

**King's Online Bible School**  
**Doctrine 101: Learning about God**

**14. The Omnipresence of God** (adapted from R. C. Sproul, *Essential Truths*)

Our human spirits are finite spirits and will never be capable of being in more than one place at the same time. Only an infinite Spirit is capable of omnipresence.

When we speak of God's omnipresence we usually mean that His presence is in all places. There is no place where God is not. Yet, as spirit, God does not occupy any place, in the sense that physical objects occupy space. He has no physical qualities that can occupy space. But He is present everywhere in space. There is never any barrier or distance of space or time between us and God. To meet God, there is not a "where" to go or a "when" to occur.

There is a second aspect to God's omnipresence that we often overlook. The "omni" relates not only to the places where God is, but also to how much of Him is in any given place. God is not only present in all places but God is fully present in every place. His immensity, then, does not refer to His size, but to His ability to be fully present everywhere.

The doctrine of God's omnipresence appropriately fills us with awe. In addition to the reverence it engenders, the doctrine also proves to be comforting. We can always be certain of God's undivided attention. We don't ever need to stand in line or make an appointment to be with God. When we are in God's presence, He is not preoccupied with events on the other side of the world. The doctrine is, of course, not at all comforting to the nonbeliever. There is no place to hide from God. There is no corner of the universe where God is not. The wicked in hell are not separated from God, only from His benevolence. His wrath is with them constantly.

David, who often extolled the glory of God's omnipresence in the Psalms, gives us a poetic summary of this doctrine:

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me (Psalm 139:7-10).

**Summary**

1. Only an infinite Spirit can be omnipresent.
2. God is not bound by time or space. His Being transcends time and space.
3. God's omnipresence includes His immensity by which He is able to be present in His fullness at all times and in all places.
4. God's omnipresence is a comfort to the believer and a terror to the unbeliever.

**Biblical passages for reflection:**

1 Kings 8:27   Job 11:7-9   Jeremiah 23:23-24   Acts 17:22-31