



## Necessary Being

**The “Problem” of Evil and Suffering in the Presence of an All-knowing, All-good, All-loving, and All-powerful God (60):  
Job 38: God and Creation-6 (‘Ehyeh; Grasping being as being)**

<http://www.fbcweb.org/sermons.html>

# Philosophical/Theological/Doctrinal & Spiritual Edification

## Bible Doctrines

Eschatology	1 Timothy 6:15 - He who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords;
Thanatology	
Ecclesiology	
Israelology	16 who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light; whom no man has seen or can see.
Dispensationalism	
Doxology	
Hodology	
Soteriology	
Hamartiology	
Natural Law	✓ Metaphysically God is totally transcendent to anything in creation.
Anthropology	
Angelology	
Pneumatology	
Christology	
Paterology	✓ Thus, the need for all of these doctrines.
Trinitarianism	
Cosmology	
Theology Proper	
Bibliology	✓ As far as the level of your understanding of God, what comes to mind when you think of God?

**Prolegomena:**  
**P.R. - 32**

- Hermeneutics
- Linguistics
- Epistemology
- Metaphysics -5
- Reality -Logic 32, Truth 32

Stage 3 -  
Metaphysical understanding of Reality as carried by the Bible verses.

Stage 2-  
Systematic understanding of Bible verses

Stage 1-  
Isolated understanding of Bible verses

Metaphysical (Refined) Christian-Level 3:

- Christian metaphysician understands God on a metaphysical level, e.g. 'Ehyeh.
- He has capacity to have an intimate relationship with God on the most profound level.
- Just the thought of God brings awe and adoration in the mind of the Christian metaphysician.
- Lives a life of worship. He is truly occupied with Christ for who and what He is.

Doctrinal Maturing Believer- Level 2:

- Categorized or systematic understanding of God that goes beyond the particulars.
- Able to have organized intimate relationship with God.

Baby Bible believer - Level 1 -

- Very empirically oriented.
- Knowledge of the Bible and God is very cluttered, fragmented, and disorganized.
- Able to intimate relationship with God, but only on a fragmentary level.
- Prone to project human psychological characteristics and values on God.

# Philosophical Foundations for Biblical Objectivity

**Biblical Objectivity  
for what the Bible  
actually SAYS!**



5- Hermeneutics – how do we understand that which is?

4- Linguistics – how is that which is communicated?

