

Eternal God

Tim Day – December 2022 v2.0



Romans 1:20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his **eternal power and Godhead**; so that they are without excuse:

Psalm 90:2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even **from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.**

Age of God

How old is God? ... Have you ever thought about that?

Do you envision God with **white hair and a long white beard** because He is *really old*? Like “*Father Time*?” ... Or, “*Santa Claus*?”

He must be old; **Eternity is a long time**, you say.

Did you know that that is an **oxymoron**?

There is no time in eternity.

I love **pastors** who, in their **zeal to see men saved**, implore folks to accept Christ because you *don't want to spend eternity in hell* ... because eternity is a long time.

I get it. Far be it for me to correct them.

But, technically it is an **oxymoron** – there is **no time in eternity**.

God, being a righteous Judge, will **judge sin** with **eternal consequences**.

Matthew 25:46 And these shall go away into **everlasting punishment**: but the righteous into **life eternal**.

Both from a **physics** standpoint and a **philosophical** perspective, there can be **no time in eternity**.

How does God know when to go to bed, get up, or eat dinner? I have a hunch that is not an issue.

God is **neither young nor old**. He is.

JI Packer took a stab and did the best he could:

“From duration stretching backward without limit to duration stretching forward without limit, from **eternal ages to eternal ages**, God was and is forever.” – *JI Packer*

But, his words still **imply time**.

Isaiah 9:6 For unto us a child is born ... his name shall be called ... The **everlasting Father**...

“Jesus always was, he always is, he always shall be. He is eternal in all his attributes, and in all his offices, and in all his might, and power, and willingness to bless, comfort, guard, and crown his chosen people. Generation makes us the sons of Adam; regeneration acknowledges us as the sons of Christ.” - *Charles Spurgeon*

God's Creator

Who created God? No one.

He is the **uncaused first cause**; the **uncreated creator**. He is the **Self-existent One**. He is **self-sufficient**.

How can that be? Beats me! It's **above my pay grade**. ... I'll leave that for the pastor!

Where did He come from? He answered that to Moses. “***I am that I am***,” He said.

This may be the most **pregnant-with-meaning** *five-words* in all of Scripture.

God has **no beginning** and **no end**. God had no beginning or starting point that He came into existence. But, this too **implies time**.

God has always existed.

Romans 16:26 But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of **the everlasting God**, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith

He is the **eternal God**.

"Everlasting (olam) to everlasting" (olam) ... El...is for deity ("strong Creator").

430 times in Scripture; it is used in reference to time, not to space. It means a **long duration of time**, antiquity, continued existence, **uninterrupted future**. Eternity.

Eternity

What is eternity?

We don't even have words in the **English language** to discuss eternity.

We have to fall back on saying things like "*eternity is a long time.*"

'*Eternity always was, is, and will forever be.*' But, that describes eternity with words that imply time.

Most dictionaries define Eternity as "*time without end, or infinity,*" or "*infinite or unending time.*" But, that is technically not true.

Eternity is **outside of, beyond, time**.

Hebrews 1:8 But to the Son He says: "Your throne, O God, is **forever and ever**; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

The word **eternal** means "*everlasting, having no beginning and no end.*"

Hurry

Hence ... God is **not in a hurry**.

Hurry is something only those **trapped in time** are concerned with.

Ask **Abraham**. It was 25 years from the promise until the "*child of promise.*" Abraham had already '*helped*' God out with **Hagar** leading to **Ishmael**.

He created 4,000 years of Ishmael; a **4,000-year-old blood feud**. The “**Revenge of Ishmael**,” is peppered in Arab leader speeches. Our **political and diplomatic leaders** have no idea about reason for the tension in the middle-east.

[Miracle that is Israel] Prophecy fulfilled, four wars, 22 Arab nations

Did Abraham’s actions take God by surprise? No!

"There's **no panic** in heaven." - *Corrie Ten Boom*

Eternity (or Eternal) is one of God’s attributes, but, having **created time**, He is greater than time and exists outside of it.

Sarah had now given birth to **Isaac**, the son God had promised. Abraham saw that **God was faithful to his promises**.

Genesis 21:33 And Abraham planted a grove in Beersheba, and called there on the name of the Lord, the **everlasting God. (El-Olam)**

As a *memorial*, Abraham planted a **tamarisk tree**, an **evergreen**, at Beersheba. (Sheds **500,000 seeds** annually)

Like Abraham, God has **eternity in view for you**. He is not constrained by time.

Time

What is time? Time we're experiencing is a social construct.

Time is a **dimension**. It is the *fourth dimension* that we live in.

Genesis 1:1 **In the beginning God created** the heaven and the earth. ...
5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were **the first day**.

John 1:1 **In the beginning** was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Time was created in the *Genesis account*.

Before God “**spoke**” there was **nothing** - no time, space, matter, light nor gravity. **God “spoke” it all into existence**. He now “*upholds all things by the power of His word.*”

Hebrews 1:3 Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and **upholding all things by the word of his power**, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high:

God is outside of the dimension of time. **God does not change** as we do in time.

