

THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

**A Journey Through the
Old Testament**

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.

Exodus 3

16 Go, assemble the elders of Israel and say to them, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—has appeared to me and said:

I have surely attended to you and have seen what has been done to you in Egypt.

17 And I have promised to bring you up out of your affliction in Egypt, into the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites—a land flowing with milk and honey.'

Exodus 3

18 The elders of Israel will listen to what you say,

and you must go with them to the king of Egypt and tell him, 'The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us.

Now please let us take a three-day journey into the wilderness, so that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.'

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Exodus 3

19 But I know that the king of Egypt will not allow you to go unless a mighty hand compels him.

20 So I will stretch out My hand and strike the Egyptians with all the wonders I will perform among them.

And after that, he will release you.

Exodus 3

21 And I will grant this people such favor in the sight of the Egyptians that when you leave, you will not go away empty-handed.

22 Every woman shall ask her neighbor and any woman staying in her house for silver and gold jewelry and clothing, and you will put them on your sons and daughters.

So you will plunder the Egyptians.”

2 Peter 1

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Exodus 3

13 Then Moses asked God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me,

'What is His name?' What should I tell them?"

14 God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM.

This is what you are to say to the Israelites:

'I AM has sent me to you.' "

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'**I AM** has sent me to you.' "

"I AM"

Eternality of God

Immutability of God

Aseity of God

Eternality - The God who exists

Psalm 90

1 Lord, You have been our dwelling place through all generations.

2 Before the mountains were born or You brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God.

3 You return man to dust, saying, "Return, O sons of mortals."

4 For in Your sight a thousand years are but a day that passes, or a watch of the night.

Revelation 1

8 “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and was and is to come—the Almighty.

Isaiah 43

13 Even from eternity I am He, and none can deliver out of My hand. When I act, who can reverse it?”

Eternality - The God who exists

He is from everlasting to everlasting.

He has no beginning or no end.

His nature and attributes are eternal.

His purposes are eternal.

Hebrews 6

17 So when God wanted to make the **unchanging nature of His purpose** very clear to the heirs of the promise, He guaranteed it with an oath.

18 Thus by **two unchangeable things** in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope set before us may be strongly encouraged.

Eternality - The God who exists

He is from everlasting to everlasting.

He has no beginning or no end.

His nature and attributes are eternal.

His purposes are eternal.

His kingdom and reign will never end.

Revelation 11

15 Then the seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and loud voices called out in heaven: "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He will reign forever and ever."

Eternality - The God who exists

He is from everlasting to everlasting.

He has no beginning or no end.

His nature and attributes are eternal.

His purposes are eternal.

His kingdom and reign will never end.

Life and death are in His control.

Eternality – His eternality impacts us today

All sin is cosmic treason against an infinite being.

Death must submit the eternal “I AM”.

Christ intercedes for His people eternally.

Hebrews 7

23 Now there have been many other priests, since death prevented them from continuing in office.

24 But because Jesus lives forever, He has a permanent priesthood.

25 Therefore He is able to save completely those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to intercede for them.

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All sin is cosmic treason against an infinite being.

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Christ intercedes for His people eternally.

We can trust Him for the future because He is there.

Being conformed to His image means eternal life.

Titus 1

1 Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ for the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth that leads to godliness,
2 in the hope of **eternal life**, which God, who cannot lie, promised **before time began**.

John 17

1 ...“Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son may glorify You.

2 For You granted Him authority over all people, so that He may give eternal life to all those You have given Him.

3 Now this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom You have sent.

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All sin is cosmic treason against an infinite being.

Death must submit to the eternal “I AM”.

Christ intercedes for His people eternally.

We can trust Him for the future because He is there.

Being conformed to His image means eternal life.

Our lives now can have an eternal purpose.

The eternal nature of God is what makes our present suffering worthwhile.

Immutability - The God who never changes

Thomas Watson

“In God there is nothing which can change, for better or worse.

He cannot change for the better—because then he would not now be perfect.

He cannot change for the worse—for then he would cease to be perfect.

He is immutably holy, immutably good; there is no shadow of change in him”

Immutability - The God who never changes

Augustine

“Whatsoever is changed from the better for the worse, and from the worse for the better, is not God, because perfect virtue can neither change for the better, nor true eternity for the worse”

Psalm 102

25 In the beginning You laid the foundations of the earth,

and the heavens are the work of Your hands.

