

Things we can be by His Spirit – that God is

1. **Holy** – “Be ye **holy**; for I am **holy**” 1Pet. 1:16
2. **Loving** – “The fruit of the Spirit is **love**” Gal. 5:22
3. **Just** – “Masters, give unto your servants that which is **just** and equal” Col. 4:1
4. **Good** – “That they do **good**, that they be rich in **good** works” 1Tim. 6:18
5. **Merciful** – “Be ye therefore **merciful**, as your Father also is **merciful**” Luke 6:36
6. **Gracious** – “let us have **grace**, whereby we may serve God acceptably” Heb. 12:28
7. **Longsuffering** – “But the fruit of the Spirit is...**longsuffering**” Gal. 5:22
8. **Wise** – “Walk...as **wise**” Eph. 5:15
9. **Jealous** (for His glory) – “For I am **jealous** over you with godly **jealousy**” 2Cor. 11:2
10. **Faithful** – “be thou **faithful** unto death” Rev. 2:10
11. **Righteous** – “he that doeth **righteousness** is righteous, even as he is **righteous**” 1Jn. 3:7
12. **Truthful** – “I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in **truth**” 3Jn. :4

Things God is – that we are not

As Christians we can bear the image (reflected likeness) of God but we cannot be like God. Here we must be dependent on Him outside of ourselves in faith and humbleness.

1. **Self Existent** – dependent upon nothing or no one for life. God creates life from nothing but is uncreated, Gen. 1:1. (Our creations simply rearrange what already exists). Humans depend on food, medicine, military and the police for a few years of existence. His Name is “**I AM**”. “**Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come,**” Rev. 4:8.
2. **Infinite** – without limits. Things that limit us we measure such as intellect (IQ), time, height, depth, energy, ability, weight, and speed. These limitations keep us safe. But we cannot measure God. “**Who hath directed [measured] the Spirit of the LORD?**” “**The LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary?**” Isa 40:13, 28.
3. **Incomprehensible** – beyond understanding. Psychology educates to understand self and behaviors. It classifies them in named disorders. But God is beyond our full understanding. “**There is no searching of his understanding.**” “**His greatness is unsearchable,**” Isa. 40:28 / Psa. 145:3. We cannot know Him by comparing Him by ourselves, Isa. 40:18.

4. **Eternal** – exists outside of time. To us bound by time even a 25 year age gap presents people who think differently. We are limited by time. But God is “From everlasting to everlasting, thou art God...For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday,” Psa. 90:2,4. As another has said: “Though He works in time, the years have no hold on Him. His past has no missed chances, the present no anxieties, and His future has no uncertainties.”

5. **Self Sufficient** – dependent upon nothing for sustenance and survival. From the cradle to the grave we need help to survive and prosper. God, unlike us, cannot be tempted, compromised, manipulated, or blackmailed by another who possesses what He lacks. He owns “the cattle upon a thousand hills,” Psa. 50:10. “Neither is worshipped with men’s hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things,” Acts 17:25.

6. **Immutable** – unchanging and incapable of changing. “I am the LORD, I change not,” Mal. 3:16. We humans change physically, intellectually, financially, affectionately and in fashion. While God’s methods can change with people, His attributes and character are eternal. His knowledge and character cannot increase or decrease. And our salvation is only as secure as He is. “The Father of lights, with whom is no variableness,” Jas. 1:17.

7. **Omnipresent** – Fully present everywhere. “Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD,” Jer. 23:24. We are bound to being in one place at one time. Even physical height can limit how much we see in a crowded room. Through modern travel we can get to more places and our knowledge increases. We try to be in more than one place virtually with Face Time, the Internet and texting. God as a Spirit doesn’t travel. He sees all.

8. **Omniscient** – all knowing. We have partial knowledge and therefore might regret a choice of job or car etc. because of what we found out later. “Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world,” Acts 15:18. God knows all things, not because He has learned them but He is their origin. He’s never surprised. And when He shares such it’s called prophecy. He transcends our knowledge - “and His ways past finding out,” Rom. 11:33.

9. **Omnipotent** – all powerful. “Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power...there is nothing too hard for thee,” Jer. 32:17. He is worshipped as “Lord God Almighty,” Rev. 4:8. Unlike us, God doesn’t need a nap to regain strength. His power is not limited by age. But unlike a hurricane (or a tyrant) that destroys all in its path, His power is controlled by love, wisdom, human choice and His sovereign plan. His power can restrain His power. Now His gospel is His power unto salvation, Rom. 1:16.

10. **Sovereign** – the highest authority with the right to choose. “But our God is in the heavens: he hath done whatsoever he hath pleased,” Psa. 115:3. He works “all things after the counsel of his own will,” Eph. 1:11. Yet with this authority, while He desires our allegiance, He will not force it on us but woos the heart. He did give Adam the ability to say no, but did not give him permission to say no. God did not force His law on Israel. They chose it. He also would not force His government on them but permitted them to do it their way with a king. And He does not force His salvation on us though He chooses the terms of faith alone, and the blessings we receive. But whosoever will may come, Rom. 9-11.

To think, this is the Lord Jesus Christ who became man and was crucified – for our sins!