God’s Power - Omnipotence (having absolute power and supremacy; all-powerful)
Consider how God’s absolute power and supremacy is related to His Sovereignty. If God is all-powerful, then He has the ability to freely do as He pleases and is therefore by default the Supreme Authority.

*Job 23:13:* But He is unique and who can turn Him? And what His soul desires, that He does.
*Isaiah 43:13:* Even from eternity I am He; And there is none who can deliver out of My hand; I act and who can reverse it?
*Psalm 115:3:* But our God is in the heavens; He does whatever He pleases.

Scripture speaks of God’s mighty power and describes Him as omnipotent or all-powerful.

Scripture plainly declares that **God can do anything and nothing is too hard for Him.**

*Jeremiah 32:17:* Ah Lord GOD! Behold, Thou hast made the heavens and the earth by Thy great power and by Thy stretched arm! Nothing is too difficult for Thee.
*Matthew 19:26:* And looking upon them Jesus said to them, “With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”
*Job 42:1-2:* Then Job answered the LORD and said, 24I know that **Thou canst do all things,** And that no purpose of Thine can be thwarted.

God had the creative power to make the universe from nothing, and He sustains it by His power. He made the world for His own pleasure and by His own will.

*Revelation 4:11:* 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.

His creation is a small example of His mighty power. In the creation of the universe, God’s resources were not depleted in any way, for they are infinitely vast. Since God created all things, He transcends them; **His power and dominion are infinitely greater than everything He created.** God is actively sustaining everything in creation. He exercises His power continually, bringing to pass “all His good pleasure” (Isaiah 46:10). He made all things by His purposeful will. He possesses the power to execute His divine will and bring His intentions to perfect completion. He alone created all things out of nothing. Because of this great truth He is known as “The Almighty.”

*Isaiah 40:26,28:* 26Lift up your eyes on high And see who has created these stars, The One who leads forth their host by number, He calls them all by name; Because of the greatness of His might and the strength of His power Not one of them is missing. . . . 28Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth Does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable.
*John 1:1-3:* 1In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2He was in the beginning with God. 3All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.
*Colossians 1:16-17:* 16For 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. 17And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

This truth affirms that all power in the creation comes from God. Since God made everything out of nothing, then power must, by necessity, be delegated by God. In fact the Scripture plainly declares that God’s power is far above all earthly powers.

*Ephesians 1:18-21:* 18I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the
saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead, and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age, but also in the one to come.

If someone were more powerful than God, he or she would have authority over Him. Scripture teaches, however, that this is impossible. Therefore, because God is omnipotent, He is also sovereign.

Question #17: List several scriptural truths that affirm God’s omnipotence:

Question #18: How does God’s omnipotence affirm that He and He alone is God?

God’s Knowledge - Omniscience (all-knowing)

God knows everything. Since God is the source of all things (making everything from nothing), He is therefore the source of all knowledge and wisdom. A. W. Tozer helps us understand how complete God’s knowledge is with this definition of omniscience:

[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.3

We might add that God also knows every possible cause and effect, feeling and desire, creature, event, and every other thing that can be named. His knowledge is complete and eternal. The Scripture plainly declares that God knows everything.

1 John 3:19-20: We shall know by this that we are of the truth, and shall assure our heart before Him in whatever our heart condemns us; for God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.

Isaiah 40:28: Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth Does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable.

Psalm 147:5: Great is our Lord, and abundant in strength; His understanding is infinite.

People rarely argue that God does not know the past, but people do sometimes argue that God does not know the future. Scripture, however, plainly declares that God does know the future. He must know it, because the future is the outworking of God’s decrees, which were made before He created the world. He knew in eternity past the entire record of history for all time. Predictive prophecy in the Bible proves this again and again. God speaks about future events before they come to pass, and multitudes of biblical prophecies have already been fulfilled!

Isaiah 46:9-10: "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; 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”;

Isaiah 44:7-8: "And who is like me? Let him proclaim and declare it; Yes, let him recount it to Me in order, From the time I established the ancient nation. And let them declare to them the things that are coming And the events that are going to take place.

'Do not tremble and do not be afraid. Have I not long since announced it to you and declared it?' And you are My witnesses. Is there any God besides me, Or is there any other Rock? I know of none.

