

# SHEPHERD'S COMMUNITY CHURCH

Sunday ABF – April 6

“The Knowledge of the Holy”

by A.W. Tozer

## CHAPTER 12

### The Omnipotence of God

*When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said,  
"I am God Almighty; walk before Me and be blameless" (Genesis 17:1).*

*Ah Lord GOD! Behold, Thou hast made the heavens and the earth  
by Thy great power and by Thine outstretched arm!  
Nothing is too difficult for Thee (Jeremiah 32:17 NASB).*

*His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of His mighty strength, which He exerted in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come (Ephesians 1:19-21).*

*Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns" (Revelation 19:6).*

References to God being almighty found in Job alone: 5:17; 6:4; 6:14; 8:3; 8:5; 11:7; 13:3; 15:25; 21:15; 21:20; 22:3; 22:17; 22:23; 22:25; 22:26; 23:16; 24:1; 27:2; 27:10; 27:11; 27:13; 29:5; 31:2; 31:35; 32:8; 33:4; 34:10; 34:12; 35:13; 37:23; 40:2.

#### 1) What does it mean that God is “omnipotent?”

“[God] is Himself the great central source and Originator of all power.” C. H. Spurgeon

“Not a creature in the entire universe has an atom of power save what God delegates.” A.W Pink

“As His essence is immense, not to be confined in place; as it is eternal, not to be measured in time; so it is almighty, not to be limited in regard of action.” Stephen Charnock

2) A.W. Pink writes, “We poor mortals may speak often and yet fail to be heard.” **(Has this ever happened to you?)** “[God] speaks but once and the thunder of His power is heard on a thousand hills.” **It seems that the world does not understand the gravity of God’s Word—He backs everything He has said with infinite power!**

3) Pastor Tozer argues at the beginning of Chapter 12 that because God is almighty, or omnipotent, He must also be sovereign. **Why is this true? (See Isaiah 40:10)**

4) Romans 1:20 teaches that God’s eternal power (almighty strength) can be seen in Creation. **What is the most powerful thing you can think of on Earth?**

**What is the most powerful thing you can think of in the physical universe?**

**Now consider that Jesus is infinitely more powerful!** “There is infinitely more power lodged in the nature of God than is expressed in all His works.” A.W. Pink

*“And these are but the outer fringe of His works;  
how faint the whisper we hear of Him!  
Who then can understand the thunder of His power?” Job 26:14*

5a) *Meekness* can be defined as “power under control.” Consider Jesus’ warning to His disciples that if He wished, He could ask His Father to send 12 legions of angels to protect Him (Matthew 26:53). Twelve legions is equal to 36,000 to 72,000 soldiers. **What is the potential destructive power of 12 legions of angels? (Read 2 Kings 19:35)**

5b) **Consider these very sobering *and* encouraging words by A.W. Pink:** “God is going to display His mighty power upon the reprobate not merely by incarcerating them in Gehenna, but by supernaturally preserving their bodies as well as souls amid the eternal burnings of the Lake of Fire.... Well may all *tremble* before such a God!... Well may the enlightened soul *adore* such a God!... Well may the saint *trust* such a God!”

6a) “The trustworthiness of God’s [all-powerful] behavior in His world is the foundation of all scientific truth,” A.W. Tozer. The predictability of “natural laws” are the result of Christ’s infinite power. **If God controls—from eternity past—every wisp of cloud that swims the sky and every drop of rain that will ever hit the earth, what does this tell us about Jesus our Creator as we consider the seemingly “unpredictable” and “chaotic” nature of a massive hurricane?**

6b) **Is there anything random or chaotic in nature (e.g., weather)?**

“[God] walks upon the wings of the wind;” Psalm 104:3 c NASB

“He ‘walketh’ ...on the most impetuous of the elements, tossed into utmost rage, and sweeping along with almost inconceivable rapidity, yet they are *under* His feet, beneath His perfect control!” A.W. Pink

7a) Today, many environmentalists worry about the extinction of plant and animal species, and the potential melting of polar ice caps (with rising seas), causing them to lose sleep. Little do they consider that all of Creation is protected and preserved by God’s unbounded power (Heb 1:3). Certainly *it is sin* to “trash” the earth through neglect, **but would not Christ our Creator be far more glorified if we trusted His sustaining power?**

7b) **What kind of world would we have if the Holy Spirit did not restrain the wickedness of Satan & man?**

“...what unbridled licentiousness and headstrong folly would triumph in the world, if the power of God did not interpose to lock down the floodgates of it!” A.W. Pink

8) When you consider that Almighty God is the absolute, infinite, and holy Terror of the Universe, who no man can defeat, **what do you think when you read Pastor Tozer’s words—“with Him prophet and saint walked in a rapture of devotion, warm, intimate, and deeply satisfying”?**

9) When God created the universe, He expended (used up) no power; He lost not one “watt” of His infinite strength. **How then do we explain what happened to Jesus in Mark 5:25-34?**

10) “The Presbyterian pastor A. B. Simpson, approaching middle age, broken in health, deeply despondent and ready to quit the ministry, chanced to hear the simple Negro spiritual,

Nothing is too hard for Jesus,  
No man can work like Him.

“Its message sped like an arrow to his heart, carrying faith and hope and life for body and soul. He sought a place of retirement and after a season alone with God arose to his feet completely cured, and went forth in fullness of joy to found what has since become one of the largest foreign missionary societies in the world. For thirty-five years after this encounter with God, he labored prodigiously in the service of Christ. His faith in God of limitless power gave him all the strength he needed to carry on.” A.W. Tozer

**Does this encourage you? (Please read Psalm 27:1; Ephesians 3:20, 21)**

*Unless the LORD builds the house, its builders labor in vain (Psalm 127:1 a).*

### “EXTRA CREDIT”

Pastor John MacArthur teaches that one of the ills in the Church today (and our society) is the “dummying down” of teaching and experience (just watch TV for a few minutes!). In light of this, let’s challenge our minds a little by considering the following:

In physics, power (**P**) is equal to the amount of work (**W**) performed in a given period of time (**t**) or

$$P = \frac{W}{t}$$

“Instantaneous power” can thus be defined as work performed as the time interval **t** approaches zero. If the miracles of Jesus are seen as instantaneous (in other words, **t** is virtually zero or infinitesimal), **what would be the amount of power available to Jesus to perform the miraculous?** (I realize that I am artificially applying the principles of physics to the Almighty, so please bear with me in this question!)

*Jesus reached out His hand and touched the man. "I am willing," He said. "Be clean!"  
Immediately he was cured of his leprosy (Matthew 8:3, emphasis added).*

An interesting aside: the notion of the denominator being zero—as a concept for humans—cannot be defined by rational thought. In other words, the idea of the infinite can only be conceived by God.

Quotes of A.W. Pink taken from *The Attributes of God*, (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1975)