

## God of Eternity

*The shadow of my finger cast  
Divides the future from the past;  
Before it stands the unborn hour  
In darkness and beyond thy power;  
Behind its unreturning line  
The vanished hour, no longer thine;  
One hour alone is in thy hands,  
The now on which the shadow stands.*  
Author Unknown

## Eternity

- God's infinity w/ respect to time
- Definition: "God has no beginning, end, or succession of moments in his own being, and he sees all time equally vividly, yet God see events in time and acts in time." Grudem

## Eternity: General References

- **Gen. 21:33** — Abraham called upon the name of the LORD, [who is] the everlasting God.
- **Job 36:26-27** — Behold, God is exalted, and we do not know *Him*: The number of His years is unsearchable.
- **Ps. 90:2**
- **Is. 41:4** — I am the first and the last
- **Rev. 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."

## I. No Beginning

- His existence extends endlessly backward.
- **Gen. 1:1** — in the beginning God
- **Ps. 93:2** — Your throne is established from of old; You are from everlasting.
- **Ps. 102:24-27** — I say, "O my God, do not take me away in the midst of my days, Your years are throughout all generations. 25 "Of old You founded the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands.
- **Dan. 7:9** — "I kept looking Until thrones were set up, And the Ancient of Days took *His* seat; His vesture *was* like white snow And the hair of His head like pure wool. His throne *was* ablaze with flames, Its wheels *were* a burning fire.
- **Hab. 1:12** — Are You not from everlasting, O LORD, my God, my Holy One?
- **John 1:1** — In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word

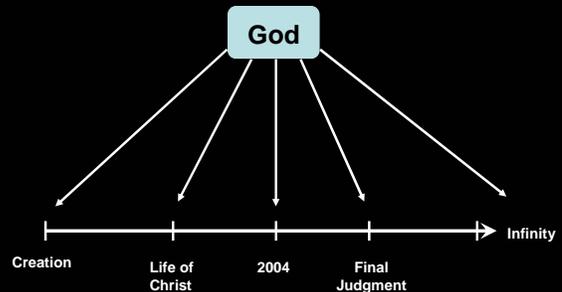
## II. No End

- God will exist endlessly into the future.
- **Ps. 9:7** — the LORD abides forever; He has established His throne for judgment; don't fear that the wicked will escape judgment; they can't outlive God
- **Ps. 48:14** — For such is God, Our God forever and ever; He will guide us until death.
- **Ps. 102:26-27** — Even they [the earth and heavens] will perish, but You endure; And all of them will wear out like a garment; Like clothing You will change them and they will be changed. 27 "But You are the same, And Your years will not come to an end.

### III. No Succession of Moments in His own Being

- A. God is totally outside time.
- Gen. 1:5, 14
  - Ps. 90:4
  - 2 Pet. 3:8
- B. God sees all time equally vividly

### Grudem's Chart



### III. No Succession of Moments in His own Being

- A. God is totally outside time.
- B. God sees all time equally vividly.
- C. God relates to us and acts in time.
- Gal. 4:4-5
  - Acts 17:30-31

### Ramifications

1. Guarantees His absolute sovereignty
  - **Jer. 10:10** – the everlasting King
  - **Dan. 4:34** – His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom endures from generation to generation
  - **Luke 1:33** – He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.\*
  - **1 Tim. 1:17** – Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, *be* honor and glory forever and ever. Amen; lit., "the king into the ages"; i.e. eternity future
  - **1 Tim. 6:16** – who alone possesses immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see. To Him *be* honor and eternal dominion! Amen.
2. Should strengthen our confidence in God's promises to bless.

### Ramifications

3. Should strengthen our confidence in God's promises to judge (2 Pet. 3:8).
4. Provides an anchor for our time-tossed lives (Ps. 90:1-2).
5. Provides a place of refuge in times of trouble (Deut. 33:27).
6. Drives us to Christ (2 Tim. 1:10).
7. Guarantees that God's grace to us is as eternal as He is (Ps. 103:15-17)