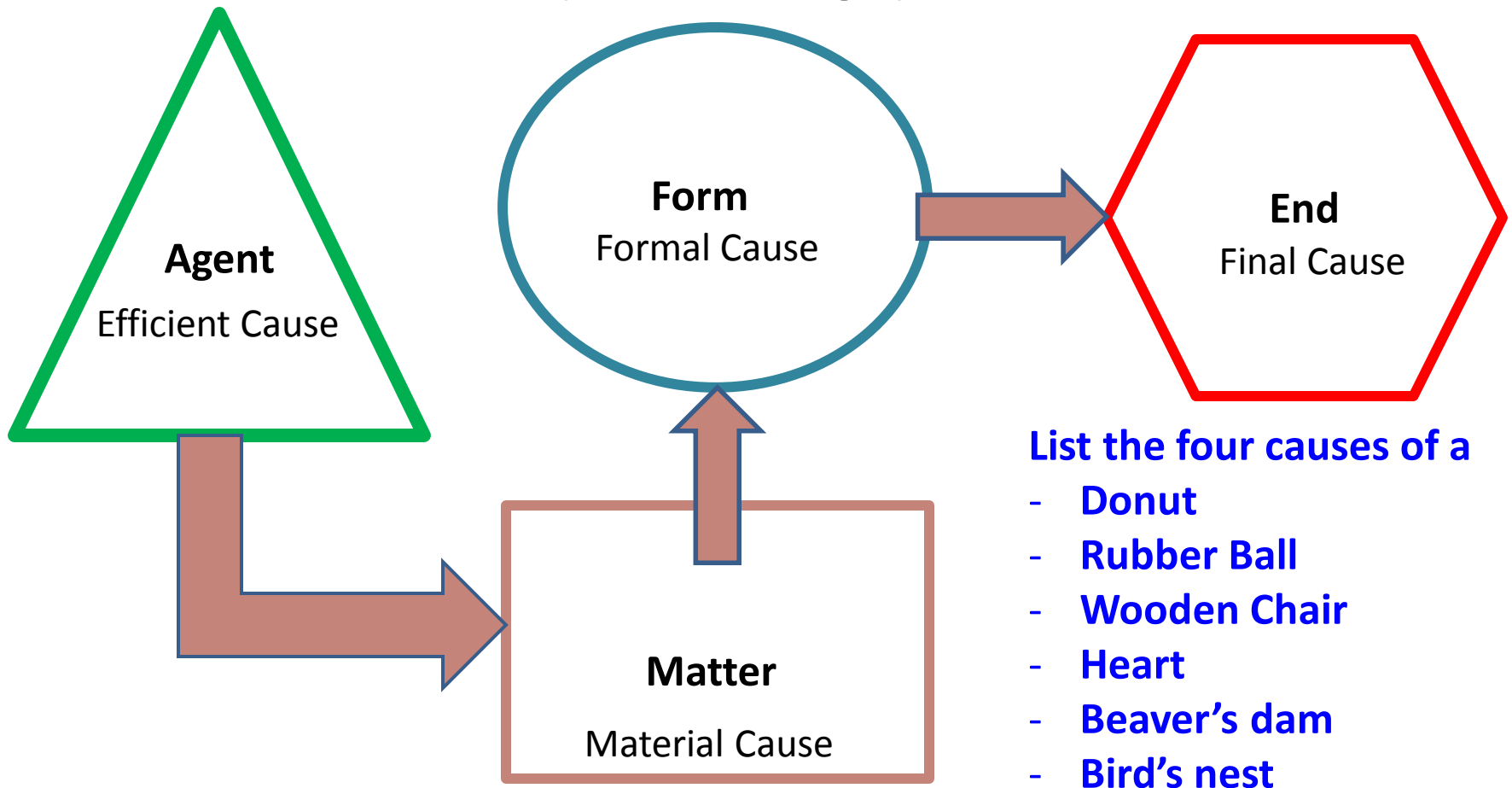
3- Epistemology – how do I know that which is?

2- Metaphysics – what is that which is? (5)

1- Reality – that which is (Logic 32, Truth 32)

PR 32

## Review of Metaphysics 1-4: The Four Causes ("What" a thing is)



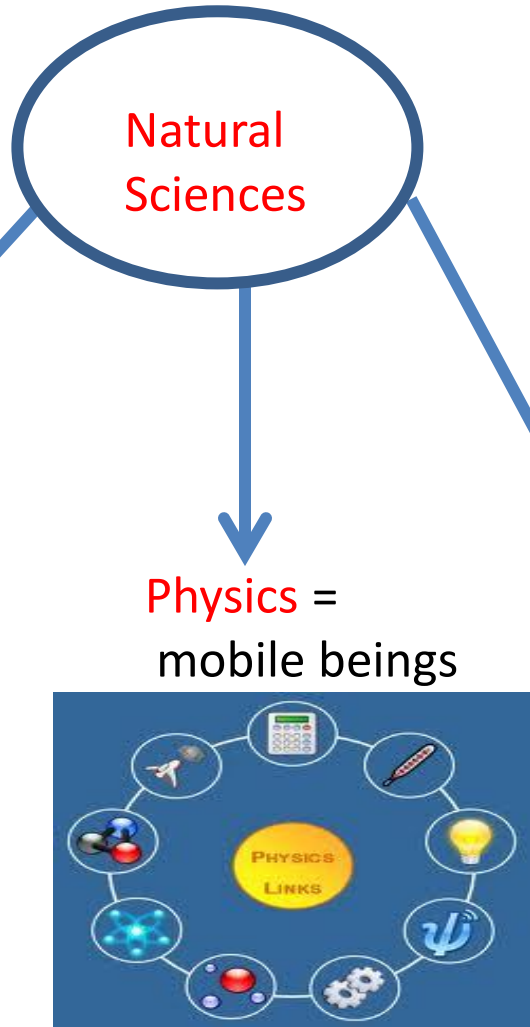
These four causes are found in all of nature—from the elements and compounds to plants, animals, humans, stars, and planets. All nature is tends to move towards some form or structure.

