient to pray and believe for revival.

Believe me, most ministries that, through prayer and fasting, receive an anointing from God and move powerfully in the gifts of the Spirit would never want to take the glory from God. Quite the contrary, they want to give the glory to Him. They glorify Him for sovereignly providing the spiritual laws that make all these things possible through faith.

Hebrews 11:6 says: "But without faith it is impossible to please him; for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." When believers get together to pray for the lost and for God's glory to be poured out with mighty signs and wonders, they

do not want the glory for it. They are just glad God provided the spiritual laws any believer could attain to by faith. These laws make all things possible, not to take glory away from God, but to give it to Him.

Most often the sovereignty of God is misunderstood among carnal Christians who do not pray. To them, church is an obligation not a priority, an inconvenience not a place of worship. Because someone has touched the throne of God in prayer, God is able to pour His blessings out on many people.

God is so full of mercy and grace, even indifferent people are touched by His blessings. These people know the blessings were not the result of anything they did; they were just barely making it to church. So their eyes get kind of misty; they get a religious look on their faces and begin to talk about the sovereignty of God opening Heaven for them.

Once again, what the sovereignty of God did for us was to provide the cross that set into operation a spiritual law. God was not deciding in His sovereignty who was going to be saved or healed and who was not. God gave us our will and He will not take away from us our right to reject or choose Him. If we decide to serve God, then He has sovereignly provided the cross to set in motion spiritual law which can be achieved by faith by anyone who wants to walk in them. If my faith was ever to attain to spiritual law, then just exactly what would it be attaining to?

First of all, you must understand the nature of law. What makes a law "A LAW" is because it is always the same. So, when my faith receives a spiritual law, it will be the same way every time. If natural law varied from one day\_ to the next; then we would never know what it was going to do. If spiritual law varied, we would never know what God was going to do either.

Even though science does not fully understand electricity, they found out it is governed by natural law and, because it is, it is predictable. Because it is predictable, it can be harnessed. In fact, its course can be charted mathematically long before we push the button and a picture appears on our television screen. Yet in Matthew 24:35 Jesus said: "Heaven and earth (natural law) shall pass away, but my words (spiritual law) shall not pass away." God would not trust our salvation to a haphazard set of spiritual laws that were inferior to natural law. We are eternal creatures. Spiritual law is more constant and predictable than natural law could ever be.

The reason we can have faith in God is because His written Word dictates what He will do. In fact, God is more predictable than the law of gravity or the law governing electricity. The whole reason faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God is because, when God tells us from His Word that He will do something, we can rest assured He will do it. If we did not have His Word, we would never know what God was going to do. But, because we do, we can predict the outcome. When we believe what He has said, this is called "FAITH"!

When God saw us from the foundations of the world, He conceived a perfect plan for our life. In this plan, we were predestined to become His sons and daughters at the cross. While ministering in India, I saw thousands of people everywhere; I was amazed that God could have a plan for every one of them. In fact, there hasn't been a person born in the last 2,000 years that God did not have a perfect

plan for their life. He is just waiting for them to find it.

There is just one problem when it comes to our will. Even though God conceived and predestined a perfect plan for our lives at the cross, the best He can do is approach us and present His plan for us. He begins with the preaching of the cross that encourages us to accept Jesus Christ.

If we accept Him, we take the first step into the plan God predestinated for us from the foundations of the world. But, if we reject Him, then, like so many before us, we will live and die and never find the first step into God's plan for us which is salvation.

When Jesus talked about His plan, He said in Matthew 7:13,14: "*Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in therat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.*"

This would indicate that most people end their lives with one final journey into a godless eternity without Jesus. But, praise God, we are a part of God's plan. The fact that you are reading this tells me you have found the cross. And, because you have, there is nothing that can stop you from finding the rest of God's plan for your life.

I have been filled with the Holy Spirit for a long time, and I still marvel that the third person of the Godhead would come and take up His abode with me! The Holy Spirit is as much God as the other two members of the Godhead, yet here on earth He is the personification of spiritual law. To think He would come to us in baptism, to oversee the plan of God for our life, is more grace than a person could ever hope for. Still, He only does this at our invitation. And perhaps the greatest phenomenon of all, the Holy Spirit brought a supernatural language with Him to help us find the perfect plan of God for our life.

The more of God's plan we find, the more the Holy Spirit (who is the personification of spiritual law) will be able to bring natural law under subjection to our life as we pursue the perfect plan of God. Natural law governs the circumstances that surround us, that make us rich or poor, happy or sad; the circumstances that cause things to go for or against us. Nevertheless, natural law is subordinate to spiritual law. God's plan for us is from the mind of God, therefore it is enforced as spiritual law.

