

Colossians 3:16

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
teaching and admonishing one another
in all wisdom,
singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,
with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*



Who is God? What is He like? Can He be known? These are the most important questions in the universe. The good news is God has answered these questions by revealing Himself through His attributes. The most important thing we can do in the universe is grow in our knowledge of God. We have been created by God to know God. For the season of Lent our devotions will be on knowing God through His attributes.

Self-existent

What makes God different from people, from the stars, from earthquakes, and from any other creaturely thing is that God—and God alone—has self-existence; He alone exists by His own power. No one made Him or caused Him. He exists in and of Himself. . He depends on nothing and no one for His existence. This is a quality that no creature shares.

Since God is self-existent, eternal, and pure, He is, by definition, a higher order of being, above, beyond and superior in every way. It is for that reason that God calls Himself “I AM.” When we consider the transcendence and self-existence of our God, we will respond in worship and awe—just as Moses did at the burning bush.

Scripture on God’s Self-existence

Exodus 3:14 God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘I am has sent me to you.’”

Psalms 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.

Psalms 102:25-27 Of old you laid the foundation of the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands.
They will perish, but you will remain; they will all wear out like a garment.
You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away,
but you are the same, and your years have no end.

Isaiah 46:9 Remember the former things of old; for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me.

Daniel 4:35 All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing,
and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth;
and none can stay his hand or say to him, “What have you done?”
[This is our memory verse for April 2021, if you want to get a head start memorizing it.]

John 5:26 For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself.

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.

Colossians 1:16-17 *For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.*”

I Timothy 6:15b-16 *He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.*

Revelation 1:8 *“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”*

Revelation 4:10-11 *The twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, “Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”*

Song

Psalm 59:16 *But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning. For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress.*

All-powerful, Self-existent God,

[same tune as All Peoples that on Earth Do Dwell; Jesus Shall Reign Where'er The Sun]

All-powerful, self-existent God,
Who all creation dost sustain!
Thou wast, and art, and art to come;
And everlasting is Thy reign.

Fix'd and eternal as Thy days,
Each glorious attribute divine,
Thro' ages infinite, shall still
With undiminish'd lustre shine.

Fountain of being! Source of good!
Immutable dost Thou remain;
Nor can the shadow of a change
Obscure the glories of Thy reign.

Earth may with all her powers dissolve,
If such the great Creator's will;
But Thou for ever art the same;
"I Am" is Thy memorial still.

(“All-powerful, Self-existent God” text from Walker’s Collection, Public Domain, CCLI #358926, Streaming License 20317932)

Prayer

II Chronicles 7:14 *If my people, who are called by my Name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.*

Lord God Almighty and Holy Father, teach us that nothing is necessary to you. Were anything necessary to you that thing would be the measure of your imperfection: and how could we worship one who is imperfect? If nothing is necessary to you, then no one is necessary, and if no one, then not we. You seek us though you do not need us. We seek you because we need you, for in you we live and move and have our being. Apart from you we are nothing, we have nothing and we can do nothing. As you are dependent on no one and nothing, so we are dependent on you for everything, the air we breathe, the food we eat, the health we have, the homes we enjoy, the work we do, the relationships that surround us. And for this we give to you our humble gratitude and worship, in the name of Jesus. Amen.