# Metaphysics-5 (Grasping being as being)

1. Metaphysics is the philosophy of being. Metaphysics is required to understand the true nature of God and the world. The fact is that everyone does it; it is only a question of how well or poorly.

Can the natural sciences tell us everything about these things by listing everything they find?

What do they all live out? How do we understand the being or status of something.



Human beings



Physics =  
mobile beings

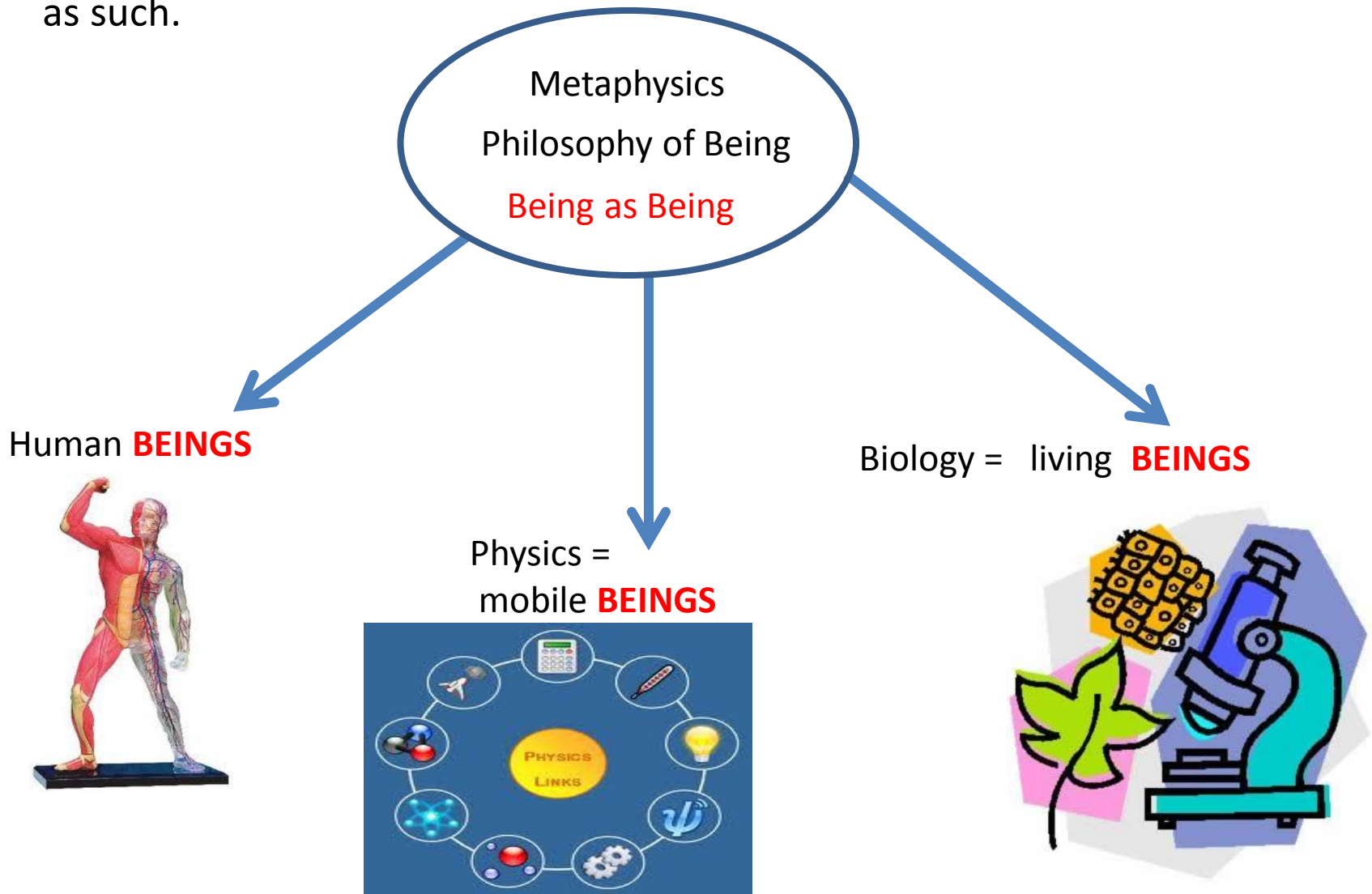


Biology =  
living beings



# Metaphysics-5 (Grasping being as being)

2. The natural sciences tell you *what* the being of a being is but not the *being* as such.



## Metaphysics-5 (Grasping being as being)

3. The mental skills acquired through metaphysics is like developing other scientific skills that enable a person to see the world on categorically. However, metaphysics enables the believer to go much deeper than any other science or body of knowledge.
4. The benefits of metaphysics for the believer in opening his understanding of God, the Bible, apologetics, and the spiritual are incalculable.
5. Metaphysics is more of a skillset the believer gains than it is knowledge of more data.

