

The Biblical-Principle Approach Homeschool Experience™

The Philosophy

EXPANDED (H)

The Biblical-Principle Approach
Attributes

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Attributes

The Philosophy Expanded (H)

Another important aspect to cover is the understanding about God's attributes and mankind's attributes. Both are taken into account when we study Key Individuals and History. Doing so helps us to reason through internal and external, cause to effect, and to address the ugly parts of history.

In his wisdom, Ben taught me the value of taking no interest in the things that divide Christians because everyone comes from a different background and ideas about God. That's why it's important to learn about **who** God is (no doctrines because doctrines can divide).

Webster's 1828 Dictionary defines *attribute* as:



ATTRIB'UTE, verb transitive [Latin attribuo; ad and tribuo, to divide, to bestow, to assign; tribus, a tribe, division or ward. See Tribe.]

1. To allot or attach, in contemplation; to ascribe; to consider as belonging.

AT'TRIBUTE, noun

1. That which is attributed; that which is considered as belonging to, or inherent in; as, power and wisdom are attributes of the Supreme Being; or a quality determining something to be after a certain manner; as, extension is an attribute of body.

2. Quality; characteristic disposition; as bravery and generosity in men.

This assignment involves comprehending God's individuality and mankind's individuality. As such, it helps us to understand the relationship between God and man as well as the relationship between man and man.

Assignment 1: Read through the passages of Scripture to identify God's attributes. Write down a one-word attribute that describes God in each Scripture.

Genesis 1:1 _____

Genesis 3:9 _____

Genesis 17:1 _____

Exodus 15:11 _____

Attributes

The Philosophy Expanded (H)

Exodus 34:6 _____

Deuteronomy 33:27 _____

Joshua 24:19 _____

2 Kings 13:23 _____

Ezra 9:15 _____

Psalms 139:7 _____

Proverbs 5:21 _____

Isaiah 40:28 _____

Romans 1:22, 23 _____

1 Corinthians 10:13 _____

1 Timothy 1:17 _____

1 John 4:16 _____

Revelation 19:6 _____

Something that my mentor Ben Gilmore taught me was this: God has non-choice and choice attributes. This helps us to understand things like God changing His mind.

For example, Moses had discovered that the Israelite's had made the golden calf idol and that they were worshipping it. God had told Moses He was ready to destroy the nation. Moses pleaded with God: "And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people (Exodus 32:14)."

The questions arises: "If He never changes, how is it that He changes his mind?"

Attributes
The Philosophy Expanded (H)

Assignment 2: Plug in the non-choice and choice attributes from the Scriptures you read into the **T-Chart**. When an attribute's column is questionable, we put parenthesis around the attribute. This is because some Christians don't see eye-to-eye or it's unclear to a person. Remember to focus on what we do agree on as Christians.

Attributes of God

Non-Choice	Choice
Example: Almighty	Example: Gracious

Attributes

The Philosophy Expanded (H)

In this expanded lesson, you learned or reinforced your convictions of:

- some of God's attributes
- God having non-choice (natural) attributes
- God having choice (personality/moral) attributes
- there being a gulf between God's natural attributes and man's natural attributes

In this module, you reflect on:

- the fact that God's natural attributes are never changing (Malachi 3:6, Hebrews 13:8, James 1:17, Psalm 102:25-27)
- the fact that God has choice when it comes to His personality/moral attributes
- the fact that mankind **isn't** God and **doesn't** share His non-choice attributes
- the fact that mankind has his own natural attributes (physical, ability to think, to reason, etc.)