

14. The concept of freedom is the right of self-determination to make the choice to either stay under the yoke of the Law or to choose the freedom of grace.
15. Liberty nicely defines the system of imposed restraints necessary in an open society. Citizens of the United States still enjoy independence of thought, movement, and choice, but for the good of the society certain restraints must be imposed.
16. Freedom nicely defines the release from bondage to a dead system of commandments associated with obsolete rituals that cannot be consistently obeyed.
17. Faith in Christ produces freedom from the slave market of sin while anointing us into the freedom of His grace. Free of both ritual and unforgiven sin, the believer is free to grow in grace and acquire the guidance that leads to potential escrow blessings at the Evaluation Tribunal of Christ.
18. From Oxford's definition of *freedom*, we may now develop some application from the phrase "law of freedom":
 1. Those who place their personal faith in Jesus Christ move out of a life of works into a life of freedom in which they may serve God.
 2. This freedom makes you free to make good decisions based on principles found in the Word of God.
 3. Except for the worldly laws that define criminality, you are not accountable to other people on how you live your life as unto the Lord.
 4. While continuing to function under the authorities of this world, you personally orient to a set of rules that are exercised under the divine policy of grace.
 5. The object of grace is faith toward the divine guarantee of God's logistical grace support.
 6. The Law of Freedom rejects all human ability, talent, or good works. Man's work has no place in a system of grace.
 7. The cosmic system functions on human good and evil. However, the law of freedom places the obligation on the believer to use that freedom to apply the Word of God and its power, under the enabling ministry of the Holy Spirit, to produce divine good.

8. Associated with the Law of Freedom is the Law of Love which is the function of the Royal Law.
9. The Law of Love is directed toward other believers. This application emerges in the sophisticated spiritual life. Basic levels of spiritual growth have provided the foundation for advanced application of doctrine.
10. The ability to love other believers, let alone other people, is the initial ability to love God. Many people contend that they love God and to a certain degree they do.
11. However, one must understand the essence of God in order to comprehend how His essence works in association with believers.
12. Divine essence is broken down into ten characteristics. We will not take up a detailed doctrine but briefly define these characteristics.
 1. **Sovereignty:** God's eternal, infinite, unchangeable will expressed in the doctrine of the divine decree in eternity past. His sovereignty has absolute prerogative and volition.
 2. **Righteousness:** God possesses eternal, unchangeable, and absolute righteousness. His righteousness, in combination with perfect justice, forms the integrity of God.
 3. **Justice:** Divine justice administers the system of divine laws that are compatible with divine righteousness and sovereignty. Justice is the function of the integrity of God. Since all mankind is born spiritually dead, the justice of God is our point of contact, before and after salvation.
 4. **Love.** God's love is different from human love, which God does not possess. His love, for example, contains no emotion. In God's love there is no deception—only the inviolable demand of perfect truth and integrity. Because He is righteous and just, His love is never biased. God's love depends on His integrity and is governed by His integrity.



5. **Eternal Life:** Has no beginning and no end; it has always existed and will always exist; there was never a time when He did not exist. Time, although without substance, is an object of God's creation. His eternal life is imputed to all who believe in Christ. This eternal life is technically called everlasting life; that is, it has no end but began at the moment of salvation.
6. **Omnipresence.** God is eternally, wholly, and simultaneously present everywhere. Omnipresence means He is personally there, an eyewitness to every activity of our lives and of all human and angelic history. God is the cause of space which extends for immeasurable lightyears. Space is one of two boundaries God has given to creatures, the other being time.
7. **Omniscience.** God is wise. He knows perfectly and eternally all that is knowable, whether actual or possible. God never learns anything because He has always known everything. God foreknows the future. Since all events take place according to His counsel, the divine decree, He foreknows, but His foreknowledge is not predetermination. He never interferes with your volition.

NOTE: Since God knows all that is knowable, His knowledge informs His integrity of every thought, decision, and action of every person who will ever live in human history. Therefore, the integrity of God may be defined as the three composites of Righteousness, Justice, and Omniscience which work in concert with His divine policy of Grace.
8. **Omnipotence.** God is all powerful; His power is infinite, therefore omnipotence guarantees that nothing will be impossible with God" (Luke 1:37). When we need energy to do the will of God, he provides the energy. God never condones giving up. This is a maladjustment to the grace and power of God.

The universe is held together by the omnipotence of Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:16–17). God has made His divine power available to every Church Age believer for the execution of the unique spiritual life (2 Peter 1:3).

9. **Immutability.** God is unchangeable. He cannot change, but we do. God has the ability to handle any situation in life with whatever is necessary; therefore, the fact that He meets one set of circumstances with discipline and another set with deliverance does not mean that His immutability is compromised. It means instead that He is wise and just and that He knows when to do what.

The fact that God is immutable means that He cannot change His own nature, not that He cannot act as His divine nature dictates.

10. **Veracity.** God is absolute truth, the expression of His integrity. **NOTE:** The integrity of God is the love of God and the love of God is the integrity of God. They are the composite of the attributes, Righteousness, Justice, and Omniscience, and function under the policy of grace. God does not hold truth as something He acquired; He *is* truth from eternity past. The truth has never been diminished or compromised in Him; God is the source of truth. From the truth that God is, comes the truth we have in writing. The divine attribute of veracity guarantees that divine revelation is accurate, perfect, absolute, and inerrant.⁸

Principle: Every word of the Bible is true. Veracity is the source of divine revelation given verbally to the writers of Scripture which they transferred into writing forming the Old and New Testaments:

Matthew 5:18 “Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.” (KJV)

(End JAS2-20. See JAS2-21 for continuation of study at p. 201.)

⁸ These ten categories of the “Attributes of God” are summarized from, R. B. Thieme, Jr., *The Integrity of God*, 4th ed. (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 2005), 270–292.

