**OMNIPOTENT GOD**

Sunday School Lesson 4

*The Attributes of God*

Matthew 19:26; Job 42:1-2

6/20/2021

**Introduction:** For our fourth lesson on the attributes of God, we are going to look at God’s omnipotence. We have already discussed His self-existence, immutabilit*y,* and omnipresence. Last week, as we looked at His omnipresence, we observed the fact that this attribute means that He is in all places simultaneously. We know that the heaven and the earth cannot contain Him. We even noticed how Hell cannot even escape His presence. After this, we observed that the Lord dwells within every believer. Both Christ and the Holy Spirit dwell within us. We can also find His special presence in the midst of two or three believers gathered together in His name. Finally, we observed that the Lord’s presence is even found among the wicked. While the Lord detests sin, His presence is necessary to bring about judgment upon the wicked. Now, as we consider the attribute of omnipotence for this week, we must again first be sure to understand what this attribute is. Omnipotence is described as having unlimited power; able to do anything. Surely, we know and understand that God is omnipotent. Is there anything in all the universe that the Lord does not have the power or ability to do? That’s the question that we are going to answer this morning. Let us consider the following truths about the omnipotence of the Lord.

1. **THE OMNIPOTENCE OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED IN HIS NAME – LORD GOD ALMIGHTY.**
2. **Notice that Almighty God was the name that the Lord used to introduce Himself to the patriarchs of Israel (Genesis 17:1, 35:11; Exodus 6:3).** When Abraham was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him, and He introduced Himself to Abraham as the Almighty God. Obviously, this was not the first time that the Lord had spoken to Abraham, but it was the first that He referred to Himself by that name. What was the Lord trying to tell Abraham? He wanted him to understand that He was still capable of fulfilling the promise of a child that He had made to Abraham years earlier. He wanted Abraham to understand that He was capable of doing anything. He is almighty – all might and power belong to Him. When the Lord appeared to Jacob, He told him that He was God Almighty. Jacob had not been faithful like Abraham and Isaac. He had been deceptive, and he had suffered consequences from his poor decisions. Yet, the Lord came to reassure Jacob of the covenant that had been made to his fathers. With His omnipotence, He could even take a man like Jacob and bring about a great nation. This was but a small thing to the Lord.
3. **Notice that the Lord is also simply called the Almighty in the Word of God (Numbers 24:4-16; Ruth 1:20-21; Job 5:17, 6:4-14, 8:3-5, 11:7, 13:3, 15:25, 21:20, 22:3-26, 23:16, 24:1, 27:2-13, 29:5, 31:2-35, 32:8, 33:4, 34:10-12, 35:13, 37:23, 40:2; Psalm 68:14, 91:1; Isaiah 13:6; Ezekiel 1:24; Joel 1:15; Revelation 1:8).** From the sheer number of references given, it should be clear to us that the Lord is referenced many times simply as the Almighty. The connotation with this name is that He is the all-powerful. There is none other like Him. There is none other with power equivalent to His power. There is none other who can stake any claim to the description of almighty. It is a unique name only reserved for the Lord. There are fifty-seven total uses of the word *almighty* in the Word of God. Every single use of the word is in reference to the Lord. The Bible wants us to know and understand that God is Almighty. He is not only referred to as the Almighty in the Old Testament. This is a name that is referenced from Genesis to Revelation.
4. **THE OMNIPOTENCE OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED IN THE POSSIBILITIES.**
5. **Notice that the Lord taught His disciples that all things are possible with God (Matthew 19:26; Luke 1:37, 18:27; Mark 10:27, 14:36).** The endless possibilities are proof that God is omnipotent. We must understand that His omnipotence does not speak to what He will do. It speaks to what He can do. All things are possible with God. There are men who try to reason or philosophically explain this away, but the Bible is very plain. The Lord Jesus Christ gave these words, and there can be no doubting the meaning of them. The Almighty God makes what seems impossible possible. In our flesh, we cannot grasp this idea. We are limited in our thinking to what we perceive to be possible by our own standards. Sadly, this means that believers often limit the power of God by a lack of faith in the possibilities that are in front of us. The children of Israel saw no possibilities when they had their backs up against the wall at the Red Sea. Had they truly considered the omnipotence of God, they would have surely seen what was possible. I believe the Lord desires to show us His omnipotence, so He allows us to see what we perceive to be a dead end. It is in those moments that we see the hand of the Lord working.