Malachi 3:6 **For I am the Lord, I change not**; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ the **same yesterday, and to day, and for ever**.

This is the **Immutability** of God

As Lord, he is in **full control of it**, and he authoritatively **sets its boundaries**.

We cannot get our *heads around that*.

We are trapped in God's creation – in the **three spatial dimensions**, and the **fourth dimension - time**.

Time exists only when matter exists. But, God is not matter; God created matter.

[Animal House] Smoking pot, 'Atom on the thumbnail of God.'

The bottom line is this: **time began when God created the universe**.

In a real sense, time is an **illusion**. It is an illusion of God's creation.

Time implies limits. Time is itself a creation of God. That means that his relation to time is very different from ours. **God does not depend on time**, nor does He exist within time. He is the **Lord of time**. He is not limited by time.

Relativity

Speaking of *time*, **Einstein** said, "*past, present and future is merely an illusion.*"

In the early 1900s, scientists held to the **Newtonian** view of the world. Then Albert Einstein changed everything. In 1905, Einstein published his theory of *general relativity*:

"Time is **not absolute**. The dividing line between **past, present, and future is an illusion.**" - *Albert Einstein*

There is no preferred frame of reference. ... *The **faster** you move through space, the **slower** you move through time, for example.*

This is why I travel faster on the highway than you do. As I zip past you, I am aging slower than you are. It is true; but, it is an infinitesimally small difference at these speeds. Nonetheless, it is my excuse to a highway patrolman.

Einstein overthrew Isaac Newton's idea of "absolute time." **Newton** thought time marched onward everywhere at an identical pace. ... Now we know that is not true.

In 1915, **Einstein** showed that anything with **mass will distort the fabric of space-time** — an effect we experience as the force of **gravity**.

You can think of **gravity** as **putting the brakes on the flow of time**. This mind-bending idea means that **clocks** nearer to the Earth's gravitational field run slower compared with those farther from it — a phenomenon called **time dilation**.

[Atomic clocks – Greenwich-Boulder; satellites UTC; velocity-space craft]

Quantum Physicists now believe that **what you do in the present and future affects what happened in the past**. Dodo, dodo ... Called **Retrocausality** ... Granted, they may be smoking dope.

C.S. Lewis theorized that if we assume that God exists and God is not in time, an action taken now could influence an event in the past. {*Careful with CS Lewis*}

Time is **relative**. We can **bend** time, **shape** time, **slow** time down, and **speed** time up. Time is **relative** to *velocity* and to an *observer*. Time is affected by **gravity** and vice versa. *Light, space, gravity, matter and time* are inextricably linked. Why? No Idea!

One of the fundamental **mysteries** surrounding the **concept of time** is whether it's **actually continuous** and our **chronological** measurements are just a way of making the sense of the world.

Time as we know it is an arbitrary measurement.

Time as we know it was defined by God. Biblically the day begins at either sunrise or sunset. Genesis describes a day as a 24-hour day, or one rotation of the earth. Hebrew "yom."

If you lived on Jupiter you would weigh 2.4 times as much. Your day would be 10 hours long, and your year would be 12 earth years.

General Relativity

Einstein stated that “*gravity is the outworking of the **curvature of space and time.***” Okay, I don’t know about you, but that clears it all up for me. “*The curvature of space and time,*” what? Einstein, could you come back and elaborate on that a bit.

Einstein, in his theory General Relativity, **added a constant**, a *fudge factor*, which did not belong.

This is the theory that states: *observed gravitational effect between masses results from their warping of space-time.* **Heady stuff**, to be sure.

He showed that the universe, the cosmos, was ***not eternal.*** It has a **definite beginning.**

Why did he add such a constant? Because the theory led to a **point of singularity**, before which, there was *no time, space, matter, light nor gravity.* It put him **face to face with God**, as it were.

He did not like that; hence, the constant. He was **not the only one**:

“Philosophically, the **notion of a beginning** ... is **repugnant** to me. ... I should like to **find a loophole.**” – *Arthur Eddington, British Cosmologist, 1919*

Sadly, this became the basis of science for the past century and a half.

Called out by other scientists, Einstein removed it. Later in life he said it was the “***greatest blunder of my life.***”

“I want to know [God’s] thoughts, the rest are details.” – *Albert Einstein*

Causation

There has to be a **cause**. If there is a cause there is a **causative agent**. As Christians, we know this causative agent to be God.

“True knowledge is knowledge by causes.” – *Sir Francis Bacon*

This was the basis of science for centuries.

God is the great first cause ... the cosmological argument.

“We must oppose both the Aristotelian notion of an *eternal ‘matter’* and the Platonic notion of an *eternal ‘receptacle.’*” - *John Frame* (Popular ancient pagan Greek philosophies.)

