

## Christian Doctrine God (Part 3) Attributes: Who Is He?

### God Is Self-Existing and Independent

#### ➤ What Does This Mean?

- Unlike people, whose source of existence is outside of themselves, God's existence does not rely on anyone.
- God is completely independent of anyone or anything. There is nothing He needs or relies on. He owes no one anything and is therefore free to do whatever He chooses.

#### ➤ Where Do We See This in Scripture?

- "By him all things were created" (Col. 1:16). God is the Cause of creation; He did not need to be created.
- Isaiah 40:13-14 shows that God's decisions are based solely on His wisdom, independent of man.
- Romans 11:35 says there is nothing we can give God by which He would owe us something in return.
- He is free to do "all that he pleases" (Ps. 115:3) - free to give life or take life (I Sam. 2:6), to show compassion or bring judgment (Ex. 33:19), etc.

**Though free to do whatever He wants to do, there are some things God will not do: lie (Heb. 6:18), be unfaithful (II Tim. 2:13) or do evil (James 1:13). He will not do these (or "can not" do these) because they are against His nature.**

#### ➤ What Does This Mean for Me?

- ⇒ Since God is free to do as He pleases, and is in no way indebted to us, we must recognize that any blessing we have from God, especially the gift of His Son, is solely given by His great love toward us!
- ⇒ Although God is independent and needs nothing, we can glorify Him and bring Him joy. Our existence is not insignificant, but very meaningful, because we are meaningful to God (Is. 43:7).

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