6. **Notice that the Word of God speaks to the ability of the Lord to do everything (Job 42:1-2; Ephesians 3:20-21).** The natural conclusion that comes from the fact that nothing is impossible with God is that He has the ability to do everything. Job proclaimed this in the forty-second chapter of the book of Job. He recognized that God could do everything. There is no restraint to His power. There is no one who can even come close to Him and His capabilities. Ephesians tells us that He is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think. This means that we cannot even comprehend the fullness of the power of God. It is just so much above us. This should remind us of how foolish it is when we question whether God can do something. The psalmist spoke of the foolishness of the Israelites in the wilderness. They were foolish because they asked whether God could furnish a table in the wilderness (Psalm 78:19). The Bible tells us in Psalm 62:11 that power belongs to the Lord. He is the owner of it. We are truly powerless in comparison to Him.
7. **THE OMNIPOTENCE OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED IN THE POWER OF THE BELIEVER.**
8. **Notice that the greatness of His power is most visibly seen in our salvation (Ephesians 1:19-20; Psalm 106:8, 79:11; 1 Corinthians 1:18; Romans 1:16; 1 Peter 1:5; Revelation 12:10, 19:1).** Is there any greater example of the power of God than the work that is done in salvation? Truly, salvation is an even greater evidence of His power than what is found in creation itself. During creation, the Lord made everything from nothing. He breathed life into mankind. It was the beginning for man. Yet, in salvation, the Lord takes that which is dead and condemned to eternal Hell and brings us back to life again. Nicodemus pondered this great act of salvation when he asked the Lord how a man could be born twice. The most uses of the term *great power* in Scripture are found in references to the Lord saving His people. When we consider what it took to make salvation possible for man, we are left with a strong confidence that God is the Almighty God. In Jeremiah 32, the Lord announces judgment upon Israel as a nation. Yet, He also promises deliverance for them. He asks the question, “Is there anything too hard for me?”
9. **Notice that the greatness of His power is also visible in the power that He has given to His children (Philippians 4:13; Colossians 1:11; 2 Timothy 1:7; Ephesians 3:7-20; 2 Corinthians 12:9; Matthew 28:18-19; Luke 10:19; Acts 1:8).** I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. The believer is given a glimpse of the omnipotence of the Lord in our own abilities through Him. The impossible possibilities of the Lord’s power dwell within each of us as believers. Thus, we are walking evidence of the omnipotence of the Lord. As mentioned before, we understand that we truly have no power in and of ourselves. When we exhibit the power of the Lord, that shows how great His power is. It is not contained only within Himself. He is able to give out His power as He sees fit. There are people who may be physically powerful on this earth, but they are not able to transfer that power to another person. God’s power is so great that He shares it with His children. We know that His only begotten Son came with His power during His earthly ministry. All power had been given unto Him from the Father.
10. **THE OMNIPOTENCE OF GOD STILL PRESERVES HIS HOLY AND PERFECT NATURE.**
11. **Notice that while God can do everything, His holy nature prevents Him from doing certain things (Hebrews 6:18; Titus 1:2).** As discussed, all things are possible with God. Yet, the Bible also tells us in Hebrews 6:18 that it is impossible for God to lie. How can we harmonize these two seemingly conflicting ideas found in Scripture?I believe that the easy answer is that God’s omnipotence does not diminish God’s holy character. He would never lie because God is holy. He is Truth. He would never break a promise. He is incapable of doing these things because He is holy. That does not make Him any less powerful. Instead, it just speaks to the purity and holiness of His nature. If He were to do something that defies His holy nature, then He would never be who He is to begin with. There is a very clear distinction between what we have the power to do and what we would be willing to do. Have you ever said, “I could never” about something that you had the power to do, but you did not have the desire to do? While we fail, the Lord’s nature truly restrains Him from ever doing that which He wouldn’t.
12. **Notice that failure does not reflect power but weakness; thus, the impossibility of the Lord’s failure does not diminish His omnipotence (James 1:13; Deuteronomy 31:6).** We know conclusively that God cannot sin. This does not diminish His omnipotence because sin is imperfection. Sin is weakness. God cannot fail. He cannot lose. He cannot be defeated. The reason is that He is all-powerful. Some would try to create a paradox out of this, but they are simply looking for a reason to deny God and His Word. It is foolish to consider failure as it relates to power. Failure is the absence of power. Those of us who have put our faith in Christ understand that there is no power found in the failure of sin. We have experienced the weakness of being in the bondage of sin, and we now see the power of freedom from sin in Christ. As we serve the Lord, let us be thankful that we serve an all-powerful Saviour who can help us to do all things through Him.