



“Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite”
(Psalm 147:5).

God Is All Powerful

Central Truth: God’s power benefits His people.

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Topic: God: Attributes of.

“God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God” (Psalm 62:11).

That's the truth! *“He doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?”* (Daniel 4:35). What a great God is He!

We use the term omnipotence to describe the power of God. It is a compound word made up of *omni*, which means “all,” and *potent*, which means “power.” Omnipotence means to have all power. *“There is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God”* (Romans 13:1).

Power can be a cause of dread. A windstorm has power, and it strikes terror in the hearts of its victims. A wild horse has power, and most people draw back in fear of riding it. But the power of God is no cause for fear in those who trust Him. His is the power of a loving, heavenly Father who cares for His own. The central truth of this study states, “God's power benefits His people.” Let us rejoice as we study this subject.

I. GOD'S POWER IS BENEVOLENT (Psalm 147:1-3, 6)

A. God's power strengthens His people. *“The LORD doth build up Jerusalem”* (verse 2). *“God hath power to help, and to cast down”* (II Chronicles 25:8). So He helps His people. Here is how He helps: *“He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. . . . They that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they*

shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint” (Isaiah 40:29, 31). That is the power He manifests toward you today.

B. God's power protects His people. *“He gathereth together the outcasts”* (verse 2). How tenderly He deals with us. *“He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young”* (Isaiah 40:11). *“He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust”* (Psalm 91:4). As a shepherd caring for his flock, or a mother hen caring for her chicks, God tenderly extends His protection and care over His dear children. No enemy by night or day can make afraid one who trusts Him (Psalm 91:5-7). They who trust Him are safe.

C. God's power heals His people. *“He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds”* (verse 3). Both emotional and physical injuries are healed under His hand of love. His stripes were for our healing (Isaiah 53:5). Since He suffered for our healing, He will not hesitate to apply its benefits to our hurting minds and bodies.

II. GOD'S POWER IS INFINITE (Psalm 147:4, 5)

A. God's power is infinite in detail. We cannot begin to comprehend His knowledge, love, and strength. He counts the stars, though they are more than we can number. He even calls each star by its own name. I have a problem remembering the names of a few thousand people I have met, yet God knows the names of the millions upon millions of stars. More importantly, He knows my name and your name. *“He calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out”* (John 10:3). Not a hair falls from your head without His knowledge (Matthew 10:30). *“Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain it”* (Psalm 139:6).

B. God's power is infinite in scope. He is great and His power is great (verse 5). His works are so many and done in such wisdom that we stand in awe of them (Psalm 104:24). His power reaches into the heavenly realms, the scope of man's experiences, and into the depths of the nether world. He is able to do *“exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us”* (Ephesians 3:20). You will never go beyond the limit of God's power.

C. God's power is infinite in comprehension. *“Great is our Lord, and of great power: his understanding is infinite”* (Psalm 147:5). Read Romans 11:33-36 and worship before Him. *“The foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men”* (1 Corinthians

1:25). Try to conceive in your thoughts the extent of God's power. The more you try, the more impossible you find the assignment to be. If you could understand all about Him, He would be on your level and would not be God. We rejoice that He is beyond us. We trust Him whom we cannot fully understand.

III. GOD'S POWER IS MANIFESTED (Psalm 147:4, 8, 9, 15-18)

A. God's power is manifested in nature. He counts and names the stars (verse 4). He sends the rain and causes the grass to grow (verse 8). He feeds the beasts of the forests and the birds of the air (verse 9). He sends the snow, frost, and ice (verses 15-17). He sends the wind and causes the water to flow (verse 18). Truly, God is seen in nature. Read Psalm 104:13-24 and rejoice. What a God is He! Even the sea obeys His will (Job 26:12). Everything in nature obeys His word (Psalm 148:8). Look at the nature miracles of Jesus; speaking death to a fig tree, calming a storm, multiplying food. He is God over all nature.

B. God's power is manifested in His provisions for us (verse 9). We are totally dependent on Him. *“Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all”* (I Chronicles 29:12).

Look up to God from which all your supply comes (Psalm 121). Let your heart rest in peace at the thought that He loves you and cares for you. Say these words before Him: *“Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation”* (Psalm 68:19). *“Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men!”* (Psalm 31:19). You need suffer no lack for He cares for you.

