


THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

Spring 2015

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The Incommunicable / Greatest Who He is in Relation to Himself		The Communicable / Goodness Who He is in Relation to Others
Self-Existing		Love
Eternal		Mercy
Unchanging		Good
Perfect		Wise
Omnipotent		Truthful
Omniscient		Righteous
Omnipresent	Transcendence	Just
Infinite	Sovereign	


THE ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

Intrinsic not Imputed
 Exist in the Divine Essence
 Manifest the Divine Essence
 Within the Entire Godhead
 Permanent Qualities
 More than the Sum Total

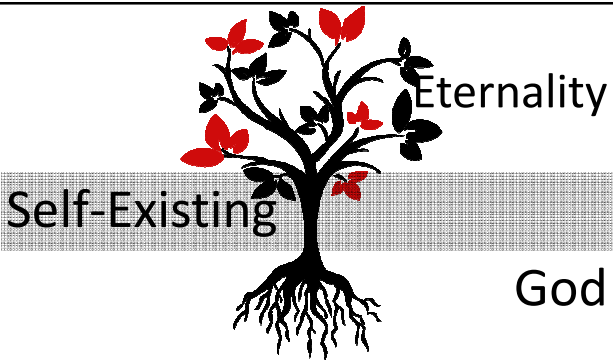
SELF-EXISTING

- “God exists of himself, that is to say, not from another or of another or by another or by reason of another.”

REALLY?



- “The Cosmos is all that is or was or ever will be. Our feeblest contemplations of the Cosmos stir us -- there is a tingling in the spine, a catch in the voice, a faint sensation, as if a distant memory, of falling from a height. We know we are approaching the greatest of mysteries.” [Carl Sagan, *Cosmos*]



Self-Existing Eternality
 God

INTRODUCTION

•The **Eternality of God** refers to his **timeless nature**. God had no beginning, and will have no end. This is one of the foundational beliefs of Christianity. If God is not eternal, then eternal life is not His to give to anyone.

• http://www.theopedia.com/Eternality_of_God

INTRODUCTION

•Also if God had a beginning He too would have to have a creator, at which point he is not the one true God. Without the eternity of God, Christianity is futile.

• http://www.theopedia.com/Eternality_of_God

DEFINITION

•God's nature is without beginning or end, is free from all succession of **time**, and contains in itself the cause of **time**. God is not in **time**. Although there is logical succession in God's thoughts, there is no chronological succession.

• Emery H. Bancroft, *Christian Theology* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1976), 78.



TIME AND GOD

- In relation to Himself, **God is outside the affects of time.**
- In relation to His creation, **God interacts within time although unaffected by time.**

**The "Seeds"
of His Eternality**



ETERNAL

- First**, He is a witness to our covenants (Gen. 21:33 [vv. 27-34]).
- Second**, He is always there to assist us in our uncertainty and loss (Deut. 33:27 [cf. vv. 26-29]).

ETERNAL

- Third**, His throne/rule is everlasting (Pss. 45:1-9; 93:1-5).
- Fourth**, God's eternity makes Him an unchanging dwelling place (Ps. 90:1-6).

ETERNAL

- Fifth**, God is our present companion in living out His mission in fulfilling His vision (Matt. 28:18-20; John 14:18-24; 2 Tim. 4:17).

ETERNAL

- Sixth**, An eternal God gives eternal life (Luke 10:25; 16:9; 18:18, 30).
- Seventh**, An eternal God exists in eternity (Luke 16:9).

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past
Isaac Watts

Our God, Our Help In Ages Past
by Isaac Watts

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast,
And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of Thy throne
Still may we dwell secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,
And our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
Or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God,
To endless years the same.

A thousand ages in Thy sight
Are like an evening gone;
Short as the watch that ends the night
Before the rising sun.

Time, like an ever rolling stream,
Bears all its sons away;
They fly, forgotten, as a dream
Dies at the opening day.

Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.