Just think! When we spend any amount of time at all praying in the Holy Ghost, we are uttering (in a language the Holy Spirit brought all the way from Heaven with Him) divine secrets, or spiritual laws. He is willing to employ those laws to see that circumstances line up with the purpose and plan of God for our life. e.. cannot pray consistently very long before the things that do not belong in God's plan for our life to begin to fall away.

Romans 8:27,28 says: "*And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*"

Let me show you how and why the Holy Spirit is able to do this. The first and foremost thing the Holy Spirit is commissioned to carry out in our life is the purpose and plan God has for us. Too many believers get off on side roads and the Holy Spirit has His commission interrupted. The Holy Spirit is not permitted by God, the Father, to manipulate natural law to serve our selfish purposes.

God, in His wisdom, overcame Satan and our flesh nature by taking the understanding of our prayer language away from us so He could pray for things we do not always want to get rid of.

Let's just say someone gets born again who is quite consumed by lust. He knows it is wrong, but it does not bother him enough to do something about it. He continues to actively lust after unsuspecting women. So then he comes to a seminar and hears a message on prosperity and says, "You mean I can have a new Lexus?" "Oh yes, all you have to do is give. By the way, what do you want it for?" He says, "It will make it easier to pick up women!"

If this same person prays in tongues, a purging process begins to take place in three areas. He will be cleansed of filthiness of flesh, soul, and spirit. Different things happen when a person prays. After a couple of months of prayer, a person's conscience begins to wake up and it gets harder to sin. Finally, they either stop praying or quit sinning because they cannot continue doing both.

Now that the person hates the part of himself that wants to sin as much as God does, he is finally giving the Holy Spirit what He needs to put that part of his flesh nature to death. This is the old man Paul said was crucified with Christ. As long as he loved having one foot in the world, the Holy Spirit had nothing to work with. But, through edification from praying in the Holy Ghost, his conscience began to wake up to the place where he himself wanted out. When that happened, the Holy Spirit was able to step in and put the old man to death in those areas and, when He did, the law of the Spirit superseded the law of the flesh. **THIS IS CALLED MORTIFICATION!**

Romans 8:13 says, "... *through the Spirit you mortify the deeds of the flesh.*" Filthiness of flesh would be any habitually destructive thing detrimental to the body. As a person continues to pray, the Holy Spirit moves into the soul realm and begins to purge the filthiness of soul. These areas are envying, self-exaltation, manipulation, divisions, lying, cheating, unforgiveness, hatred, strife, etc. Again, the same thing will happen. Either the person will stop praying or these things will begin to fall away. Then the Holy Spirit moves on to filthiness of spirit which is incorrect belief or doctrine. All these areas overlap one another but the strongest purging is from incorrect beliefs.

I Corinthians 14:2 says: "*For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.*" The mysteries we speak when we pray in tongues are the same mysteries Paul spoke of when he revealed the fullness of Christ to the church. These mysteries, or divine secrets, are the same ones which have been made available to us through the revelation of the Holy Spirit.

When we pray divine secrets in tongues before the Father God, they are not for God's benefit. There is not one of us who is going to sneak up on God's blind side and whisper some deep secret into His ear that He did not know a couple milleniums before we were born. Praying in tongues is for our benefit and is designed by God to be answered as much as a mountain moving faith prayer or a

prayer of consecration.

When God answers these prayers, all of a sudden an awareness of spiritual things begins to flood into our understanding. False doctrine, or incorrect believing, will begin to fall away as we are purged from filthiness of spirit.

When I first prayed to the place where this began to really work in me, I would go to meetings where someone was operating in the flesh, and people there would be shouting with excitement and emotions, not knowing the difference between the Spirit and the flesh. Before I was purged by the Holy Spirit, I didn't know the difference either. But now, I was being protected by the Holy Spirit by being purged from deception and wrong believing.

The same Holy Spirit who can bring to life the Word within us can cause the purpose and plan of God for our personal life to so come forward in our thinking and understanding that it will grow like a tree. Not like a passing emotion or impulse where we are not sure from one moment to the next, but an understanding that will stay with us and grow like a tree until it has taken over everything else. We become assured as the Holy Spirit moves mightily in our life, He will bring all natural law under subjection to spiritual law as He works His perfect will in our lives.

I want to thank you this Holiday Season for laboring together with me throughout the year 1994. I am looking forward to this New Year being the best year ever. So thank you again for the love and confidence you have shown towards me as a co-laborer and friend. May God richly bless you this coming year and in the years to come.