IV. GOD'S POWER IS SANCTIFIED (Psalm 147:10, 11, 19, 20)

A. God's power is more than sheer strength. It is strength governed by love. He does not delight in the strength of horse or man (verse 10). The world would be a fearful place to live if brute strength alone were the order of the day. Picture a man with the strength of a giant but the tenderness of a mother. That gives you a little idea of what God is like. His is sanctified power, dedicated to the good of His dear children.

B. God's power delights in holiness. *“The LORD taketh pleasure in them that fear him, in those that hope in his mercy”* (verse 11). He is *“glorious in holiness”* (Exodus 15:11) and desires holiness in His people.

Those heavenly beings who serve Him cry out, *“Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of His glory”* (Isaiah 6:3). His requirement is, *“As he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy”* (I Peter 1:15, 16). Do not be surprised if the power of God works in your life to produce holiness. He is in the business of making sinners into saints, and His great power is governed by love and grace as He does it.

C. God's power is in agreement with His Word. *“He sheweth his word unto Jacob, his statutes and his judgment unto Israel. . . . Praise ye the LORD”* (verses 19,20).

“I am the LORD: I will speak, and the word that I shall speak shall come to pass; it shall be no more prolonged: for in your days, O rebellious house, will I say the word, and will perform it, saith the Lord GOD” (Ezekiel 12,25).

His Word predicts what His power will perform. His power performs what His Word predicts. That is why every prophecy will come to pass in its time. *“I am God, and there is none like me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: . . . I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it”* (Isaiah 46:9-11). You can trust God's Word because you can depend on His power.

V. GOD'S POWER IS PRAISEWORTHY (Psalm 147:1, 7, 12, 20)

A. Praise of God's power is appropriate. *“It is good to sing praises unto our God”* (verse 1). Exodus 15 is a great hymn of praise that Israel sang to the Lord when she was delivered at the Red Sea. The Israelites saw His power on their behalf, and their natural response was praise.

God promises and keeps His promise. He swears and performs His oath (Psalm 119:106). That calls forth the praise of those who trust Him (Psalm 119:164). Praising God for His faithfulness is as natural as breathing. Praise of God is appropriate. Practice it!

B. Praise of God's power is melodious. *“Sing unto the LORD with thanksgiving; sing praise upon the harp unto our God”* (Psalm 147:7). One of the finest exercises for a Christian is *“speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ”* (Ephesians 5:19, 20). You can sing in your heart even if you cannot sing with your voice.

C. Praise of God's power is to be corporate. *“Praise the LORD, O*

Jerusalem; praise thy God, O Zion” (Psalm 147:12). Many people lived in Jerusalem; many worshipers assembled on Mount Zion. So the appeal of Psalm 147:12 is for a joint praise of God.

Christian worship should have an element of praise in it. *“Let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually”* (Hebrews 13:15). The “us” indicates that many people are involved. The principle is stated in Psalm 67:3: *“Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.”* It is the command of God (Revelation 19:5). It is the delight of saints. It is the pattern of the New Testament church. *“In the midst of the church will I sing praise unto thee”* (Hebrews 2:12).

D. Praise of God's power is imperative. God commands, *“Praise ye the LORD”* (Psalm 147:20). To refrain from praise is to disobey Him. *“Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name”* (Psalm 100:4). *“Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD”* (Psalm 150:6). God inhabits the praises of His people (Psalm 22:3). Let us praise Him for His power that is manifested in His dealings with us.

Respect the power of God, but do not fear it. His power is devoted to our good. He who does according to His will in heaven and on earth wills to do good to us. Trust Him and rejoice that He is able to do all that needs to be done.

God's power benefits His people.

Questions

1. What does Psalm 62:11 say about the power of God?
2. How does Romans 13:1 show that God's power is omnipotent?
3. How does God's power strengthen His people?
4. How can you experience the work of power as in Isaiah 40:29-31?
5. How does Isaiah 40:11 show God's grace with His power?
6. How does Ephesians 3:20 describe God's power?
7. How does I Corinthians 1:25 relate God's power to man's power?
8. How is God's power shown in nature?
9. How does Isaiah 46:9-11 relate God's power to answered prophecy?
10. How can you expect to see God's power in your life?