

The Power of God

God's power

- **1 Chron.29¹¹** Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, The power and the glory, The victory and the majesty; For all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, And You are exalted as head over all. **12** Both riches and honor come from You, And You reign over all. In Your hand is power and might; In Your hand it is to make great And to give strength to all.

I. False Views of God's Power

God's power

1. Atheist: no such power
2. Deist: power, but distant / detached
3. Infidel: no power; Bible is untrue.

1 Co. 1¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God ...
23 but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness,
24 but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God

God's power

1. Atheist: no such power
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 - “If God is all powerful, why does evil reign?”
- Ro.9¹⁷** For the Scripture says to the Pharaoh,
“For this very purpose I have raised you up,
that I may show My power in you, and that My
name may be declared in all the earth”

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Ro.9²² What if God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known, endured with much longsuffering the vessels of wrath prepared for destruction . . .

God's power

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3. Infidel: no power; Bible is untrue,
1 Co.1:18, 23-24
4. Jews: no power, only love. Mt.22:29
5. Pentecostal: all power, therefore miracles
still possible. Mt.3:9
6. Bible: Potentate, 1 Tim.6:15 – Sovereign;
Ruler

God's power

Does NOT mean that God can do anything.

- Tit.1:2, in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began
- Hb.6:18, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us

Cannot change,
Ja.1:17...

Accept us without
faith, Hb.11:6

God's power

Whatever God intends to do, He does.

- Ps.115:3, But our God is in heaven; He does whatever He pleases
- Ps.135:6, Whatever the LORD pleases He does, In heaven and in earth, In the seas and in all deep places

With people there's many
a slip twixt cup and lip

I. False Views of God's Power

II. God Is All Powerful

Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent

- Gn.18:...14, laugh at God (Jn.8:56)
- Nu.11:...23, doubt God
- Ps.78:41, limit God (19-20)

I. False Views of God's Power

II. God Is All Powerful

III. Applications

Isa.59:1-8

1: do not blame God for the lost

2-8: they exercise free will ('*my way*')

- Mt.19:...26

- ◆ Infidels: 'God's plan failed; many are lost'

Blame soap maker for dirty people?

Blame physician for sick people?

Blame map for lost people?

Isa.59:1-8

1: do not blame God for the lost

2-8: they exercise free will ('*my way*')

- ◆ Infidels: 'God's plan failed; many are lost'
- ◆ Even religious leaders overlook free will
- Mt.23:37, salvation is conditional – choice

O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!

Isa.59:1-8

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- ◆ Infidels: 'God's plan failed; many are lost'
- ◆ Even religious leaders overlook free will
- Mt.23:37, salvation is conditional – choice
- Hb.10:19-22 . . .

BLOOD

DEATH

PRIESTHOOD

CLEANSING

- Yet: 26-31, danger – conditional

Mt.28:18

All power...

Mt.9:6, power on earth to forgive

28:18 – ‘all power’ is not absolutely new –
based on new stage of salvation history

- Ps.110:2, rules in midst of enemies
- Ph.3:21, able to subdue all things...
- Ep.1:22-23...
 - He rules / We obey

Mk.9:14-27

- True believers do not limit Jesus' power.
- Man claims faith, admits unbelief.
 - 19: faithless generation
 - 4:...40, no faith?

Imperfect faith sometimes
plays role of an unbeliever

No power in faith itself;
only in One in whom it rests

- Mk.9:23, “all things” – power of God.

Mk.10:23-27, riches

- Lk.18:27, But He said, The things which are impossible with men are possible with God
- God can save even the rich!

Mk.14:35-36, Abba

- Unparalleled in Jewish literature.
- Shows unique sense of intimacy with God.
- Ro.8:15, For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father

Mk.14:35-36, Abba

- If possible, let pass...
- All things are possible... Take this cup away from Me...
- Could God have done so?
 1. If based on power alone: Yes. Mt.26:53
 2. If based on love for us: No. Jn.3:16

Ro.4: power for . . .

1. **Abraham**, 19, 21, 23.
2. **Christ**, 24. (Jn.10:17-18) ... (2 Co.13:4)
 - True omnipotence: assumes form of weakness, then triumphs by it.
 - Strong men killed Christ; they died; how much power have they displayed...?
3. **Us**, 25 ...raised because of our justification.

Greatest display of power ever seen.

His omnipotence saves us from sin.