

Chapter Two: Who God Is and What He Does

The Lord's Authority

God's authoritative self-descriptions.

The Lord's Control

God's acts of power.

The Lord's Presence

God's inner Triune life.

God's Acts

God's Lordship *in Time*

Miracles (e.g., Heb 2:4) "Extraordinary" demonstrations of God's lordship.

Powers: instances of God's control over his creation.

Signs: authoritative communications about God's intentions.

Wonders: events that wake us up to the wonder of God in our midst.

Providence (e.g., Col 1:17; 2Pt 3:5-9; Gen 45:5; Ps 16:10; Eph 1:9-11) "Ordinary" demonstrations of God's lordship.

Creation (e.g., Gen 1; Heb 11:3; Rom 4:17) God calls into being things that "are not."

God's Lordship *at the Beginning of Time*

God's Decrees (e.g., Rom 8:28; Eph 1:11; Ps 33:11 ...) God's control over everything flows from a *plan*: his counsel, the thoughts of his heart, his wisdom.

God's Attributes

God's Attributes of Love

God is love (e.g., 1Jn 4:8, 16)

Allegiance: God is loyal and faithful.

Affection: God expresses emotional fondness.

Action: God saves.

Question: How can God hate people if he is love?

God's Attributes of Knowledge

God speaks (e.g., the Bible itself).

God is truth (Titus 1:2; 1Jn 5:20).

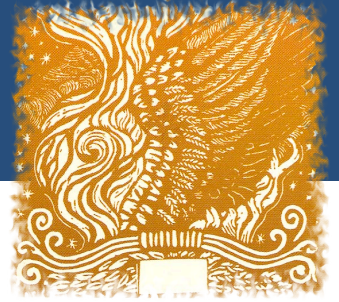
God knows everything (Ps 147:5; 1Jn 3:20)

God's Attributes of Power

God's omnipotence (Ps 115:3), and the limitations on his power (Titus 1:2; Num 23:19).

God's will:

- **God's Control: Decretive** (Everything he determines will come to pass; Gen 50:20; Mt 11:25-26; Ac 2:23; Rom 9:18-19; Eph 1:11)
- **God's Authority: Preceptive** (God communicates his values to us as commands for our lives; Mt 7:21; Eph 5:17; 6:6)
- **God's Presence: Divine Vocation** (God gives us wisdom so we can discern "God's will for our lives"; Rom 12:2; Eph 5:10)



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God's Infinity = His lordship over the creation

God's Eternity = His lordship over time

God's Unchangeableness = He cannot stop being just, holy, righteous, merciful, kind, loving

God's Immensity = His lordship over space

God's Incorporeality = He does not have a body

God's Aseity = He is self-sufficient (He doesn't need us)

God's Impassability = He cannot suffer any loss of his attributes or divine nature. He cannot not be God (despite the movie *Dogma*).
