

The Eternality of God

"Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God." Psalm 90:2

I. A Glimpse into the Timeless God

Having pondered the **aseity** of God, His self-existence and independence, we now consider its natural companion: **eternality**, God's existence apart from and above the realm of time. If aseity reveals that God needs nothing, eternality shows that time itself needs God, but God does not need time. Time is a created reality; God is not bound by it.

Unlike us—rushing, waiting, aging—God does not experience moments in succession. He is never in a hurry, never delayed, never surprised. He does not grow older. He does not anticipate or remember. He simply is.

A.W. Tozer captured this profoundly:

"God dwells in eternity, but time dwells in God."

Eternity, then, is not some vast container that holds God. As Stephen Charnock wisely warned,

"If eternity were anything distinct from God... there would be something which was not God, necessary to perfect God."

Eternity is not something outside Him; rather, it is intrinsic to His very being.

II. What Do We Mean by God's Eternality?

Theologians summarize God's eternality as follows:

1. **Without beginning** – God has always existed (Genesis 1:1; John 1:1; Psalm 90:2).
2. **Without end** – God will always exist (Deuteronomy 32:40; Revelation 10:6).
3. **Without succession of moments** – God does not move through time as we do; He is simultaneously present to all moments (Isaiah 57:15).

God is Lord over time because He created it. Time, like all creation, submits to His sovereignty. He is not merely older than the universe—He is beyond age itself.

III. Biblical Witness: The God Who Is

Scripture is emphatic and abundant in testifying to God's eternal nature:

- *"In the beginning, God..."* (Gen. 1:1) – He was already there.
- *"Before the world was, You loved Me"* (John 17:5, 24) – The Son was loved eternally.
- *"The everlasting God"* (Isa. 40:28) – His strength is unending.
- *"From generation to generation, You are God"* (Ps. 90:1–2).
- *"He inhabits eternity"* (Isa. 57:15) – not merely enduring time, but dwelling in timelessness.
- *"I am the First and the Last"* (Isa. 41:4) – the boundary markers of existence.
- *"Now to the King eternal..."* (1 Tim. 1:17) – glorious, immortal, invisible.

This is not poetic exaggeration; it is theological truth, breathed out by the Holy Spirit. If Scripture is clear on anything, it is this: God has no beginning, no end, and no unfolding development. He is the ever-existent One.

IV. Why God Must Be Eternal: The Essentiality of the Attribute

God's eternity is not merely a curious fact—it is essential to all that God is. Without it, every other attribute would collapse.

Consider Exodus 3:14, when God reveals Himself to Moses:

"I AM WHO I AM."

Not "I was" or "I will be"—but **I AM**. In this one statement, God declares His self-existence, self-sufficiency, immutability, and eternity. He is being itself.

Matthew Barrett warns:

"If God is not eternal—time-free—then His essence is vulnerable to all types of change."

But Scripture assures us:

"I, the LORD, do not change" (Mal. 3:6).

Such unchangeableness is only possible if God is outside of time. If He aged or grew, He would not be God. His eternity ensures that He is ever the same—infinately perfect, always holy, ever faithful.

V. The Incomparable God: The Exclusivity of His Eternality

God alone possesses this kind of eternity. Created beings—angels and humans—may exist forever into the future, but they had a beginning. God had none.

George Swinnock aptly said:

"Eternity, which has no beginning, succession, or end, belongs only to God."

No creature can claim to be "the Alpha and the Omega" (Rev. 1:8; 22:13). No one else can say, *"There is no one like Me"* (Isa. 46:9). Even the immortal soul of man pales in comparison to the One whose existence is unoriginated, unending, and unmeasured.

Let King David's confession be ours:

"You are great, O Lord GOD; for there is none like You, and there is no God besides You" (2 Sam. 7:22).

VI. So, Why Does It Matter?

Let's not merely admire this doctrine from a distance. Let it provoke worship. Let it shape our lives. Here are five life-changing responses to God's eternity:

1. Grow in Holy Fear

We are dust—He is the Ancient of Days. Let the weight of His majesty humble us. Reverence begins when we know whom we stand before.

2. Engage in Deeper Worship

The higher our theology, the higher our doxology. The more we see of God, the more reasons we have to adore Him. Let the truth of His eternity stir up a fresh song.

3. Forsake Worldly Pleasures

Sin is fleeting. God is forever. Why trade the eternal for the momentary? Let the promise of everlasting joy in God make the temptations of this world grow dim.

4. Rejoice in the Gospel

The eternal God entered time—for us. Jesus, the timeless One, stepped into history to bear our sins. No offense surprises Him. No sin escapes His payment. Our forgiveness is not temporary—it is eternal.

5. Fix Your Eyes on Eternity

Our pain is not forever, but our hope is. *“In His presence there is fullness of joy; at His right hand are pleasures forevermore”* (Ps. 16:11). The God who never ends has prepared an everlasting home for His children.

Closing Meditation

Take a moment. Breathe. Ponder.

The God who never began...

The God who will never end...

The God who exists without ticking clocks or dying stars...

That God—our God—invites us to know Him, to trust Him, to worship Him.

Let us not yawn at eternity. Let us bow before the One who inhabits it.