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The Attributes Of God Tozer

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Understanding A.W. Tozer's Vision of the Divine Nature

In the landscape of Christian theology, few works have resonated as deeply as A.W. Tozer's classic, **The Knowledge of the Holy**. For decades, readers have turned to this concise yet profound volume to rediscover the majesty, mystery, and beauty of God. The phrase **The Attributes Of God Tozer** encapsulates more than just a list of divine traits; it represents a spiritual posture—a call to worship, humility, and awe. Tozer believed that our understanding of who God is directly shapes the quality of our faith. When we diminish God's attributes, we diminish our capacity for genuine worship. When we magnify them, we step into a deeper, more transformative relationship with the Creator.

This article explores the key themes Tozer raised regarding God's attributes, why they matter for modern believers, and how recovering a high view of God can reshape our daily lives. We will examine the theological depth of Tozer's insights while keeping the discussion accessible, practical, and grounded in Scripture.

Who Was A.W. Tozer and Why Do His Views on God's Attributes Matter?

Aiden Wilson Tozer (1897–1963) was an American pastor, author, and spiritual mentor known for his uncompromising commitment to biblical truth. He served for decades at the Southside Alliance Church in Chicago and later at the Avenue Road Church in Toronto. Tozer was a man who walked with God in a way that inspired others to seek the same intimacy. His writings, particularly **The Knowledge of the Holy**, remain influential because they challenge superficial Christianity and call believers back to a reverent, thoughtful faith.

Tozer's treatment of **The Attributes Of God Tozer** is distinct because he does not merely define each attribute; he invites the reader to contemplate, adore, and respond. For Tozer, theology was never abstract. It was personal. He wrote, "What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." This conviction drives his entire exploration of the divine character. To know God's attributes is to know God Himself, and to know God is to be transformed.

The Foundation: Tozer's View on the Incomprehensibility of God

Before diving into specific attributes, Tozer reminds us that God is ultimately beyond our full comprehension. He is infinite; we are finite. He is eternal; we are temporal. This does not mean we cannot know God truly, but it does mean we cannot know Him exhaustively. Tozer calls this tension a "sanctified ignorance"—a humble acknowledgment that our minds cannot contain the fullness of who God is.

This foundation is crucial for understanding **The Attributes Of God Tozer** outlines. If we approach God's attributes with pride or intellectual arrogance, we miss the point. Tozer urges us to come with wonder, not with a checklist. He writes that the proper response to God's majesty is not analysis but adoration. Only when we are overwhelmed by God's greatness are we ready to truly know Him.

Tozer organizes his discussion of God's attributes around the classical categories found in historic Christian theology. Below, we explore the major attributes he emphasizes, drawing from **The Knowledge of the Holy** and his broader teaching.

God's Self-Existence and Self-Sufficiency

Tozer begins with the truth that God is self-existent. He does not depend on anything outside Himself for life, power, or purpose. This attribute, often called *aseity*, means God is the uncaused Cause. Tozer writes, "God is self-existent, self-sufficient, and eternal." This truth humbles us because it reminds us that we are entirely dependent on God, while He depends on nothing. It also comforts us: the God who sustains the universe lacks nothing and is never weary or depleted.

For Tozer, this attribute is not merely theological trivia. It has practical implications. If God is self-sufficient, He does not need our worship, but He invites us into it for our good. This shifts our perspective from trying to earn God's favor to joyfully receiving His grace.

God's Infinite Nature

Tozer emphasizes that God is infinite in being and perfection. He has no limits, no boundaries, no end. This means God is not merely larger than we imagine; He is beyond imagination. Tozer writes, "God is infinite, which means He is not limited by space, time, or anything else." This attribute challenges our tendency to shrink God down to a manageable size. We often want a God who fits into our plans, our schedules, our categories. But the infinite God cannot be contained.

Understanding God's infinity changes how we pray. It means we are approaching a God whose resources are endless, whose wisdom is boundless, and whose love knows no limits. It also means we can trust Him completely, because nothing is beyond His capacity.

God's Immutability

One of the most comforting attributes Tozer discusses is God's immutability—His unchanging nature. God does not grow, develop, or improve. He does not change His mind or His character. Tozer states, "God never changes, so His faithfulness is sure." In a world of constant change, this attribute anchors the soul. It means that what God has promised, He will fulfill. What He has revealed about Himself remains true forever.

Tozer warns against the modern tendency to think of God as evolving with culture. He insists that God's moral character, His love, His justice, and His holiness are fixed. This gives us a firm foundation for faith and ethics.

God's Holiness

For Tozer, holiness is the central attribute that radiates through all others. God's holiness means He is utterly separate from sin and perfectly pure. Tozer writes, "Holy is the way God is." He calls holiness the "Godness of God." This attribute is both terrifying and beautiful. It exposes our sin and unworthiness, yet it also reveals the depth of God's grace in providing atonement through Christ.

