

Attributes and Activities of God the Father

TITLES OF THE FATHER

“Husbandman of the true vine” (Jn 15:1)

“Father of mercies” (2Cor 1:3)

“Father of glory” (Eph 1:17)

“Father of Spirits” (Heb 12:9)

“Father of Lights” (Jms 1:17)

CHARACTERISTICS AND CONCERNS OF THE FATHER

The Father sees in secret (Mt 6:4, 6, 18)

The Father is merciful (Lk 6:36)

The Father has life in himself (Jn 5:26)

The Father is greater than all (Jn 10:29)

God is the Father (1Cor 8:6)

The Father has foreknowledge (1Pt 1:2)

The Father has eternal life (1Jn 1:2)

The Father wills that none be lost (Jn 6:39)

There is no variableness nor shadow of turning in the Father (Jms 1:17)

God the Father is above all, and through all, and in all (Eph 4:6)

God is love (1Jn 4:16)

ACTIONS AND GIFTS FROM THE FATHER

The Father takes care of his creations (Mt 6:26; 10:29)

Every plant which the Father hath not planted shall be rooted up (Mt 15:13)

Revelation comes from Father in Heaven (Mt 16:17)

The Bread of Life comes from the Father (Jn 6:32)

Good works come from the Father (Jn 10:32)

The Father controls the seasons (Acts 1:7)

The Father sends peace (Rom 1:7; 1Cor 1:3)

The Father raises the dead (Jn 5:21)

THE FATHER AND PRAYER

Pray to the Father in heaven (Mt 6:9; Lk 11:2)

The Father will answer prayers (Mt 18:19)

Pray to the Father in the name of Christ (Jn 16:23)

Give thanks for all things unto God the Father (Eph 5:20; Col 3:17)

Christ prays to the Father (Jn 14:16)

Christ prayed to the Father for mankind (Jn 16:25)

Christ prayed to the Father in Gethsemane (Mt 26:39, 42; Mk 14:36; Lk 22:42; Jn 17)

THE FATHER AND THE SECOND COMING

At the second coming, the Son of Man shall come in the glory of his Father (Mt 16:27; Mk 8:38)
Only the Father knows when the second coming will be (Mt 24:36; Mk 13:32)

THE KINGDOM OF THE FATHER

In the Father's house are many mansions, or stations (Jn 14:2)
He that doeth the will of the Father enters heaven (Mt 7:21)
The righteous shine like the sun in the kingdom of the Father (Mt 13:43)
The elders in heaven have the Father's name written on their foreheads (Rev 14:1)

LITTLE CHILDREN AND THE FATHER

The Father watches over little children (Mt 18:14)
Little children belong in the kingdom of the Father (Mt 18:10)

THE FATHER OPPOSED TO WICKEDNESS

If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him (1Jn 2:15)
The antichrist denieth the Father and the Son (1Jn 2:22)

THE FATHER AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Comforter was sent by the Father (Jn 14:26; 15:26)
Mankind must worship the Father in spirit and in truth (Jn 4:23)
The Spirit of the Father gives revelation (Mt 10:20)

THE GODHEAD

The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost are one (1Jn 5:7)
Mankind has access to the Father through Christ and the Spirit (Eph 2:18)
People should be baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost (Mt 28:19)

COMMANDMENTS FOR MANKIND REGARDING THE FATHER

Glorify the Father which is in heaven (Mt 5:45)
Mankind must learn of the Father (Jn 6:45)
Continue in the Son and the Father (1Jn 2:24)
Honor the Son as the Father (Jn 5:23)
Be perfect, even as Father in heaven (Mt 5:48)

THE FATHER'S DOINGS TOWARDS MANKIND

Father in heaven rewards mankind (Mt 6:1)

The Father gives good things to those who ask (Mt 7:11; Lk 11:13)

The Father gives hope to mankind (2Th 2:16)

The Father directs the ways of mankind (1Th 3:11)

The Father forgives those who sin ignorantly (Lk 23:34)

The Father forgives those who forgive others (Mt 6:14–15; 18:35; Mk 11:25–26)

The Father sends revelation to the humble (Mt 11:25; Lk 10:21)

The Saints are sanctified by God the Father (Jude 1)

It is the Father's good pleasure to give the Saints the kingdom (Lk 12:32)

MANKIND'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FATHER

Humans are the children of our Father (Mt 5:45; 23:9)

The Father himself loveth mankind (Jn 16:27)