## Metaphysics-5 (Grasping being as being)

6. Metaphysics is much more difficult than the other sciences because it deals with a much deeper level of grasping reality. It has always been very difficult, but more so in our reductionistic, materialistic, mathematical age.
7. The more empirical a person is the more difficultly he will have going beyond sensible objects of perception. But then again, the harder it will be for him to understand God, spiritual truths, and live the spiritual life. The hard Empiricist defaults into agnosticism or fideism.



## Metaphysics-5 (Grasping being as being)

8. Metaphysics starts with sensible matter, but it goes beyond sensible matter to being as being. It goes to the verb of being.
9. Metaphysics subtracts (not abstracts) reality from matter and motion, from sensible objects.
10. Metaphysics begins with the second act of the mind. Review:
  - First act of the mind: Understanding.
  - Second act of the mind: Judgment.
  - Third act of the mind: Reasoning.

## Metaphysics-5 (Grasping being as being)

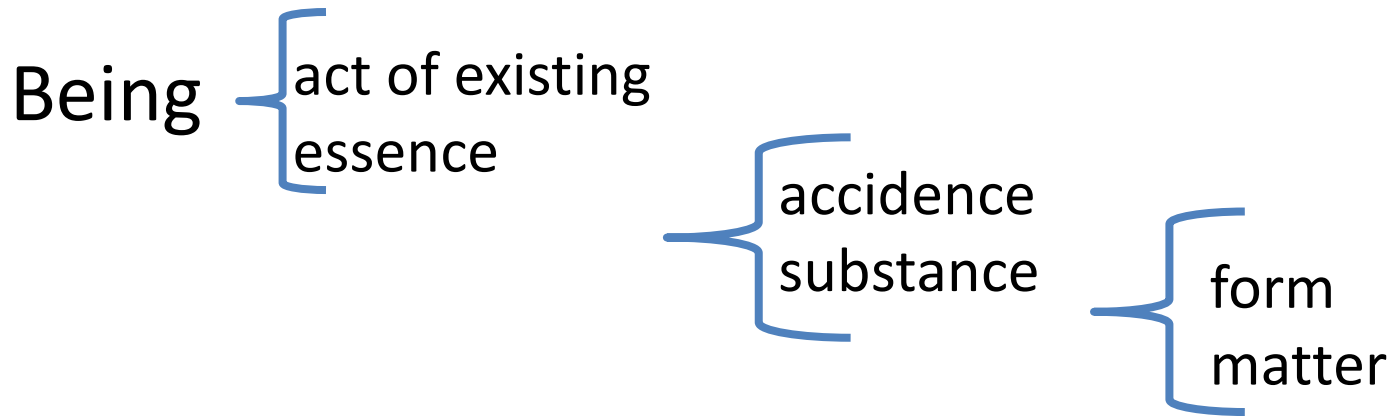
11. The study of being comes from empirical sensible reality. So the subject matter of metaphysics is in the sensible.
12. The metaphysician is able to remove the sensible part from the object in order to study it as it is in itself but not apart from the sensible object.

