

Characteristics of God

found in Hebrews

1. **The Radiance of Glory** - "The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word." (Hebrews 1:3a)
2. **The Enthroned King** - "After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven." (Hebrews 1:3b)
3. **The Unchanging Creator** - "In the beginning, Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you remain... you remain the same, and your years will never end." (Hebrews 1:10-12)
4. **The Crowned Savior** - "But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone." (Hebrews 2:9)
5. **The Merciful High Priest** - "For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people." (Hebrews 2:17)
6. **The Compassionate Intercessor** - "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin." (Hebrews 4:15)
7. **The Source of Eternal Salvation** - "And, once made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him." (Hebrews 5:9)
8. **The Promise-Keeper** - "God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged." (Hebrews 6:18)
9. **The Anchor of the Soul** - "We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf." (Hebrews 6:19-20)

10. The Indestructible Life - "...one who has become a priest not on the basis of a regulation as to his ancestry but on the basis of the power of an indestructible life." (Hebrews 7:16)

11. The Permanent Priest - "But because Jesus lives forever, he has a permanent priesthood. Therefore he is able to save completely those who come to God through him, because he always lives to intercede for them." (Hebrews 7:24-25)

12. The Mediator of a Better Covenant - "But in fact the ministry Jesus has received is as superior to theirs as the covenant of which he is mediator is superior to the old one, since the new covenant is established on better promises." (Hebrews 8:6)

13. The Perfect Sacrifice - "How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!" (Hebrews 9:14)

14. The Author and Perfecter - "Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12:2)

15. The Unshakable Kingdom - "Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe." (Hebrews 12:28).

Access Granted Reflection: Hebrews 10:19-22

¹⁹Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

The Context: The Old Covenant architecture said "Stay Back." Jesus says "Come In."

The Prompt: Are you still trying to "sew the curtain back together" by using guilt or "religious performance" to feel accepted by God?

Write a prayer confessing a specific "dead work" (a duty you do out of fear/pride) and ask Jesus to help you rest in your identity as an heir rather than a debtor.

"Anti-Drift" Reflection: Hebrews 2:1-3 & 3:12-13

¹We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away. ²For since the message spoken through angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, ³how shall we escape if we ignore so great a salvation? This salvation, which was first announced by the Lord, was confirmed to us by those who heard him.

¹²See to it, brothers and sisters, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. ¹³But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

The Context: The author warns us not to “drift away” or let our hearts become “hardened by sin’s deceitfulness.”

The Prompt: Where do you feel a drift happening in your life right now? Is it toward busyness, cynicism, self-reliance, etc? Write down what has been capturing your attention lately. **Write to God asking the Holy Spirit to "soften" the soil of your heart in that specific area.**

"Anchor of Hope" Reflection: Hebrews 6:18-20

¹⁸God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be greatly encouraged. ¹⁹We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, ²⁰where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.

The Context: Hope is an "anchor for the soul, firm and secure," that enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain.

The Prompt: What storm or unseen reality is currently making you feel unstable? Write about the difference between a wish and a Biblical Hope (a settled certainty). Write something asking Jesus to be your anchor in this specific situation.
