



Statement of Faith

God – There is only one true God who exists in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who are equal in divine perfection, coeternal, and execute distinct but harmonious offices. God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) is Holy, sovereign, and personal. God knows all things, is everywhere present, and is all-powerful. God is love, gracious and merciful, and in every way good. God is spirit, self-existent, and transcendent. Being the Creator of all things, it is in Him that we live and move and exist. (Gen 1:1,26-27, Ex 34:6-7, Lev 11:44, Isaiah 9:6, 44:8, 45:5, Jer 23:23-24, Dan 4:35, Matt 3:16-17, John 4:24, Acts 17:24-28, 2 Corinthians 13:14, 1 Tim 1:15-16, 1 John 3:20, 4:8, Rev 4:11)

God - Part 2

3. God knows all things, is everywhere present, and is all-powerful -

God knows all things – [Omniscient]- Because God is the source of all things, making everything from nothing, He is therefore the source of all knowledge and wisdom. *He knew in eternity past the entire record of history for all eternity!* Predictive prophecy proves this again and again. There is nothing that escapes His notice, and nothing can be hidden from Him. He is aware of the events of the past, present, and future as if they were all laid out before Him. As His being is perfect, so is His knowledge. Being perfect in knowledge, He is therefore all-knowing and never confused, misled or surprised.

Hebrews 4:13- "**Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him** to whom we must give account."

1 John 3:20 - 20 in whatever our heart condemns us; for **God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.** NASB

The beloved AW Tozer puts it this way: "God knows all that can be known. And this He knows instantly and with a fullness of perfection that includes every possible item of knowledge concerning everything that exists or could have existed anywhere in the universe at any time in the past or that may exist in the centuries or ages yet unborn."

God knows all of the data of every possible cause and effect, feeling and desire, creature, event, and every other thing that can be named. His knowledge is complete and eternal.

Acts 15:18 - 18 "**Known to God from eternity are all His works.** NKJV

Isaiah 46:9-10 - 9 "Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, 10 **Declaring the end from the beginning And from ancient times things which have not been done,** Saying, 'My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure'; NAS

This is in stark contrast to the modern "*Open Theists*" who would claim that God cannot know the events of the future because they do not actually exist until they happen. This reflects an ignorant attitude toward the text of Holy Scripture and a misconception of the nature of God's omniscience and eternity. We openly reject the concepts of "*Open Theism*," or the "*Openness of God*," or of the "*Wide Mercy of God*."

God is everywhere present – [Omnipresent]- God is not bound by the limits of space. He is in all places at all times. He is where we are at all times. Can the creator of the universe be confined to a single place? Can the One who stretches out the heavens like a tent be confined on the earth? Indeed He cannot, not even the highest heavens can contain Him for He transcends the limits of space. *God is limitless, He is infinitely huge, and the span of His hand is larger than the vast expanse of the universes!* He is in the highest heaven and in the great deep, He is in every place of the world, yet He is not limited by it! He literally fills the heavens and the earth!

Psalms 139:7-8- "Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up **to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.**"

1 Kings 8:27- 27 "But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and **the highest heaven cannot contain Thee**, how much less this house which I have built! NAS

Jer 23:23-24 - 23 "Am I a God who is near," declares the LORD, "And not a God far off? 24 "Can a man hide himself in hiding places, So I do not see him?" declares the LORD. **"Do I not fill the heavens and the earth?" declares the LORD.** NAS

Although He is everywhere present with all things, He *is not* all things. God is *distinct* from all things. Even though He is the sustainer of all things, He does this from without. *Everything has its being in God*, for He transcends them, sustaining and upholding them, indeed they exist by His pleasure and will.

Acts 17:27-28 - 27 that they should seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though **He is not far from each one of us; 28 for in Him we live and move and exist**, NAS

Ps 33:13-15 - 3 The LORD looks from heaven; He sees all the sons of men; 14 **From His dwelling place He looks out On all the inhabitants of the earth**, 15 He who fashions the hearts of them all, He who understands all their works. NAS

Rom 11:36 - 36 For **from Him** and **through Him** and **to Him are all things**. To Him be the glory forever. Amen. NAS

God is all-powerful – [Omnipotent] - Indeed He is *omnipotent* or possesses *all* power! Any power that is in the creation is granted by God. God had the creative power to make the universe from nothing, and He sustains the same universe by His power. He has power over life and death and every other thing. He made all things with a very purposeful will, and He possesses the power to execute His divine will and bring His intentions to an expected end. His creation is just a *small example* of his mighty power. In the creation of the universe, God's resources were not depleted in any way, there are infinitely vast! Since God therefore created all things, He also transcends them, and *His power and dominion are infinitely greater than everything He created!* Since God is actively sustaining everything in creation, He exercises His power in every moment of time, being sure to bring to pass "all His good pleasure." He began alone, and created all things out of nothing, and by this great truth is known as "The Almighty."

John 1:1-3 - :1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 **All things came into being by Him**, and **apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being** NAS

Acts 17:24-26 - 24 "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. 25 And he is not served by human hands, **as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else.**

Col 1:16-17 - 16 For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- **all things have been created by Him and for Him.** 17 And He is before all things, and **in Him all things hold together.** NAS

Heb 1:3 - 3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and **upholds all things by the word of His power.** NASB

Rev 4:11 - 11 "Worthy art Thou, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for **Thou didst create all things**, and **because of Thy will they existed, and were created.**" NAS

4. God is love, gracious and merciful, and in every way good -

God is love – Here is a beautiful attribute of God, He is loving! In fact the scripture declares this to be His very nature, God is love!