## Metaphysics-5 (Grasping being as being)

13. Metaphysics deals with what is real. It does not separate the thing from its existence.
14. Metaphysics goes beyond the “that is” to its existence. In this sense the “is” is like a verbal noun like running, walking, swimming.

## Metaphysics-5 (Grasping being as being)

15. In judgment we go from “that” which is to its act of existing: its “is-ing.”  
‘Ehyeh is unique in that He does not have any composition.



## Metaphysics-5 (Grasping being as being)

16. In the grammar of a sentence being plays the role as if it were a thing. E.g., when I say red is a color, the language treats it as a thing, but it is not a thing. It is grammatically the subject of the sentence but that does not mean that metaphysically that red is actually a thing.
  - a. The verb *is* has as its infinitive *to be* (for which the variant form *being* is sometimes used), as its participle *being* (note that the participle implicitly includes some subject for the verb), and as its corresponding verb noun, also *being*. Hence, the verbal noun, *being*, in its first sense means “that which is” or “something having an act of existing.”

## Metaphysics-5 (Grasping being as being)

- b. For the phrase “act of existing,” we use the noun “esse.” All real things have esse.
  
- c. To be is other than and different from the definite essence in the being. While essence is properly an abstraction, the act of existence itself cannot be the object of abstraction. Unless the act of existing is included in the being, we do not have being in the proper sense of the word.

## Metaphysics-5 (Grasping being as being)

- d. To grasp being, the mind must go beyond the first act of the mind (apprehension) to judgment (2<sup>nd</sup> act of the mind). Judgment is that act of the mind by which we assert (or deny) that something *is*, or is modified in some way or other.
- e. Judgment, therefore, directly reaches the esse of a thing, for in the judgment we know that a thing is.
- f. What is special about judgment is that it is a knowledge that some existent thing is, a that-which is.

## Metaphysics-5 (Grasping being as being)

- g. Being is the cause that makes a thing differ from nothing. Metaphysics deals with real things—things which have being in reality.
  
- h. There is an antithesis of “to be or not to be” in the sense of the difference between real existence and lack of real existence, for example,
  - ✓ The distinction between being and not-being is continually experienced in life: e.g., the music of a symphony, the colors of a rainbow after a rain.
  
  - ✓ The distinction of a dollar bill in conception and judgment.



## Metaphysics-5 (Grasping being as being)

17. One cannot use English semantics to determine metaphysics. Grammar is not necessarily logical or gives us a true view of metaphysical reality. What grammar reveals is how we are thinking about it as a subject in the sentence. What metaphysics does is separate the subject from its act of existence.
18. Grammar reflects the way I am thinking, but it does not mean that the way I am thinking is the way things actually exist.

## Metaphysics-5 (Grasping being as being)

19. Being cannot be defined, but it can be described in functional language.
- Being applies to all real things.
  - Being is that by which something is there.
  - Being is the act by which things are.
  - Being is not a thing.
  - Being is a verbal noun.
    - Like running, swimming, walking, which are actions that a subject produces.
    - However, in contrast to actions which are produced by the subject, being is not produced by the subject; it is produced by God.
    - The “is” in the noun is its act of existing separate from its thingness or essence.