The Father knows what the Saints need before they ask (Mt 6:8, 32; Lk 12:30)

The Father wants mankind to worship him (Jn 4:23)

The Father is glorified by the Saints' good works (Jn 15:8)

The fellowship of the Saints is with the Father (1Jn 1:3)

No man hath seen the Father, save he which is of God (Jn 6:46)

MANKIND'S RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FATHER AND THE SON

The Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world (1Jn 4:14)

Christ is the advocate of the Saints with the Father (1Jn 2:1)

No man cometh to the Father but by Christ (Jn 14:6)

The Father gives the Saints to Christ (Jn 6:37, 44)

The Father honors those who serve Christ (Jn 12:26)

None can come to Christ except they do the will of the Father (Jn 6:65; Mt 12:50)

Christ has made the Saints kings and priests unto his Father (Rev 1:6)

He who loveth Christ is beloved of the Father (Jn 14:21)

Those who hate Christ hate the Father (Jn 15:23)

Christ brings men before the Father (Mt 10:32; Rev 3:5)

No man sees the Father without the Son (Mt 11:27 JST; Lk 10:22 JST)

To acknowledge or deny the Son is to acknowledge or deny the Father (1Jn 2:23)

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHRIST AND THE FATHER

Christ is the Only Begotten Son of the Father (Jn 1:14; 5:18)

The Father is greater than the Son (Jn 14:28)

The Father loves the Son (Jn 3:35; 5:20; 10:17)

Christ loves the Father (Jn 14:31)

Christ and the Father are one (Jn 8:19; 10:30, 38; 14:7, 10–11, 20)

The Father and Son know each other (Jn 10:15)

The Father is glorified in the Son (Jn 14:13)

Christ is in the bosom of the Father (Jn 1:18)

THE FATHER'S ACTIONS TOWARD CHRIST DURING HIS MINISTRY

Christ received glory and honor from the Father (Jn 8:54; 2Pt 1:17)

The Father watched over the Son during his ministry (Mt 26:53; Jn 8:29)

The Father bears witness of the Son (Jn 5:37; 8:18)

The Father taught the Son (Jn 8:28)

Christ received power from his Father (Rev 2:27)

The Father sanctified Christ (Jn 10:36)

The Father commanded the Son (Jn 12:49)

The Father hath sent Christ (Jn 5:36, 43; 6:57; 8:16)

CHRIST'S ACTIONS TOWARD THE FATHER DURING HIS MINISTRY

Christ lives by the Father (Jn 6:57)

Christ obeys the Father (Jn 5:17, 19, 30, 36; 14:31; Lk 2:49)

Christ speaks the words of the Father (Jn 12:50; 15:15)

Christ honored his Father (Jn 8:49)

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN CHRIST AND THE FATHER AFTER CHRIST'S MINISTRY

The Father raised Christ from the dead (Rom 6:4)

Christ is set down with the Father in his throne (Rev 3:21)

Christ departed out of this world unto the Father (Jn 13:1; 14:12; 20:17; Lk 23:46)

Christ has all that the Father has (Mt 11:27; Jn 13:3; 16:15; Lk 10:22; Col 1:19)

The Father has appointed a kingdom for Christ (Lk 22:29)

Christ shall deliver the kingdom to the Father (1Cor 15:24)

The Father has sealed the Son (Jn 6:27)

The Father commits judgment to the Son (Jn 5:22)

The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Explanation

On several occasions and in many ways, the New Testament teaches clearly that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are three distinct beings who function with absolute unity of purpose as the Godhead. Chart 12-1 identifies key passages in the New Testament that describe in detail the divine greatness and the infinite atonement of Jesus Christ. This chart should be read in conjunction with chart 8-16, a listing of the divine names and titles of Jesus. Chart 12-2 collects references that focus on the attributes and activities of God the Father, especially noting his concerns, gifts, love, and relationships. Chart 12-3 gives attention to the Holy Ghost, perhaps the least understood member of the Godhead. His roles in the process of revelation, church leadership, spirituality, daily life, and eternal salvation are gathered and classified. These charts show how the members of the Godhead work closely together in their common cause of bringing to pass the immortality and eternal life of all the human family.

References

- Bruce R. McConkie, *The Mortal Messiah* (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1979).
James E. Talmage, *Jesus the Christ* (Salt Lake City: Deseret Book, 1984).
Stephen E. Robinson, "God the Father," *EM*, 2:548–50.
David H. Yarn Jr., "God," *EM*, 2:546–47.