1 John 4:8 - 8 The one who does not love does not know God, for **God is love.**

This love can be defined as a benevolent, self-sacrificing disposition of concern for others. The ultimate display of this love of God was seen in the sacrifice of His Son , Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary, and that given for sinful mankind! What wondrous love is this?

1 John 4:9-10 - 9 By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God, but that **He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.** NASB

This wonderful love was present with God long before the creation of the world, as we see it being expressed between the members of the Godhead in eternity.

John 17:24 - 24 "Father, I desire that they also, whom Thou hast given Me, be with Me where I am, in order that they may behold My glory, which Thou hast given Me; for **Thou didst love Me before the foundation of the world.** NASB

Moreover, this love is to be experienced personally by individuals and that it is the express purpose of God to bless the objects of His love with true joy and happiness.

Galatians 2:20 -20 "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in **the Son of God, who loved me, and delivered Himself up for me.** NASB

Further, this love is to be the pursuit of mankind and the great commandment which God expects mankind to conform to. (Matt 22:37-40)

God is gracious – God’s grace is defined as His goodness toward those who deserve only punishment. God’s extends His love and mercy to them which are undeserving. Friends, in relation to God we must ask ourselves, “What is it in us that is deserving of God’s love?” Being the sinful creatures that we are, we continually violate His love and kindness to us. We often show contempt for His love in ways, which deserve His wrath rather than His benevolence. At times we are unloving, ungrateful, unforgiving, and we elevate our own selfish wants above the needs of others and our desires above God’s. Now you realize that if God loves a being like this, it is truly “unmerited.” His grace is said to be given as a gift, no on the basis of anything we have done.

Romans 3:23-24 - 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being **justified as a gift by His grace** through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; NASB

There is a distinction to be made therefore between salvation given by grace as a gift, and salvation which is otherwise earned by works that merit a reward.

Romans 11:6 - 6 But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace. NASB

Consider therefore the grace of God. God gives His love and mercy to us when we are sinners, even His enemies.

Romans 5:8 - 8 But **God demonstrates His own love toward us**, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. NASB

When we were in our trespasses and sins against Him, Christ died for us. God gave His only Son, who being totally righteous and had done nothing deserving of death, to die for

the very people who were spurning and forsaking His love. *Grace, then, is God's favor freely given to those who do not deserve this favor.* God therefore is gracious!

Exodus 34:6-7 - The LORD, the LORD God, **compassionate and gracious**, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; **7 who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin;** NASB

God is merciful – God's mercy is defined as His goodness toward those who are in misery and distress. He is called the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort in 2 Corinthians 1:3. Indeed He is a God who is disposed to meet the needs of those who seek Him and cry out for His help! This again is His very nature, so the scripture says of those who live in His house :

Psalms 23:6 - **6 Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life,** and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever. NASB

When two blind men want Jesus to meet their needs and heal them they cry out saying, **Matthew 9:27** - 27 And as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed Him, crying out, and saying, "**Have mercy on us,** Son of David!" NASB

When David was to fall under judgment he said,

2 Samuel 24:14 - 14 "I am in great distress. **Let us now fall into the hand of the LORD for His mercies are great,** but do not let me fall into the hand of man." NASB

Indeed the Lord is merciful beyond our imagination and is known as a "very present help in time of trouble!" The scripture plainly declares that God is merciful;

Psalms 86:5 - 5 For Thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive, And **abundant in lovingkindness** to all who call upon Thee. NASB

God is therefore merciful!

God is in everyway good - This is the very essence of God's nature, He is Good! He has always been good, even from eternity past, so it is said, "For His lovingkindness is everlasting." (Jer 33:11) God is originally good, and the source of goodness in the creation, so that when He created all things He pronounced, "And God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good." NAS (Gen 1:31) *Everything that comes from God, His creation, His eternal plan, His laws and statutes, His sovereign rule cannot be anything but good!*

Psalms 106:1 - Oh give thanks to the LORD, for **He is good;** For His lovingkindness is everlasting. **Nahum 1:7** - 7 The **LORD is good,** A stronghold in the day of trouble, And He knows those who take refuge in Him. NAS

What is this goodness that God is? It has been defined as, "the benevolence, love, mercy and grace of God." Indeed there are no words to describe the meaning of God's goodness. It is certainly the opposite of evil, being that which is "good," that which promotes *happiness* and *prosperity, success and welfare*. His *benevolence* is kind to all His works, His *love* delights in pleasure toward all He has made, His *mercy* is expressed in *pity* and *compassion* for the needy, *gentleness* and *lovingkindness* to His creation, and His *grace* grants His goodness even to the unworthy. He is always *giving*, as it is His nature to give and give. Indeed every good thing comes down from the Father of lights. (Jam 1:17) God is continually kind and benevolent even to the wicked, His enemies, and those who oppose His goodness. What fullness and complete goodness is in the blessed Creator! In fact, God is the ultimate standard of good! Goodness can be defined as "that which God approves." This is to say that *there is no higher standard of goodness than*

the character of God and His approval of whatever is consistent with that character.

Therefore, whatever God is, does and approves is good. This would even be true of characteristics which we would not often relate to goodness such as God's judgment, justice, anger and wrath. But these can be nothing but good if they are part of the character and nature of God since He is the ultimate standard of goodness.

Psalms 145:9 - 9 The LORD is good to all, And His mercies are over all His works. NAS

Psalms 119:68 - 8 Thou art good and doest good; Teach me Thy statutes. NASB
God therefore, is in every way good!