

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

Study Guide 6

Charles Hodge makes the following distinction in his *Systematic Theology* (Vol. I, p. 383):

The infinitude of God, so far as space is concerned, includes His immensity and His omnipresence. These are not different attributes, but one and the same attribute . . . His *immensity* is the infinitude of His being, viewed as belonging to His nature from eternity. He fills immensity with His presence. His *omnipresence* is His infinitude, viewed in relation to His creatures. He is equally present with all His creatures at all times and in all places.

1. To what particular fact about God's omnipresence does the word "immensity" refer?
2. How is the word "omnipresence" slightly different in its emphasis?
3. In Jeremiah 23:23-24 the Lord asks three questions. Write out each question and indicate whether it is referring especially to His immensity or His omnipresence.
4. When we read that "God is fully present in every place" how do we know this is not just a way of referring to His size?
5. Is it accurate to think of God as a physical being?
- 6a. Please read 1 Kings 8:27. On what occasion does Solomon say these words?
- 6b. With what words does he declare God's immensity?
- 6c. How does the question Solomon asks just previously reveal his understanding about God's presence in the temple?
- 7a. In trying to help us think about what it means for God to be everywhere, Sproul makes the following statement (chap. 14, para. 2): "To meet God, there is not a "where" to go or a "when" to occur."
- 7b. Do you think you can meet God whenever you want? Why or why not?
8. Is God always being in your presence the same as you being in His presence? Please explain.

- 9.** If God is always present, why do Christians talk about “coming into His presence”?
- 10.** Do you ever experience “coming into His presence”?
- 11.** Is there something you can do to experience God’s presence? Please elaborate.
- 12.** Does knowing that God is always with you and that He is always relating to you help you be more aware of Him?
- 13.** Sproul writes that “the wicked in hell are not separated from God, only from His benevolence.” How do you think it is best to state the reality Sproul is addressing here?
- 14a.** Please read Philippians 1:23. Why does Paul say what he does?
- 14b.** What does this tell you about believers who die?
- 14c.** What is this saying about Christians experiencing God’s presence here in this present life?
- 15.** Please read 2 Corinthians 5:6-8.
- 15a.** What do verses 6 and 8 express about believers who have died?
- 15b.** What are they indicating about believers who have not died?
- 15c.** How does verse 7 explain?
- 16.** What light do the words in Psalm 18:25-26 shed on the way we are able to experience God’s presence?
- 17.** Please read Psalm 139. What statements in this Psalm help explain why God is relating to each person the ways He is?