

## ENCOUNTERING THE GREATNESS OF GOD

*Our God Is Awesome by Dr. Tony Evans*

**April 5, 2026**

### LESSON ONE: THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD: The Sufficiency of God

(Job 26:14, Col. 1:15-16, John 5:26, Psa. 19:1, Eph. 1:5)

#### INTRODUCTION:

This attribute of God means He is totally and absolutely complete within Himself. Nothing can be added to or taken away from God. That is why the Bible says, nothing compares to God. He is the source of all things. His sufficiency means that all that makes God who He is already resides within Him. He is the ultimate source providing all blessings, wisdom, and capability to His people, making them sufficient through Him for His purpose.

#### GOD IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS CREATION

The sufficiency of God means that He is totally responsible for all creation. He is the firstborn over all creation. He's not a *creature*, but *the Creator*. Everything was created by and through Him. God created all things visible and invisible, including all spiritual beings. All creation is finite and dependent upon the Creator, who was before all things and will continue forever. God's work of creation was good, both physically and morally. **God Blessed His creation with His Loving-Kindness.** The Bible tells us that the glory of God's all-inclusiveness can be realized by all the variety that exists within His creation.

- **Creation Reveals His Person (Col. 1:15-16) -Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature. For by Him were things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible, and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him. (Also, Ref. Ps. 19:1 – John 5:26)**
- **Creation Reveals His Pleasure (Eph 1:5) -God created the universe out of His pleasures, God does all things out of Himself, simply because it pleases Him to do so. God's self-sufficiency shows in the fact that, if He wants to do something; He does it!**

When God creates, He only must speak the Word. He doesn't have to go through trauma, draw blueprints, or form construction companies. Within Himself He holds the Power to pull off anything.

This explains precisely why knowing God becomes so important. When we know Him, we will want what pleases Him. And when what we want pleases Him and is according to His Will, He speaks the Word and brings something out of nothing.

God's sufficiency means that He's totally responsible for all the created order, and He can be responsible because He is sufficient within Himself to produce anything His heart desires.

## ENCOUNTERING THE GREATNESS OF OUR GOD

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April 12, 2026

### LESSON TWO: THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD: God Is Independent of His Creation

(Acts 17:22-25, Is 6:2-3, Job 22:2-3, Job 35:7-8, Luke 17:10, Is 40:15, Ro 12:19)

#### INTRODUCTION:

The God who created the heaven and the earth, stands alone. His complete independence from His creation is one of His profound attributes. God does not need anything from us to help Him continue being God. Yet, He gives everything. We need God to open hearts to know and understand the true and living God. Understanding God's independence will help change how we worship, trust, and relate to Him. We serve a God who does not function out of necessity. He is completely self-existent, self-sufficient, and independent of everything He created. In Acts 17:25 it says: **And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else.**

#### No Outside Influences

Most of what we know in life depends on something or someone else such as our parents, schools, or other influences. God is not shaped, controlled, or influenced by anything outside Himself. Nothing can pressure Him, manipulate Him, or change His nature. Nothing has made God what He is. All that God is He always was. He is not influenced by culture, time, human opinion, or circumstances. God's Will is not shaped by outside influences. He is who He is. **For I am the Lord, I do not change.** Malachi 3:6

#### No Necessary Relationships

God does not depend on relationships to complete Him. He is complete without us. He relates to us because he chooses to, not because He needs to. Our relationship with God is a privilege, not a requirement for His existence. You don't add to God. He does not need to be noticed or need recognition. God invites us into relationship with Him because He's asked us to, not because He needs us to. If you don't worship Him, someone else will. The Bible is clear in Isaiah 6:3 that God has seraphim to worship Him. **And one cried to another and said: "Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory.**

#### No Eternal Needs

God has no external needs; physical, emotional, spiritual, or relational. He is the source of all things, and complete within Himself. God does not need our worship, God does not need our service, and God does not need our love. He does not need you or me. However, we need Him and He deserves our worship! He should be worshipped because there is nobody greater than God, He is the greatest Being that has ever existed.

**Can a man be profitable to God, though he who is wise may be profitable to himself?** Job 22:2

#### Some Implications

There are three implications of God's independence. First, He doesn't need our help or permission to do what He is going to do. You cannot help God out. Second, He doesn't need to be defended because He can defend Himself. Romans 12:19: **Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord.** Finally, He does not depend on us. Everything including us is dependent on God, not the other way around.

