

# The First Baptist Church of Columbus

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Sermon Notes Outline for video posted December 5, 2021

**T I T L E: HE'S HERE, HE KNOWS AND HE IS ABLE**

**T E X T: Genesis 17:1; Jeremiah 32:17**

**I. THE PINNACLE OF POWER POSSESSED ONLY BY THE GOD OF THE SCRIPTURES IS THE FACT THAT HE HAS THE POWER TO CREATE, SUSTAIN, PREVENT, ETC. WITHOUT THE USE OF MEANS ALTHOUGH THERE ARE TIMES WHEN HE UTILIZES MEANS TO ACCOMPLISH HIS PURPOSES.**

How mighty is "Almighty."

**A. There are times when God accomplishes His purpose simply by declaring His will i.e, without the use of means.**

**Genesis 1:1–3 ---- 1** In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. **2** The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters. **3** Then God said, "**Let there be light**"; **and there was light.**

He, by a volition created the heavens and the earth. At the volition of Christ, the winds ceased, and there was a great calm. By an act of the will He healed the sick, opened the eyes of the blind, and raised the dead. This simple idea of the omnipotence of God, that He can do without effort, and by a volition, whatever He wills, is the highest conceivable idea of power, and is that which is clearly presented in the Scriptures. (Morey)

**B. There are times when God uses means to accomplish His purposes.**

A classic example of God using means to accomplish His purposes are the plagues in Egypt. God used different means to convince the pharaoh of Egypt to let the Israelites go.

God does not need means to accomplish His purposes although at times He uses means to do so.

God created something out of nothing. Atheists believe that nothing created something. God is the uncaused cause.

## **II. WHEN THE LORD EXERCISES HIS POWER EITHER THROUGH MEANS OR A SIMPLE EXERCISE OF HIS WILL, HE NEVER EXPENDS ANY ENERGY OR DIMINISHES HIS POWER IN ANY WAY.**

**Jeremiah 32:17** ---- 'Ah Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm! **Nothing is too difficult for You,**

This phrase implicates that the Lord never in any circumstance diminishes His power.

- A. All that God has purposed in the scriptures including His promises are certain to be fulfilled.**
- B. All that comes to happen in the life of a Christian regardless of its nature i.e. good or bad will always be subject to His undiminished omnipotence whether through the exercise of His will, permissive or otherwise, or through the utilization of means will always work together for good to those who love Him and are called according to His purpose.**

**Romans 8:28** ---- And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

**Job 42:2** ---- I know that You can do all things, And that no purpose of Yours can be thwarted.

Easy and difficult are not necessarily two words the Lord has in His vocabulary. From a health perspective God can cure cancer just as easily as He can cure a run of the mill headache. No one thing is anymore difficult than another.

### **III. THE OMNIPOTENCE OF GOD DOES NOT MEAN THAT GOD CAN DO AS HE PLEASES INDEPENDENTLY OF HIS NATURE.**

**2 Timothy 2:13** ---- If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for **He cannot deny Himself.**

**A. It is not the nature of God to sin, therefore God cannot sin.**

**B. It is not the nature of God to be deceptive, dishonest, or unholy in any fashion.** You can believe and trust what He says.

**James 1:17** ---- Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.

**C. It is not the nature of God to do anything logically unreasonable.**

Create a rock He can't move... or create a square circle. C. S. Lewis said, "Miracles we can contribute to the Lord but not non-sense such as can God create a rock He can't lift.

### **IV. THE OMNIPOTENCE OF GOD DOES NOT MEAN THAT HE IS DOING ALL HE CAN DO AT THE MOMENT ABOUT ANYTHING AND /OR EVERYTHING.**

**PERSPECTIVE / EXPECTATION — Good and Evil.. —**

**Geisler** --- The classic form of this argument has been rattling through the halls of college campuses for hundreds of years.

1. If God is all-good, He would destroy evil.
2. If God is all-powerful, He could destroy evil.
3. But evil is not destroyed.

4. Hence, there is no such God.

The argument against God from evil makes some arrogant assumptions. Just because evil is not destroyed right now does not mean that it never will be. The argument implies that if God hasn't done anything as of today, then it won't ever happen. But this assumes that the person making the argument has some inside information about the future. If we restate the argument to correct this oversight in temporal perspective, it turns out to be an argument that vindicates God.

1. If God is all-good, He will defeat evil.
2. If God is all-powerful, He can defeat evil.
3. Evil is not yet defeated.
4. Therefore, God can and will one day defeat evil.

The very argument used against the existence of God turns out to be a vindication of God in the face of the problem of evil. There is no question here that if it has not yet happened and God is as we suppose Him to be, that we simply haven't waited long enough. God isn't finished yet. The final chapter has not been written. Apparently, God would rather wrestle with our rebellious wills than to reign supreme over rocks and trees. Those who want a quicker resolution to the conflict will have to wait. Geisler, N. L., & Brooks, R. M. (1990). *When skeptics ask* (p. 65). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

**Conclusion:** Salvation is certain for believers... also is the day of judgment for the unbeliever... it cannot be avoided.