

Omnipotence

I. Announce:

- A. Welcome to those **online**. Thanks for joining us.
- B. Slide1,2 Faith & Family Night. VBS.
- C. Slide3,4 A Baptism and Movie - 3pm baptism. 5pm Movie.
 - 1. **Movie:** Highlights the importance of foster care because it's national foster care month. It's not just for those who want to **or** are fostering, **but** it's for all to understand the **importance** and the **complexities**, **so we** can **ALL** learn how to support the families who **ARE** doing it! **There will** also be a **panel discussion** for **Q&A** to learn even more.
- D. Slide5 Prayer: God you have given us *a pretty big book* on **who** You are, **and what** You've done. God often we're asking the wrong question, *how many minutes a day do I need to read it?* **vs.** What a **privilege** to be able to know anything of **You**, our magnificent God.

II. Slide6 Intro: Omnipotence

- A. Ask: What comes to your mind when you hear **omnipotence**? (all-power) [eg. mic's]
- B. Slide7a Apostles Creed starts with, *I believe in God the Father **almighty**, Maker of heaven and earth.* (Lt. Credo in Deum Patrem *omnipotentem*, Creatorem caeli et terrae) [**or** omni-mighty]
 - 1. **Almighty** (shaddai שַׁדַּי) in OT, 48 x's [7 prefaced w/ 'ēl shaddai] (31 in Job), *The God of Israel understood according to his **absolute power**.*
 - 2. **Almighty** (panto-krátōr παντοκράτωρ) in NT, 10 x's, *Someone whose controlling influence over reality is unlimited; only referencing **God**.* 9/10 n Rv
- C. Slide7b So, Can God make a rock so big **that** He cannot move it?¹
 - 1. If we Answer **yes**, then we are saying **that there is something God cannot do**, He cannot move the rock.

¹ R.C. Sproul, Essential Truths of the Christian Faith, pg.39.

2. If we Answer **no**, then we are saying **that God cannot build such a rock**. [either way we are forced to **place limits** on God's power]
3. This is a **false dilemma** (it is false because, it's built on a **false premise**).
4. It assumes that **omnipotence** means that **God can do anything**, **but** it **does not** mean that. There are several things that God **cannot do ...**
 - a) **Can you name some?** (He cannot **lie**/Heb.6:18. He cannot **die**. He cannot **both** be eternal **and** created. He cannot **act against** His nature. He cannot be **God and not be God** at the same time and in the same respect). [sin, deny Himself]
 - b) **BUT** apart from these aspects of **divine inability**, the word **impossible** is not in God's vocabulary.
5. What omnipotence does mean is that **God holds all power over His creation**. No part of creation stands *outside* the scope of His sovereign control.
6. **So the answer is no**. God **cannot** build a rock so big that He cannot move it. **Why?** If God ever built such a rock He would be creating something over which He had no power. He'd be destroying His own omnipotence. **God cannot stop being God; He cannot not be omnipotent.**

III. Slide8 **DOCTRINE - The Mind**

A. **Doctrine: Understanding God's Omnipotence.**

B. **Omnipotence means** that God is ***all-powerful***. He has unlimited authority and power **to *accomplish His will***. **But** His power is ***not just*** about sheer force, **but** also His ability **to *bring about His purposes***. (Key)

C. **Key Verses:**

1. 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.***
2. Job 42:2 ***I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.***

- D. The omnipotence of God is that attribute by which He can bring to pass everything which He wills. God's power admits of no bounds or limitations. If he says He's going to do something He's going to do it—*Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?* Numb.23:19
- E. **Omnipotence** is a close cousin to **Sovereignty**. God's sovereignty is *a natural consequence of* His omniscience, omnipotence, and omnipresence.
- F. God's omnipotence means He can do *anything that aligns with* His nature and will. It doesn't mean He will do everything we ask, *but* it means He has *the power to accomplish His plans*.

IV. Slide9a **DEVOTION - The Heart**

- A. **Devotion: Applying God's Omnipotence to Our Lives.**
- B. **Ask:** How does God's *all-powerfulness* help us today? [expound on these areas]
 1. **It Gives Us Confidence in Prayer:** we can pray boldly (knowing that nothing is beyond His ability). We don't have to worry about whether He can handle our problems (He absolutely can).
 2. **Slide9b It Provides Strength in Our Weakness:** When we feel weak, overwhelmed, or exhausted (God's omnipotence means His strength is available to us). *God's power is made perfect in our weakness.* 2 Cor.12:9
 3. **Slide9c It Brings Hope in Hopeless Situations:** When life feels impossible —*whether it's a diagnosis, a broken relationship, or deep loss* (God's power reassures us that nothing is too hard for Him). Even if He doesn't change the situation (His power can sustain us). - *"The Almighty is where the heart goes when your doubts need answers."* Theologian Dan Effinger.
 4. **Slide9d It Assures Us of Victory Over Sin:** No sin is too strong to be overcome by God's power. Romans 6:14 says that sin will no longer be our master because we are under grace. This means real transformation is possible through His strength.

5. **Slide9e It Guarantees His Promises:** God's omnipotence assures us that He can and will fulfill His promises. If He says He'll never leave us or forsake us (Hebrews 13:5), His power ensures that's true.
6. **Slide9f It Gives Us Courage to Step Out in Faith:** When God calls us to do something challenging or outside our comfort zone, we can go forward with confidence, knowing it's not our own strength but His that will accomplish it.
 - a) Whether it's *overcoming sin, dealing with suffering, or finding purpose*, **His strength is sufficient!**

V. Slide10 DEEPER - The Soul

- A. **Going Deeper: Listening for God's Voice.**
- B. **Spend a few moments in Silence**, reflecting on an area **where** you need to see God's power at work.
- C. **Questions to Ponder Prayerfully:**
 1. What **impossible situation** in your life might God be inviting you to surrender to Him?
 2. **Where** am I relying on *my own strength* instead of **God's power**?
 3. What situations in my life seem impossible, **but** could change if I truly believed in God's omnipotence?
- D. **Silence/Prayer:** Quietly speak to God about the burdens you're carrying, **asking Him** to show His power in your lives.
- E. **Communion Reflection:** As you take communion, **remember** all that we talked about of God's power, **now listen to this**, Palu says, *I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power **FOR US** who believe him. This is the same mighty power that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms.* Eph.1:19,20 NLT
- F. Keywords: omnipotence, almighty, power.