

Introduction

The Eternality of God

What do we mean when we call God eternal?

- (1) Beings that have a beginning and shall have an end.
 - Ecclesiastes 3:11—he has put eternity into man's heart,
- (2) Beings that have a beginning but shall have no end
- (3) "Such as is without beginning, and without ending, and that is proper only to God.¹" He alone is "from everlasting to everlasting."

Where does the Bible teach God's eternality?

- Psalms 90:2—Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
- Isaiah 40:28—Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.
- Daniel 7:9—As I looked, thrones were placed, and the Ancient of Days took his seat;
- Revelation 1:8—"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

Why is this important to us?

- 1. The eternality of God, brings about gospel urgency
- 2. The eternality of God, brings comfort to the believer
 - Romans 2:7—to those who by patience in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, he will give eternal life;
 - Romans 8:18—For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

3. The eternality of God, brings perspective to the believer

 Colossians 3:1-2—If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

¹ Thomas Watson (2015-11-21). A Body of Divinity (p. 67). Scriptura Press. Kindle Edition.

RCF Academy Behold Your God Class 2: *God is Eternal and Immutable*



Matthew 6:19-21—"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

The Immutability of God

What do we mean by the immutability of God?

"The immutability of God means that he never changes in his attributes or counsel. God does not grow, evolve, or improve; he is already perfect. He cannot deteriorate, diminish, or regress, for then he would no longer be God. Whatever God is, he has always been and always will be. He does not change his mind or over rule one decree with another. He does not make a promise and then change his vow. He does not threaten and then not fulfill...He will and his Word will be the same yesterday, today, and forever (Hebrews 13:8). He is the only constant in the universe—the only one worthy of absolute trust.²"

"God is unchangeable in his nature" and "In his decree.³"

Where does the Bible teach God's Immutability?

- Psalm 102:25-27—Of old you laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. They will perish, but you will remain; they will all wear out like a garment. You will change them like a robe, and they will pass away, **but you are the same**, and your years have no end.
- James 1:17—Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.
- 2 Timothy 2:13—if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.
- Lamentations 3:22—The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end;
- Hebrews 13:8—Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.
- Deuteronomy 32:4—"The Rock, his work is perfect, for all his ways are justice.
- Malachi 3:6—"For I the Lord do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed."

² Paul Washer, *Knowing the Living God*, page 60.

³ Thomas Watson (2015-11-21). A Body of Divinity (p. 73). Scriptura Press. Kindle Edition.



Dealing with an objection

- Exodus 32:14—And the Lord relented from the disaster that he had spoken of bringing on his people.
- Genesis 6:6-7—And the Lord regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. So the Lord said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made them."
- Numbers 23:19—God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind.
- I Samuel 15:28-29—And Samuel said to him, "The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you this day and has given it to a neighbor of yours, who is better than you. And also the Glory of Israel will not lie or have regret, for he is not a man, that he should have regret."

Why is this important to us?

- 1. The immutability of God means that we can rest in him in seasons of loss
- 2. The immutability of God means that we can trust him
- 3. The immutability of God means that we are safe in him
 - 2 Timothy 2:19—But God's firm foundation stands, bearing this seal: "The Lord knows those who are his,"