

“GOD CAN!” (Part 1)

The Infinite Power of God (Psalm 111:2-9)

INTRO – Look at these images (hurricane, tornado, fire, waterfalls, lightning, wrestler, strong woman). What do they have in common? All demonstrations of great power. We live in an age of unprecedented power: natural elements (light, water, wind, fire), engines (cars, planes, rockets), sports (power forwards, runners), AI. World leaders, political parties all want more power. Power struggles are familiar, at work, in government, sports teams, churches, etc. Altogether, nothing compared to God (Psa. 115:3; 135:6). Theme of Scripture is NOT, “We can,” but “GOD CAN!” (Jn. 15:5). “What do you need God to do?” provide, heal, etc. We know He can, but does it please Him and is it His will? Patiently trust Him!

SOVEREIGN vs. POWER – As sovereign God possesses the *controlling authority* to allow and to do as He pleases. As powerful (omnipotent) God possesses the *ability* and strength to do as He pleases. His power makes Him sovereign. What He pleases is always consistent with His character (Who He is) – caring, loving, etc. God exerts His power at His discretion for His purposes.

I. HIS HEBREW NAME (Gen. 17:1 1st time of 50 +/- x’s God Almighty – El Shaddai = incredibly powerful, irresistibly strong). Scripture replete with references to the infinite power of God (1 Chron. 29:11-12; 2 Chron. 20:6; Psa. 111:2-9; 115:3; 135:5-7; 147:5; Matt. 6:13; Eph. 1:18-19 (4 power words); Phil. 4:13; Rev. 1:8; 19:6. This means Matt. 19:26; Jer. 32:17. A.W. Tozer quote. . . (PPT)

II. EXPRESSIONS OF HIS ABILITY – About 140 miracles exhibiting His power (OT-80, NT-60; 40 by Jesus)

A. Powerful Actions (infinite, limitless, unique)

1. Creator (Gen. 1:1, 26-28; Psa. 33:6-9; Isa. 44:24, Rom. 1:20). – He made it all
2. Sustainer (Col. 1:16-17; Heb. 1:2) – He holds it all together.
3. Flood - Savior
4. Exodus (Exo. 13:3, 9; 14; Deut. 6:21) – ten plagues (7:14-11:10), Red Sea (14:1-31), provisions of guidance (13:21-22), of food (16), . . . He is Deliverer, Provider, and Guider.
5. He controls time, events, circumstances (Isa. 44:6-8; 45:5, 9-11; Acts 17:26)

B. Lives of Specific People

1. OT Persons:

- Abraham (Gen. 18:12-14; Rom. 4:17-21; Heb. 11:17-19)
- Moses (Num. 11:21-23)
- David (1 Sam. 17:33, 36-37; Psa. 24:8; 62:11; 145:1-6, 10-13)
- Daniel (6:16, 26-27; 3:14-18)

- Jeremiah 10:12-13; 32:17, 27

- Job 26:14; 42:1-6 – Hocking (p. 16) - PPT

2. NT Persons:

- Mary (Lk. 1:37) – Gabriel told her
- Jesus (Isa. 9:6) - Miracles over the physical, natural, supernatural, death, forgave sin, resurrection) – Matt. 19:26; 22:29
- Apostles (Acts 2:43; 3:1-16; 5:12; 16:25-26; . . .) – Did many signs and wonders by God’s power.

C. IMPLICATIONS FOR US?

1. We belong to and are helped by the only sovereign and all-powerful God. As He wills (Mk. 1:40; Matt. 26:39)
2. No power can thwart His ultimate purposes. What about sin, suffering and evil? He has provided solutions for them all. BLOG . . .
3. What God starts; He finishes. No power failure. No black or brown out. Phil 1:6 is true. He has the power to do it.

Response? 1 Pet. 5:6 “Humble yourselves...”

Read Eph. 3:20 together. . . Power Pyramid

CONC— God is able whether we believe it or not (at first Abraham, David, Moses struggled). So important to believe He can if He wills. Such confidence will transform our faith, attitude, beliefs, and behaviors. Embracing this truth transformed lives in the past and can do so today. Our God can handle whatever we face, either by intervening with His miraculous power or through Him providing the grace and strength to endure. In this series examine some of the specifics of this truth. “GOD CAN” intersects our lives at many points: salvation, assurance, temptation, sin, world, flesh, Satan, demons, obedience, provision, death, worship, hope, humility and more. Hard to even contemplate. In this series we will meet the God who can. Can you say that with me? “GOD CAN!” (3x).