Tozer's emphasis on holiness challenges casual Christianity. He urges believers to approach God with reverence and awe, not with flippant familiarity. Yet he also shows that holiness is not cold or distant—it is the source of true beauty and love.

God's Love

Tozer does not separate God's love from His holiness. For him, God's love is a holy love—pure, self-giving, and directed toward His creatures. Tozer writes, "God is love, but He is not love apart from His holiness." This means God's love is not sentimental or indulgent. It is a love that seeks the highest good of the beloved, even when that requires discipline or correction.

This balanced view of love is essential in a culture that often reduces love to mere acceptance. Tozer reminds us that God's love is transformative. It does not leave us as we are but calls us to become like Christ.

God's Sovereignty

Tozer affirms that God is sovereign over all creation. Nothing happens outside His will or permission. He writes, "God rules over all, and nothing is outside His control." This attribute brings immense comfort to those facing trials, but it also requires humble submission. Tozer warns against trying to understand all of God's ways—trust is more important than comprehension.

Sovereignty does not mean God is the author of evil. Tozer carefully distinguishes between God's permissive will and His active will. But it does mean that God is never surprised, never defeated, and never without a plan.

God's Triune Nature

While not a single attribute, Tozer treats the Trinity as foundational to understanding who God is. He writes, "God is one in essence, but three in person." The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit have existed in perfect love and fellowship from eternity. Tozer sees the Trinity as the key to understanding God's relational nature. God is not solitary; He is community. This truth grounds our understanding of love, personhood, and relationship.

How Tozer's Teaching on God's Attributes Shapes Christian Living

Tozer was not interested in theology that stayed in the classroom. He wanted **The Attributes Of God Tozer** explored to produce worship, holiness, and mission. When we truly grasp who God is, several practical changes occur in our lives.

- Deepened Worship: When we see God's majesty, our hearts naturally respond in praise. Tozer believed that worship is the highest calling of humanity.
- Increased Trust: Knowing God's sovereignty and faithfulness helps us face trials with confidence. We rest in His unchanging character.
- Greater Humility: Contemplating God's infinity and holiness reveals our own limitations and sinfulness, leading to genuine humility.
- Moral Clarity: God's holiness provides a fixed standard for ethics. We no longer rely on shifting cultural norms but on God's unchanging character.
- Evangelistic Urgency: Tozer's high view of God motivated him to share the gospel. If God is holy and we are sinners, then the message of salvation through Christ is urgent.

Common Misunderstandings About Tozer's View of God's Attributes

Some readers mistakenly think Tozer presents a cold, distant God. This is not accurate. Tozer emphasizes God's transcendence—His otherness—but he also celebrates God's nearness in Christ. Tozer's God is not a distant monarch but a loving Father who condescends to dwell with His people.

Another misunderstanding is that Tozer's theology is purely intellectual. On the contrary, Tozer writes with passion and devotion. He wants readers to experience God, not just think about Him. His goal is always heart transformation, not mere information transfer.

Finally, some assume Tozer's approach is outdated. But in an age of distraction, fragmentation, and shallow spirituality, Tozer's call to contemplate the majesty of God is more relevant than ever. Recovering a vision of God's attributes is essential for spiritual renewal.

The Relevance of Tozer's Teaching for Today's Reader

Modern Christianity often suffers from a low view of God. We treat Him as a cosmic therapist, a moral coach, or

a divine vending machine. Tozer calls us back to awe. He reminds us that God is not safe, but He is good. He is not small, but He is near. He is not tame, but He is loving.

When we study **The Attributes Of God Tozer** teaches, we are invited into a deeper relationship with the living God. We are invited to know Him not as a concept but as a person. This knowledge transforms our prayers, our worship, our relationships, and our hope.

Practical Ways to Study the Attributes of God Tozer's Way

If you want to engage with Tozer's teaching more deeply, consider these practical steps:

1. Read The Knowledge of the Holy: This is Tozer's primary work on the attributes of God. Read it slowly, one chapter at a time, allowing each attribute to shape your prayer and meditation.
2. Journal Your Reflections: Write down what each attribute reveals about God and how it applies to your life. Ask yourself: How does this attribute change how I worship? How does it affect my trust?
3. Pray Through the Attributes: Use each attribute as a springboard for prayer. Adore God for His holiness, thank Him for His love, trust Him for His sovereignty.
4. Discuss with Others: Share what you are learning with a small group or a trusted friend. Tozer's insights are meant to be shared and discussed.
5. Listen to Tozer's Sermons: Many of Tozer's sermons are available online. Hearing his voice and passion can deepen your understanding of his teaching.

Conclusion: The Lasting Impact of Tozer's Vision of God

A. W. Tozer's exploration of **The Attributes Of God Tozer**

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