## ENCOUNTERING THE GREATNESS OF GOD

*Our God Is Awesome by Dr. Tony Evans*

**April 19, 2026**

### **LESSON THREE: THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD: We Are Dependent on God's Sufficiency**

(2 Cor 3:2-6, Col.3:1-4, Acts 17:26-29)

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

Dependent on God's sufficiency means recognizing that true strength, ability, and provision come from God rather than human effort. God's sufficiency provides grace for specific challenges, including financial, emotional, or spiritual limitations. God's creation is not independent of Him. Relying on God is not passive, it is an active partnership where you act, knowing God provides the enabling strength. Leaning on one's own, limited resources often leads to anxiety, while relying on God brings peace. This perspective shifts focus from personal inadequacy to God's abundance.

#### **WE ARE DEPENDENT ON GOD'S SUFFICIENCY**

In his sermon Paul says: He made from one, every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times, and the boundaries of their habitation, that they should seek God, if perhaps they shall grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and exist, ..."For we also are His offsprings." Being then the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man. **Acts 17:26-29**

#### **Our Reference Point**

Paul makes the point that we cannot know ourselves apart from God. We will never know who we are, where we came from, why we are here or where we are going apart from God. In Him, we live. In Him, we move. In Him, we have our being. God appointed when we are born, and He has appointed when we will die. We cannot postpone that date no matter what we do. It is determined and appointed by God. God says all life shall be lived in relationship to Him. When we decided to live independently of this great God, we have rebelled against Him.

#### **Our Inescapable God**

When we rebel against God, we create an environment where, instead of enjoying His love, we must endure His wrath. We can't beat God or get away from Him, why not be a cooperater under Him so we can enjoy His benefits? God is going to be God because that's what God does. We must choose whether we want to see Him, acknowledge Him, recognize Him, and submit to Him, but God is going to be God. If we don't believe in Him, if we reject Him, He is still God because God is not dependent on us; we are dependent on Him. God is inescapable.

## ENCOUNTERING THE GREATNESS OF GOD

*Our God Is Awesome by Dr. Tony Evans*

April 26, 2026

### LESSON FOUR: THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD: The Sufficiency of God

(Psa. 23: 1-6, 127:2, Col. 2:9,10)

#### INTRODUCTION:

When you look at yourself, what do you see? Do you see someone who is imperfect and lacking in many areas? Do you sometimes find yourself thinking these thoughts? God is angry with me. I'm too dirty and damaged for Him to accept me. Why would God want to be with me when I'm a hot mess.

It doesn't matter how you feel and what you think. All that matters is what God has said in His Word. His Words says *you are complete in Christ*. You are whole! Nothing is missing, nothing is lost, nothing is broken! This is not by your deeds or something you are on your own. This is because you're in Christ! Our completeness is only in Him. One of the most beautiful poetic passage David wrote reflecting on his old occupation as a shepherd.

#### WE FIND OUR COMPLETENESS ONLY IN GOD

David knew God. The Psalms reflect his intimacy with God and his knowledge of God. God Himself said that David was a man after His own heart. As he reflected, David realized that what he as a shepherd was to his sheep as God was to him. God was a shepherd over him. So, David wrote, **(Psalm 23:1.) -The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

Stop trying to get God to be like you and simply let God be God. When you do that, He will let you be you, as you ought to be. David says, **"I shall not."** He then takes the other five verses to explain that if the Lord is your shepherd, He will meet every category of need:

- **SPIRITUAL NEEDS – Psalm 23: 2-3a – He makes me lie down in green pasture; He leads me beside quiet waters.**
- **DIRECTIONAL NEEDS – Psalm 23:3b – He guides me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.**
- **EMOTIONAL NEEDS – Psalm 23:4 – Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for thou art with me; They rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.**
- **PHYSICAL NEEDS – Psalm 23:5 - You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.**
- **ETERNAL NEEDS – Psalm 23:6 – Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

So, the only question on the floor is, *Is The Lord Your Shepherd?* Only if you let Him be your Shepherd will you learn that He is sufficient for your needs. God is sufficient by virtue of His creation. God is sufficient by virtue of *His* independence. God is sufficient by virtue *our* dependence. Therefore, we can find our completeness only in Him.