

HIS INVISIBLE ATTRIBUTES

...because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,.. (NKJV).

This verse states that what may be known of God has been shown to us by God, it has been revealed or made apparent to us. It further says that the invisible characteristics of God, the things that reveal His eternal power and are divine, or that make God God are known and understood by what the creator created. Our goal is to review this, what do we know about God from His creation and our experience in His creation. As we look at this consider how we can see these attributes of God:

- God is Eternal: Rev. 1:8, Deuteronomy 33:27; Jeremiah 10:10; Psalm 90:2
- God is Omni-present: Ps. 139: 7-16
- God is All Powerful: Genesis 18:14; Luke 18:27; Revelation 19:6
- God is Unchanging: Malachi 3:6, Psalm 102:25-27; Hebrews 1:10-12; 13:8
- God is All Knowing: Psalm 139:2-6; Isaiah 40:13-14
- God is Light: James 1:17; 1 John 1:5
- God is Love: John 3:16; Romans 5:8; 1 John 4:8
- God is Holy: Leviticus 19:2; 1 Peter 1:15
- God is Righteous: (Rom. 2:15).
- God is Incomprehensible: Ps 92:5 "O LORD, how great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very deep."
- God is Three in One (Trinity): John 14: 15-23
- God is sovereign: 2 Samuel 7:22; Isaiah 46:9-11
- God is Good in giving us the gift not just of verbal communication but also of beautiful music; in giving us the gift not just of the nourishing food that our bodies require, but of good tasting food; in giving us the gift not just of a utilitarian planet upon which we can survive for a fair number of years, but of beautiful scenery, beautiful flowers in the spring and summer, beautiful autumn leaves, and beautiful snow and ice in the winter (see Acts 14:17).
- God is Merciful in creating man (and probably other organisms) with a built-in capability of healing when injured or infected by a pathogen.
- God is Wise in His creation of DNA by which the vast variety of plant and animal species as well as the enormous variations that exist within a single species, such as *Homo sapiens*, are determined by different combinations and patterns of only four nucleotides.
- God is Wise with respect to the great simplicity that underlies this enormously complex Universe. For example, water, with its wonderful properties mentioned above, has the simple chemical formula, H_2O . Table salt, with so many valuable and important uses, has an even simpler formula, $NaCl$. And what about the simple formula that describes the force of gravity, or Einstein's famous equation, $E=mc^2$? In this regard, Stephen "Hawking once asked, 'What is it that breathes fire into the equations and makes a universe for them to describe?' Of course, there is no 'what' that can be the answer to that question, only a 'Who'--the God who created the cosmos and gives it its meaning, who created Stephen Hawking and put within him such a hunger for knowledge" (comment by R. Albert Mohler, Jr., in albertmohler.com).

God has given us five senses that we can use to learn about and understand His creation. Each of these senses depend on constants in His creation.

1. By looking at His creation through the senses we have been given:

a. **Sight:**

- i. We can see in color, with depth perception and in stereo vision. We can see motion, speed, location and can estimate where an object is going.
- ii. Our mind processes this all quick enough so we can interpret what we are seeing and react if we need to.
- iii. Our eye is an amazing camera that re-calibrates, adjusts, and protects and heals itself. It grows as we grow and is bi-lateral so if one eye is injured the other is capable of taking over and still functioning.
- iv. Our sight can be extended by means of magnification to enlarge objects below our field of vision such as microscopes or telescopes.

b. **Hearing:**

- i. The ear is an amazing microphone and amplifier system that senses sound waves and can translate them so our mind can process as a 3D sound field with frequency, tone, volume, and spatial location. We can sense relative locations and speed and based on this ability and our mind can automatically amplify or filter to compensate in hard to hear situations.
- ii. Our mind combines this information with our other senses, in particular sight so we have a complete image based on sight and sound.
- iii. Our ears are incredible microphones that capture frequency, tone, volume, and spatial location. Our ears have some mechanisms to protect from loud sounds that might injure the ear drum or its components. It has similar calibration, adjustment, and healing features as the eye.

c. **Taste:**

- i. Our sensation of taste works with our sense of smell and touch to provide a complete mental image of what we are eating. That allows us to know whether it is appropriate to eat or not. There are some 5000 taste buds located within our tongue and mouth. There are five distinct qualities of taste.

d. **Smell:**

- i. The sensors in our nose enable us to smell while inhaling and to combine with flavor detection during exhaling. These sensors can distinguish hundreds of substances, even in minute quantities. This includes poisonous, toxic, or objectionable substances.

e. **Touch:**

- i. The sensors used for touch are located over the surface of our bodies and vary in how dense they are as well as their sensations. There are about twenty different types of nerve endings including receptors for heat, cold, pain, pressure and touch, tapping, vibrations, texture, with pain being the most common, for a total of some four million.
- ii. We can feel the warmth of the sunshine, the coolness and wetness of a spring shower, a gentle breeze, a hug, a warm embrace, the special touch of a loved one or our spouse, and various levels of pain from injuries, disease, or an abscessed tooth.
- iii. The nerve endings in our fingers are particularly sensitive to touch and can be trained to sense dot patterns such as in Braille.

Key Verse:

I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well. Ps 139:14