

Attributes of God to look for during Scripture reading

There are many attributes of God in Scripture. Some belong to God alone. Some attributes of God have been shared with us, through God's creating us in His image. All attributes of God have been revealed to us in scripture.

This "checklist tool" is intended to provide a concise reminder of several of God's attributes that we should look for in our scripture reading in order to provide a framework for applying Scripture in our daily lives.

As you read scripture, use the following list to: 1) identify attributes of God; 2) mediate how you might imitate those attributes in your own life.

Attributes of God (alphabetical order):

- Faithfulness. God is ever true to His Word. What God says will happen and is true. God is not changeable, therefore His Words are trustworthy.
- Goodness. The goodness of God causes His actions to be kind and full of goodwill toward us. He is tender hearted and quick to sympathize. God is inclined to give blessings and takes pleasure in the happiness of His people.
- Grace. Grace is the good pleasure of God that causes Him to give benefits to undeserving people. Grace is directed toward human debt and sin. God's grace imputes merit where none previously existed and declares no debt to be where one is deserved.
- Holiness. God stands apart, unique, incomprehensible. God does not conform to a standard. He is the standard! It is only through God's grace that we can approach Him in His holiness. We must revere God and strive for personal holiness.
- Love. God's love causes Him to desire our everlasting welfare and His sovereignty enables Him to secure it. God's love demonstrates and His Word assures us that He is to be considered a friend.
- Mercy. God has infinite and inexhaustible energy which causes God to be actively compassionate. Mercy is God's goodness confronting human misery and guilt.
- Righteousness. God's righteousness (synonymous with justice) embodies the idea of equity in moral situations. We must work toward personal righteousness.
- Sovereignty. The attribute by which God rules His entire creation and assures that His ordained plan for His creation is unalterable. We must trust God's sovereignty in the events of our lives.
- Wisdom. God's wisdom allows Him to always establish perfect goals. God's wisdom allows Him to choose the perfect actions and interactions to accomplish those goals with perfect detail. We must trust God's wisdom in guiding our lives.

Source Materials

The Knowledge of the Holy, AW Tozer, 1978, HarperCollins
Systematic Theology, Wayne Grudem, 1994, Zondervan