

# **The Principles of Christian Religion**

**A Study through the Baptist  
Catechism using Benjamin  
Beddome's *Scriptural Exposition***

# Question and Answer 7

## 2. The Incommunicable Attributes

### c. The Immutability of God

- The Impassibility of God

- “Impassibility is that divine attribute whereby God is said not to experience inner emotional changes of state, whether enacted freely from within or effected by his relationship to and interaction with human beings and the created order.” – NCE
- This is not a denial of divine *emotions*; it is a denial of divine *passions* (cf. 2LCF 2.1).
  - » A “passion,” as opposed to an emotion, is an emotional change that “happens” to someone.
  - » God’s emotions (of love, compassion, wrath, etc.) are settled and unchanging

# Question and Answer 7

## 3. The Communicable Attributes

### a. The Wisdom of God (Prov. 8:14)

- Manifestation
  - In Creation and Providence (Isa. 28:29)
  - In Redemption (Eph. 1:8)
- Characteristics
  - Infinite (Psa. 147:5)
  - Original (Isa. 40:14)
  - Perfect (1 Cor. 1:25)
  - Incomprehensible (Rom. 11:33)
- Application
  - There is no counterworking it (Prov. 21:30).
  - All wisdom proceeds from Him (Dan. 2:21).
  - We should seek it at His hands (Jas. 1:5).

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### b. The Power of God (Psa. 62:11)

- Description

- He can do all things (Jer. 32:27).
- He can do all things with the greatest ease (Isa. 40:15).
- He can do all things in the most perfect manner (Deut. 32:4).
- His power gives sanction to His laws (Jas. 4:12).
- It is irresistible (Dan. 4:35).
- It is not subject to decay (Isa. 59:1).
- It extends to evil spirits and wicked men (Job 12:16).

- Application

- It is a great folly to sin against Him (1 Cor

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### c. The Holiness of God (Isa. 41:21)

- Description
  - He is supremely holy (1 Sam. 2:2).
  - His holiness appears particularly in the work of redemption (Isa. 1:27).
  - The Heathen by the light of nature have acknowledged it (Dan. 4:9).
  - The spirits above make it the matter of their praise (Rev. 4:8).
- Application
  - We should imitate them herein (Psa. 103:1).

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### d. The Justice of God (Psa. 129:4)

- Description
  - He is absolutely and perfectly just (Rom. 9:14).
  - He is just in inflicting temporal judgments (Dan. 9:7).
  - He is just in inflicting eternal vengeance (Rom. 3:5).
  - It appears eminently in the undertaking and sufferings of Christ (Rom. 3:25).
- Application
  - We should acknowledge it (Neh. 9:33).
  - We should seek to avoid the direful effects of it (Gen. 19:17).

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### e. The Goodness of God (Psa. 86:5)

- Application
  - It should excite our wonder (Zech. 9:17).
  - It should excite our gratitude (Psa. 106:1).
- Description
  - He is universally good (Psa. 145:9).
  - He is good to sinners (Matt. 5:45).
  - He is in an especial manner good to His own people (Psa. 106:5).
  - God takes the contempt of His goodness heinously (Rom. 2:4).

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### f. The Truth of God (Rev. 3:7)

- Description
  - He is true to His promises (Mic. 7:20).
  - He is true to His threatenings (Zech 1:6).
  - He is true to Christ (Psa. 89:35).
  - He is unchangeable in His truth (Psa. 117:2)
- Application
  - We should therefore believe Him (Heb. 11:11).
  - We should believe Him rather than man (Rom. 3:4).
  - But though we don't believe, God continues faithful (Rom. 3:3).