

Section: Doctrine of God

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**Q9. Is God all-powerful?**

Yes. God is able to do all His holy will. He is omnipotent.

* **Introduction**

**Omnipotent** (om-nip-uh-tuh nt): God is able to do all His holy will. He is all-powerful.

**Augustine:** “God is omnipotent, and yet He cannot die, He cannot lie, He cannot deny Himself. How is he omnipotent then? He is omnipotent for the very reason that he cannot do these things. For if he could die, He would not be omnipotent.”

**James 1:13** Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one.

**Hebrews 6:18** … it is impossible for God to lie …

**Titus 1:2** … [God] never lies…

**2 Timothy 2:13-14** if we are faithless, he remains faithful— for [God] cannot deny himself.

God’s “power” is His “ability” to **carry out** all His Holy will. His **will** is not His **power**.

* **God’s Omnipotence Displayed in Creation**

**1689 Baptist Confession of Faith**: “In the beginning God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit was pleased to create or make the world and all things in it, both visible and invisible, in a six-day period, and all was declared very good. He did this to manifest the glory of his eternal power, wisdom, and goodness.”

**Genesis 1**

**Stephen Charnock**: “The power of God is that ability and strength whereby He can bring to pass whatsoever He pleases, whatsoever His infinite wisdom may direct, and whatsoever the infinite purity of His will may resolve ... As holiness is the beauty of all God’s attributes, so power is that which gives life and action to all the perfections of the Divine nature. How vain would be the eternal counsels, if power did not step in to execute them. Without power His mercy would be but feeble pity, His promises an empty sound, His threatening’s a mere scarecrow. God’s power is like Himself: infinite, eternal, incomprehensible; it can neither be checked, restrained, nor frustrated by the creature.”

**A. W. Pink**:“‘God has spoken once; twice have I heard this, that power belongs unto God’ (Ps. 62:11). ‘God has spoken ONCE’: nothing more is necessary! Heaven and earth shall pass away, but His word abides forever. God has spoken once: how befitting His Divine majesty! We poor mortals may speak often and yet fail to be heard. He speaks but once and the thunder of His power is heard on a thousand hills. ‘The Lord also thundered in the heavens, and the Highest gave His voice; hailstones and coals of fire. Yes, He sent out His arrows, and scattered them; and He shot out lightning’s, and discomfited them. Then the channels of waters were seen and the foundations of the world were discovered at Thy rebuke, O Lord, at the blast of the breath of Thy nostrils’ (Ps. 18:13-15).”

**Jeremiah 32:17** “‘Ah, Lord God! It is you who have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and by your outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you.”

**Romans 1:18-20** For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, *his eternal power* and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

* **God’s Omnipotence in Sustaining and Governing Creation**

**1689 Baptist Confession of Faith**: “God the good Creator of all things, in his infinite power and wisdom, upholds, directs, arranges, and governs all creatures and things, from the greatest to the least, by his perfectly wise and holy providence, to the purpose for which they were created. In this decree God’s wisdom is displayed in directing all things, and his power and faithfulness are demonstrated in accomplishing his decree.”

**Hebrews 1:3a** He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

**Colossians 1:17** And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

**A. W. Pink**: “‘Parts of His ways’ we behold in creation, providence, redemption, but only a ‘little part’ of His might is seen in them. Remarkably is this brought out in Habakkuk 3:4: ‘and there was the hiding of His power.’ It is scarcely possible to imagine anything more grandiloquent than the imagery of this whole chapter, yet nothing in it surpasses the nobility of this statement. The prophet (in vision) beheld the mighty God scattering the hills and overturning the mountains, which one would think afforded an amazing demonstration of His power Nay, says our verse, that is rather the ‘hiding” than the displaying of His power. What is meant? This: so inconceivable, so immense, so uncontrollable is the power of Deity, that the fearful convulsions which He works in nature conceal more than they reveal of His infinite might!”

**Habakkuk 3:4-6**

**Job 42:2** “I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.”

**Luke 1:37** “For nothing will be impossible with God.”

**Daniel 4:35** (NASB) “All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, but He does according to His will in the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of earth; and no one can ward off His hand or say to Him, ‘What have You done?’”

* **God’s Omnipotence in the Whole Life of the Christian**

**Romans 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

* **God’s omnipotence in conversion**

**Matthew 1:21** “She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”

**Jeremiah 32:27** “Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh. Is anything too hard for me?”

**Jeremiah 32:36-41**

**Colossians 2:12-13**

* **God’s omnipotence in our persevering and sanctification**

**1 Corinthians 1:18** For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the *power* of God.

**1 Corinthians 1:23-24** but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the *power* of God and the wisdom of God.

**2 Peter 1:3-4**

**1 Peter 1:5** who by God’s *power* are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

**Philippians 2:13** … it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

* **God’s omnipotence in resurrection**

**Matthew 22:29** But Jesus answered them, “You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God.”

* **Application of the Knowledge of God’s Omnipotence**
* We should live in a beautiful balance between rightly fearing God and worshiping Him in the truth that He will do what He has promised, because He is all powerful.
* We should be daily reminding ourselves of the beauty and power of the gospel.
* We should find such great hope in the power of God that it should be our anchor in the storm.

**Romans 8:28** And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

* God’s power at work in us should cause us to strive for sanctification.

**Philippians 2:12-13**

* God’s amazing power should cause us to worship Him rightly.