## Metaphysics-5 (Grasping being as being)

### 20. The blessings of grasping metaphysics

- ✓ It frees you from limitations of sense perception. In metaphysics you are unencumbered by the sights and sounds of this world. You can see past them and truly understand what things are.
- ✓ It opens up understand of God, the Bible and apologetics. Metaphysics fills the pages of the Word of God.
- ✓ It makes you realize more fully *why* there must be God– the Classical God. You grasp the is in all existing things and how nothing can exist apart from God.
- ✓ It will cause the omnipresence and immanence of God to resound at the most foundation level of your existence because you will realize that at the fundamental level of your being is the act of existence which comes directly from God. Directly! Your very being is upheld by the Esse of God moment by moment.
- ✓ It will provide a profound understanding, foundation, and apologetics for all of those wonderful doctrines we have learned over the decades. There is nothing like a deep understanding of reality to inspire love and adoration of Esse and Bible doctrine.

# 'Ehyeh, אֶהְיֶה: Pure Act! Simplicity!

## Triune God in one Esse

1. Job and the attributes of God.

Goodness and perfection  
(Mark 10:18)

Timeless  
(2 Pet. 3:8; Isa. 46:10)

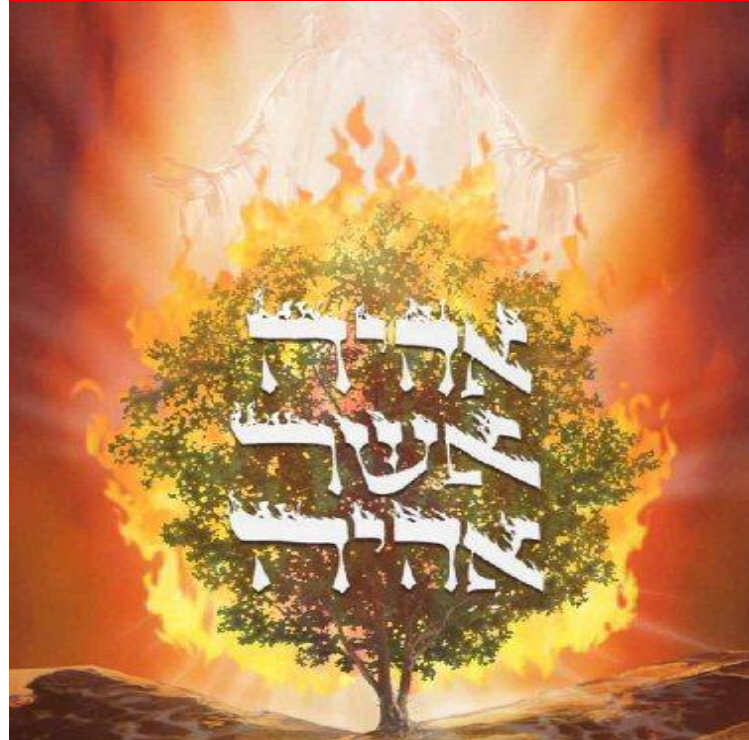
Omnipotent  
(God is His omnipotence)

Omniscient  
(God is His omniscience)

Omnipresent (Psa. 139)

Infinite (Psa. 147:5)

**'Ehyeh is not like any other  
(Isa 46:9)**



**Self-subsistent Being  
*ipsum esse subsistens*  
Necessary Being**

Immutable (James 1:17)

Holy (Isa. 6:3)

Impassible (Mal. 3:6)

Love (1 John 4:8; Rom. 5:8)

Just (Gen. 18:25; Isa 30:18;  
Rom. 3:21-26)

God's will (1 Tim. 2:4)

Incarnation (John 1; 8:57-58)

The future (1 John 3:2)