

Welcome to
Who is God
and
Why does it Matter to Us

The Eternity of God

Four sections to the study of each attribute:

- 1) Contemplation
 - 2) What does it mean to us
 - 3) Discussion questions
 - 4) Situation
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God has no beginning or end.

Nothing came before God and nothing will outlast Him; He is the alpha and omega—the first and the last.

God is not limited by time but exists outside of time's constraints.

He simultaneously exists in all of time.



Genesis 1:1, “In the beginning God created...”

Isaiah 57:15,

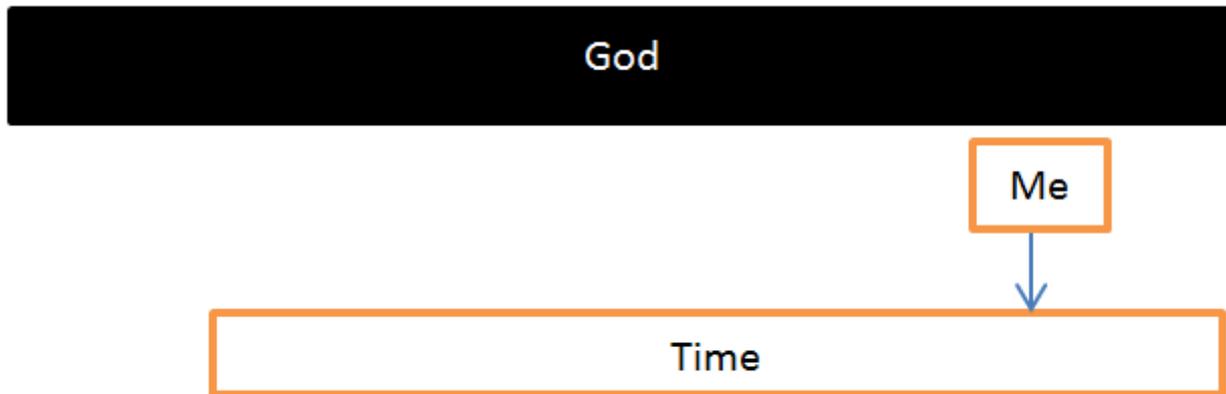
“For thus says the high and exalted One
Who **dwells in eternity**, whose name is Holy,
‘I dwell on a high and holy place,
And also with the contrite and lowly of spirit
In order to revive the spirit of the lowly
And to revive the heart of the contrite.’”



1) God spans all time

I exist in one point in time.

God simultaneously exists across all of time and before.



2) Two views of a parade.

I can see one slice of a parade; that which is passing by directly in front of me.

Parade:



God can see the entire parade at once.



3) Existence in time

At any given moment I exist in a thin slice of time.

History:



At any given moment God exists in all of time.

History:



We pass through time; God exists in all of time at once.

We are like a boat cutting through a small part of the ocean; God is like the planet that ocean is in.



Time does not affect God

Isaiah 40:28,

“Do you not know? Have you not heard?
The Everlasting God, the LORD, the
Creator of the ends of the earth
Does not become weary or tired
His understanding is inscrutable.”



When God determines something it is forever

Psalm 119:89,

“Forever, O Lord, Thy word is settled in heaven.”

Salvation requires an eternal God

Hebrews 10:11–12,

“Every priest stands daily ministering and offering time after time the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, **SAT DOWN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF GOD**”

Colossians 2:13–14,

“When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.”



Isaiah 53:4–5,

“Surely our griefs He Himself bore,

And our sorrows He carried;

Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken,

Smitten of God, and afflicted.

But He was pierced through for our transgressions,

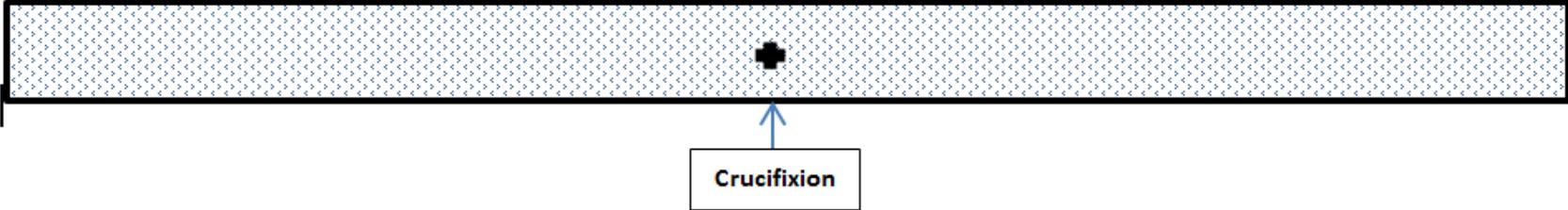
He was crushed for our iniquities;

The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him,

And by His scourging we are healed.”



Everyone who has ever and will ever live:



What does God's eternity mean to us?

We can trust God for the future

Romans 8:28,

“And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”

We can know that God is always listening

We can be confident in His guidance



Discussion Questions

By contemplating God's eternity how can that help us through a trial?

God is eternal. When we are born we will live forever. What is the difference?



How can a God who exists outside of time be involved in each moment of my life when I am confined by time?

What are some things that we can do to get to know God better?



Situation

Peggy is always nervous about the future. If you mention some situation to her, she will always think of the worst possible outcome and get uptight about it. This not only fills her with anxiety but also puts a damper on any plans or ideas that someone else suggests. One time someone suggested a church picnic at the nearby park and she responded, “That park has a playground and children can get hurt on those and then the church will get sued. And then there’s the bugs and what if it rains?” Is there anything about God’s character and perhaps particularly His eternity that you can use to help alleviate Peggy’s chronic fears?