26 They will perish, **but You remain;**
they will all wear out like a garment.

Like clothing You will change them,
and they will be passed on.

27 But **You remain the same,**
and Your years will never end.

28 The children of Your servants will dwell securely,
and their descendants will be established before You.”

Malachi 3

6" Because I, the LORD, do not change, you descendants of Jacob have not been destroyed.

Hebrews 13

8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Numbers 23

19 God is not a man, that He should lie, or a son of man, that He should change His mind.

Does He speak and not act?

Does He promise and not fulfill?

Immutability - The God who never changes

God's word can never change ...

... therefore it is always fresh and trustworthy.

God is all-knowing ...

... therefore He cannot add knowledge.

God cannot react to circumstances or change His plans ...

... therefore His purposes stands forever.

Psalm 33

**11 The counsel of the LORD stands forever,
the purposes of His heart to all generations.**

**12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,
the people He has chosen as His inheritance!**

Immutability - The God who never changes

God cannot change His word,

... therefore it is always fresh and trustworthy.

God cannot add to His knowledge ...

... therefore He is perfectly all-knowing.

God cannot react to circumstances or change His plans ...

... therefore His purposes stands forever.

God's character or nature can never change ...

... therefore His _____ will remain forever.

He is forever the unchanging and unshakeable TRUTH ...

...therefore His promises can never fail.

Aseity - The Self-existing God

Acts 17

24 The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples made by human hands.

25 Nor is He served by human hands, **as if He needed anything**, because He Himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else.

Acts 17

26 From one man He made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and He determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their lands.

27 God intended that they would seek Him and perhaps reach out for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.

28' **For in Him we live and move and have our being.**'

Job 34

**13 Who gave Him charge over the earth?
Who appointed Him over the whole world?**

**14 If He were to set His heart to it
and withdraw His Spirit and breath,**

**15 all flesh would perish together
and mankind would return to the dust.**

Aseity – The Self-existing God

**He alone is dependent on nothing or no one.
He is self-sufficient and self-sustaining**

**His existence is not derived from or contingent
on another thing or being.**

**Within Himself, He is perfectly whole, complete,
satisfied and without any need of any kind.**

Aseity – The Self-existing God

He is self-divine. His deity is derived from no other power.

He is self-wise. There is none who could ever instruct Him.

He is self-virtuous. He received His goodness from no one.

He is self-attesting. He alone is the source of truth.

He is self-justifying. He is perfectly just within Himself.

He is self-empowering. He derives power from no source.

He is self-excellent. If any being were more excellent,
that being would be God.

Aseity – The Self-existing God

**Not only is He independent and self-sufficient...
...but all else is dependent on Him.**

From Him, through Him, and to Him are all things.

**Nothing exists that He did not create...
...and everything is sustained by Him.**

Colossians 1

15 The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

16 For in Him all things were created, things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities.

All things were created through Him and for Him.

**17 He is before all things,
and in Him all things hold together.**

Aseity – The Self-existing God

**Not only is He independent and self-sufficient...
...but all else is dependent on Him.**

From Him, through Him, and to Him are all things.

**Nothing exists that He did not create...
...and everything is sustained by Him.**

**God is the only necessary being...
...we do not exist because He needed us.**

**What good news it is, then, that the gospel depends
on a God who does not depend on us. – Michael Horton**

Revelation 4

2 At once I was in the Spirit, and I saw a throne standing in heaven, with someone seated on it.

3 The One seated there looked like jasper and carnelian, and a rainbow that gleamed like an emerald encircled the throne.

4 Surrounding the throne were twenty-four other thrones, and on these thrones sat twenty-four elders dressed in white, with golden crowns on their heads.

Revelation 4

5 From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings, and peals of thunder. Before the throne burned seven torches of fire. These are the seven Spirits of God.

6 And before the throne was something like a sea of glass, as clear as crystal. In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, covered with eyes in front and back.

Revelation 4

7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second like a calf, the third had a face like a man, and the fourth was like an eagle in flight.

8 And each of the four living creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around and within.

Day and night they never stop saying:

“Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”

Revelation 4

9 And whenever the living creatures give glory, honor, and thanks to the One seated on the throne who lives forever and ever,

10 the twenty-four elders fall down before the One seated on the throne, and they worship Him who lives forever and ever.

They cast their crowns before the throne, saying:

11 "Worthy are You, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power,

for You created all things;

by Your will they exist and came to be."

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