

Foundations I – 09/08/24

The Attributes of God

- **Character qualities that uniquely define God**
 - Each of God's attributes represent the entirety of the Godhead (Father, Son, and Spirit).
 - The differences lay in their roles, functions, and actions (1 John 5:12; 1 Cor. 12:3; Gen. 1:2)

The Eternality of God

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

Psalm 90:2

- **Eternity:** αἰώνιος (Aīōnios)
 - Beyond the confines of time and space.
 - A state of existence without beginning or end (Ps. 93:2; Rev. 1:8; 4:8)
- **How God is Eternal**
 - God does not age (Ps. 9:7)
 - There is no succession in God: God is **from** eternity and **to** eternity (Ps. 102:27).
 - If God had a beginning, He might have an end, and so all our hope.
 - Only an eternal God can be a perpetual refuge and security to His people.
 - Being immortal means he is also **self-existent** and **self-sufficient (Aseity of God)**.
 - It is precisely because God has no beginning that he is dependent on no one and no thing.
 - “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever” – Heb. 13:8
 - “With God, there is no distinction between present, past, and future. But all things are equally and always present to Him. With Him, duration is eternal now.” – Charles Hodge

- **Eternity vs Time:**

- Eternity is contrary to time.

- Eternity:

- It never begins; it endures after every duration of time and never ceases.
 - The perfect possession of life without any variation.
 - God is the eternal “I AM” (Exodus 3:14; John 8:58).

- Time:

- The mode of existence of all finite creatures.
 - Supposes something before it.
 - It has a continual succession of events. Creatures are in a perpetual flux; something is acquired, or something is lost every day.
 - To be in time is to have a beginning; to be before all time is never to have a beginning but always to be.

- **Question:**

1. What comes into your mind when you think of God?

Recommended Books:

1. A. W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*. New York, NY: Harper One, 1961.
2. A. W. Pink, *The Attributes of God*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1975.
3. Steven J. Lawson, *Show Me Your Glory: Understanding the Majestic Splendor of God*. Sanford, FL: Ligonier Ministries, 2020.