

The Attributes of God

Attribute #4

- I. Omnipresent – God is essentially everywhere present in heaven and earth. If God is, He must be somewhere; that which is nowhere is nothing. If nothing is nowhere, and God is somewhere, then God is everywhere that is somewhere.
 - A. Heavens and earth cannot contain God
 1. I Kings 8:27
 2. 2 Chron. 2:6
 3. Deut 4:39
 4. Psalm 139:7-8
 5. Prov. 15:3
 6. Isaiah 66:1
 - B. Yet He fills both
 1. Psalm 139:7-10
 2. Acts 17:27-28
 3. Jeremiah 23:23 -24
 4. Eph. 1:23
 - C. He is not bound by any place nor receiving from anyplace anything for His preservation or sustainment.
 1. Things are said to be present or in a place
 - a. Circumscribed – to things that have quantity and occupy a particular space. A body fills but one particular space where it is. The hand is not in the same particular space that the foot or head is.
 - b. Definitive – to things that are said to be in a point; therefore, they cannot to be in another point (spot) at the same time. Angels are represented as moving from place to place to execute God's will. (Dan.9: 20-23; Acts 12:7; Rev. 14:6)
 - c. Repletive – belongs only to God; as He is not measured by time (eternality), He is not limited by place. A body or spirit, being finite, fills one space. God, being infinite, fills all, yet is not contained in them as water in a jar.

- D. He is not present in the same manner or degree everywhere. His more conscious or special presence is found in certain places.
1. In heaven - Matt.6: 9
 2. In the believer - John.14: 16-18, 20, and 23.
- E. We must not conceive of God's presence as if it were material. We cannot say that a part of His essence is here and a part there; if that were the case, He would be infinitely divided, and only an infinitely small part of Him would be present at each place. It is the whole deity that takes cognizance of our actions and listens to our prayers.
1. Prov. 15:3
 2. I Peter 3:12
- F. In reading Scripture, we must be aware of accommodations of language, such as God moving from one place to another, or of His approaching and departing, or of His coming near His people, etc.
1. They refer to the manifestations of His presence in His various activities.
 2. His eyes and hands are attributed to Him to describe an activity not a location.

II. Applications

- A. In whatever manner His presence is present everywhere, it is present everywhere; what the mode of that presence is, we do not know.
- B. To that incomprehensible property of His nature by which He is capable of being wholly present at the same moment, with every one of His creatures, without division of His essence, and without removal from place to place, is possible because God is Spirit and therefore immeasurable.
- C. It is not derogatory to the glory of God that He is present everywhere. Foul places where human beings gather do not affect God as they affect men; they do not contaminate God. "Your eyes are too pure to look at evil; you cannot tolerate wrong" (Hab.1: 13). Yet, Prov.15: 3 says, "The eyes of the Lord are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good". He witnesses, while He abhors.

- D. A person who sincerely believes the omnipresence of God cannot be indifferent to faith. When a sense of guilt occurs, His presence becomes intolerable. The guilty person tries to flee the presence of God, as Jonah did.
1. The power of conscience tormenting the guilty party is terrible but the presence of God against whom he has sinned, and whose wrath he dreads, is more terrible.
 2. To the person reconciled to God, His omnipresence is full of consolation. In every place, in every condition, to have with us an almighty friend, a kind Father, is a sense of unspeakable comfort and joy. We need not fear, though we pass through fire or flood, if God is with us; even in the shadow of death, we fear no evil (Rom. 8:31; Psalm 23)
 3. In every circumstance or trial, to know that God is present, is conducive to our personal holiness.