

Systematic Theology session 11
The Doctrine of God, "I Am Who I Am," Part 5

- God's attribute of omnipotence.
 - God's power is able to do all that He wills, and He is able to do more than He has willed to do.
 - Omnipotence is an incommunicable attribute of God's greatness.
 - God did not exhaust His power in creating the universe; He could have created it instantly instead of in six days, and He could have created 10 universes just like it if He had willed. All of God's mighty works do not tax or offer resistance to His power.
 - God's power cannot be frustrated by any power outside of Himself.
 - God's absolute power: God is able to do anything, even the things He could have decided to do, but did not actually decree.
 - God's ordained power: God's power to do what He has willed.
 - What omnipotence is not:
 - God cannot perform nonsense statements, such as creating a rock so big He can't move it. God will not be reduced to nonsense, and He is not a God of confusion.
 - God cannot use His power to contradict His own nature. "He cannot deny Himself" (2 Timothy 2:13).
- God's attribute of sovereignty.
 - Divine sovereignty is God's absolute right to rule.
 - Divine sovereignty is tied to omnipotence.
 - God's sovereignty is His moral power to rule; it is lawful for Him to do as He pleases.
 - God has the right to absolute rule because of divine sovereignty, and He has the power to rule because of His omnipotence.
 - Sovereignty is a communicable attribute, because on earth, God has given authority to man to govern others in civil government.
 - Only God has divine sovereignty; human authority is delegated from God.
 - God, in His absolute divine sovereignty, answers to no higher authority. There is no restraint on His rule.
 - Authority given to human government is limited in its power and sphere of influence, and is delegated by God rather than independent.
 - Divine sovereignty is a communicable attribute of God's greatness.
- False doctrines that deny God's sovereignty or omnipotence.
 - The prosperity doctrine: some of their false teachers hold that faith is God's power source, and is a power source external to God.
- God's omnipotence and sovereignty should bring comfort to His people.
 - God will keep His elect from falling. He will preserve us to the final day.
 - We know that God hears and answers prayer, because He rules over all, and can do all things.