Nothing escapes God’s notice; and nothing is hidden from Him. He is aware of past, present, and future events just as if they were all laid out before Him. His knowledge is as perfect as His being. Since God is perfect in knowledge, He is all-knowing and can never be confused, misled, or surprised.

Hebrews 4:13: And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

Nothing escapes the attention of God. He sees all things, even the inner thoughts of man. Jesus said that the hairs of our heads are all numbered (Luke 12:7) and that not even a sparrow falls to the ground without His notice (Matthew 10:29). “No creature is hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare” before the Lord (Hebrews 4:13). He knows our thoughts (Ezekiel 11:5) before we even express them. Indeed, there is no place where we can hide from God. He sees everything in full view; and He understands “the thoughts and intentions of our hearts” (Hebrews 4:12) better than we do. He is God!

1 Kings 8:39: then hear in heaven Thy dwelling place, and forgive and act and render to each according to all his ways, whose heart Thou knowest, for Thou alone dost know the hearts of all the sons of men.

1 Chronicles 28:9: As for you, my son Solomon, know the God of your father, and serve Him with a whole heart and a willing mind; for the LORD searches all hearts, and understands every intent of the thoughts. If you seek Him, He will let you find Him; but if you forsake Him, He will reject you forever.

Proverbs 5:21: For the ways of a man are before the eyes of the LORD. And He watches all his paths.

Psalm 139 speaks of God knowing our thoughts and words “before there is a word on our tongue.”

Psalms 139:2-4: 2Thou dost know when I sit down and when I rise up; Thou dost understand my thought from afar. 3Thou dost scrutinize my path and my lying down, And art intimately acquainted with all my ways. 4Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O LORD, Thou dost know it all.

A. W. Pink describes God’s knowledge of our sins: “Neither the darkness of night, the closest curtains, nor the deepest dungeon can hide any sinner from the eyes of Omniscience. The trees of the garden were not able to conceal our first parents. No human eye beheld Cain murder his brother, but his maker witnessed his crime. Sarah might laugh derisively in the seclusion of her tent, yet was it heard by Jehovah. Achan stole a wedge of gold and carefully hid it in the earth, but God brought it to light. David was at much pains to cover up his wickedness, but ere long the all-seeing God sent one of His servants to say to him, “You are the man!” And to writer and reader is also said, “Be sure your sin will find you out” (Num 32:23).

Proverbs 15:3: The eyes of the LORD are in every place, Watching the evil and the good.

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Job 34:21-22: 21 For His eyes are upon the ways of a man, And He sees all his steps. 22 There is no darkness or deep shadow Where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves. Psalms 90:8: Thou hast placed our iniquities before Thee, Our secret sins in the light of Thy presence.

S. Lewis Johnson⁵ summarizes God’s knowledge like this:
- **Intuitive**: God knows everything by default, His knowledge exists within Himself
- **Simultaneous**: God knows everything in one simple act, instantaneously, not gradually
- **Independent**: God knows everything apart from any learning, He cannot learn, because He knows all things from eternity, His knowledge comes from Himself
- **Distinct**: God knows everything clearly, without ambiguity, specifically not generally, absolute
- **Infallible**: God’s knowledge is unfailing, certain, accurate in every detail
- **Immutable**: God’s knowledge never changes because He has never learned a new fact, it is not subject to anything outside of Himself
- **Complete**: God’s knowledge is infinite, the scope or extent of it is exhaustive, He knows all things actual and possible, all events, all creatures of the past, present and future.

Consider how God’s knowledge is related to His Sovereignty. Since God is all-knowing, nothing can escape His attention or surprise Him. He is intimately aware of everything at all times, knowing it all from before the creation of the world. God knows everything freely because He has both willed everything to be and providentially brought it about.

Ephesians 1:9-11: He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him ¹⁰ with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him ¹¹ also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will.

**Summary** - See chart on God’s Knowledge and Power, page 17.

**Question #19**: Study the chart, “God’s Knowledge and Power,” on page 17. Then briefly describe the connection between omniscience and omnipotence.

**Question #20**: Why are omniscience and omnipotence necessary elements of sovereignty?

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⁵ Taken from a sermon delivered at Believer’s Chapel, Dallas Theological Seminary, date uncertain.