

### GOD/OMNIPOTENCE

The question is often asked either by sincere or insincere people. Can God make a rock so big that He Himself cannot move? At first glance, this question seems to impose an unsolvable dilemma. If the answer is yes, then we are saying that there is something God cannot do; He cannot move the rock. If the answer is no, then we are saying that God cannot build such a rock. Either way the question is answered, we are forced to place limits on God's power. An unsolvable dilemma? Maybe not.

The dilemma posed here is a false dilemma: false because it is built on a false premise. It assumes that omnipotence means that God can do anything. But, as a theological term, omnipotence does not mean that God can do anything. The Bible makes this clear: He cannot lie, He cannot die, He cannot be eternal and created, and He cannot act against His nature.

When we use the word omnipotence, we mean, that God holds all power over creation. No part of creation is outside the sovereign control of God. Therefore, there is a correct answer to the dilemma of the rock. The answer is no.

It has been said concerning the apparent dilemma of the rock, "God cannot build a rock so big that He could not move it. Why? If God every built such a rock He would be creating something over which He had no power. He would be destroying His own omnipotence. God cannot stop being God; He cannot not be omnipotent (Essential Truths of the Christian Faith).

Scripture: King James Version: Genesis 17:1; Psalm 115:3; Romans 11:36; Ephesians 1:11; Hebrews 1:3.

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