

QUIETING A NOISY SOUL

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Part Two: The Way Back

Session 10

Beholding the God of Power

“Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, indeed everything that is in the heavens and the earth; Yours is the dominion, O Lord, and You exalt Yourself as head over all. 12 Both riches and honor come from You, and You rule over all, and in Your hand is power and might; and it lies in Your hand to make great and to strengthen everyone. 13 Now therefore, our God, we thank You, and praise Your glorious name.” I Chronicles 29:11-13

From Stephen Charnock [A. W. Pink, *The Attributes of God* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1975), 46]:

“The power of God is that ability and strength whereby He can bring to pass whatsoever He pleases, whatsoever His infinite wisdom may direct, and whatsoever the infinite purity of His will may resolve.

...As holiness is the beauty of all God’s attributes, so power is that which gives life and action to all the perfections of the Divine nature. How vain would be the eternal counsels, if power did not step in to execute them. Without power His mercy would be but feeble pity, His promises empty sound, His threatenings a mere scarecrow. God’s power is like Himself: infinite, eternal, incomprehensible; it can neither be checked, restrained, nor frustrated by the creature.”

A. That God has all power means that He possesses absolute _____.

1. _____: “God is able to do whatever He wills in the way He wills it.” [Walter A. Elwell, *Evangelical Dictionary of Theology* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1984), 457-58]
 - ☞ New Testament word is *dunamis*—“power, ability, physical or moral, as residing in a person or thing” [W. E. Vine, *An Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words* (Old Tappan, NJ: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1940), 11.]
2. It means “_____ is _____.” (II Corinthians 9:8; Ephesians 3:20; Romans 4:20-21; II Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 7:25; Jude 24)
3. His power in _____ (Isaiah 40:12; Genesis 1; Psalm 33:6-9; Job 38-42)
4. His power in _____ (Hebrews 11:1-3; Colossians 1:16-17; Isaiah 40:26)
 - ☞ “Christ is the originator and upholder of the universe...In him it consists, or holds together, from hour to hour. The steady will of Christ constitutes the law of the universe and makes it a cosmos instead of chaos, just as his will brought it into being in the beginning” (A.H. Strong). [Jerry Bridges, *Trusting God* (Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1988), 26]
5. His power in _____ (Romans 13:1-2; Psalm 75:5-7; Isaiah 40:23-24)

*“Why does folly often prevail over wisdom in the counsels of princes, and in the houses of legislators? God has appointed the rejection of good counsel in order to bring on nations that vengeance that their crimes call down from heaven. God rules the world by Providence, not by miracle. See that grave senator. He rises and pours forth wisdom. But if God has determined to punish the nation, some prating speculatist will impose his sophism on the most sagacious assembly” (Alexander Carson) [Jerry Bridges, *Trusting God* (Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1988), 84]*

B. That God has all power means that He possesses absolute _____.

1. New Testament word is *exousia*—“denotes freedom of action, right to act; used of God, it is absolute, unrestricted; used of men, authority is delegated.” [W.E. Vine, *An Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words* (Old Tappan, NJ: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1940), 11]
2. God’s control is _____.
 - ☞ *“If there is a single event in all of the universe that can occur outside of God’s sovereign control, then we cannot trust Him.”* [Jerry Bridges, *Trusting God* (Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1988), 37]
3. God’s control is not always _____.
 - ☞ *“He permits, for reasons known only to Himself, people to act contrary to and in defiance of His revealed will. But He never permits them to act contrary to His sovereign will.”* [Jerry Bridges, *Trusting God* (Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1988), 37]
 - ☞ Deuteronomy 10:17; I Chronicles 29:11-12; Nehemiah 9:6; Psalm 22:28; 103:19; 115:3; Isaiah 14:27; 43:13; Jeremiah 27:5; Revelation 19:6

CONCLUSION: My soul can rest because God’s _____ is more than enough for me.