Another false view is that the universe is merely an extension of God Himself. This idea is known as *pantheism*, where creation and God are one—making creation itself divine.

Evolutionists criticize creationists for the doctrine of creation *ex nihilo* being unscientific, while they maintain their own version of evolution *ex nihilo* without a creator or logical first cause. What hypocrisy! Evolutionists have no reasonable source or first cause for their paradigm of Big Bang *ex nihilo* cosmology (evolution *ex nihilo*).

“In 1973, I proposed that our Universe had been created spontaneously from nothing (*ex nihilo*), as a result of established principles of physics. This proposal variously struck people as preposterous, enchanting, or both.” - *Edward P. Tryon, one of the first modern physicists to promote evolution ex nihilo. He recounted the whole concept.*

“First and foremost, I’m getting really rather sick of cosmologists talking about universes being created out of nothing. Krauss repeatedly talked about universes coming out of nothing, particles coming out of nothing, different types of nothing, nothing being unstable. This is nonsense.” - *Astronomer Luke Barnes*

Theoretical physicists are really talking about when they refer to nothingness is the theoretical idea of a **quantum vacuum**. If a quantum vacuum did actually exist, it would not be nothing but a type of something. (*Space*)

“Regardless of the sophisticated mathematical apparatus leading the inflationary-universe cosmogonists to their remarkable statement of faith in the omnipotence of nothingness, there will continue to be a few realists who prefer the creationist alternative: ‘In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.’” - *Henry M. Morris, founder of the Institute for Creation Research*

Secular cosmologists, **Big Bang** theorists, have a different theory of origins. If I can summarize the Big Bang theory in one sentence: ‘**first there was nothing, then it exploded.**’ They are essentially saying, ‘**nothing created something out of nothing.**’

I am sorry, but I *do not have the faith* to believe that. Although, first there was nothing – until God spoke.’

I agree with **Shulz Peanuts** Series. **Lucy** asked **Linus**, “do you believe in the Big Bang”
“**Yes, God spoke and Bang there it was,**” Linus said.

God is the **Lord of time**, existing above and apart from it, but **free to enter it** to accomplish his purposes.

He is the **creator** of time; He **transcends** time. He is **self-sufficient**. God said:

Job 41:11 **Who hath prevented** (*preceded; has a claim to*) **me**, that I should repay him? whatsoever is under the whole heaven is mine.

Romans 11:35 Or **who hath first given to him**, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? 36 **For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things:** to whom be glory for ever. Amen.

Alpha - Omega

Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith; He is also the ***beginning and end.***

Revelation 22:13 I am **Alpha and Omega**, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

Revelation 1:8 I am **Alpha and Omega**, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Eternal Jesus spoke from Eternity to create *time*, then He stepped out of Eternity into time **to divide *time and rescue man* (*Emmanuel*)**, after His Atonement was complete He **left *time* stepping back into Eternity**, and He will come again into time one day **to bring time to an end.**

Luke 1:78 Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby **the dayspring from on high hath visited us,**

“Jesus Christ was born into this world, not from it. He did not evolve out of history; **He came into history** from the outside.” – *Oswald Chambers*

When God spoke, **nothing became something** – *space, time, matter.*

Creation **ex nihilo ... out of nothing.**

Nothing

What is **nothing**? Can you even think about nothing?

“Nothing is what rocks dream about.” - *Aristotle*

“*God said let there be,*” He **said**. He **spoke**. That, I can believe.

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. ... 3
And **God said, Let there be ...**

Hebrews 11:3 Through faith we understand that **the worlds were framed by the word of God**, so that **things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.**

One of the great articles of Christian faith, penned by 121 Puritan clergymen in 1649, succinctly states this foundational truth of Genesis 1.

“It pleased God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, for the manifestation of the glory of his eternal power, wisdom, and goodness, in the beginning, to create, or make of nothing, the world, and all things therein, whether visible or invisible, in the space of six days, and all very good.”

Romans 4:17 (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and **calleth** those **things which be not as though they were.** (*ex nihilo*)

Psalms 33:6 By the **word** of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. ...9 For he **spake**, and it was done; **he commanded**, and it stood fast.

Some **Secular cosmologists** are coming around:

“For the **scientist who has lived by his faith in the power of reason ...** as he pulls himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a **band of theologians** who have been sitting there for centuries.” – *Robert Jastrow*

Habitation of God

God is **in eternity**. He is eternal. When you die, you will step into eternity with God.

Death is our **passport to eternity**.

Jesus stepped into time to die as a sinless sacrifice, that one day we will step into eternity to be with Him forever – eternally. This is “**Eternal Life.**”

Titus 1:2 In hope **of eternal life**, which God, that cannot lie, **promised before the world began**;

Titus 3:7 That being **justified by his grace**, we should be made **heirs** according to the hope **of eternal life.**

1 John 2:25 And this is **the promise** that he hath promised us, even **eternal life.** ... 5:11 And this is the record, that **God hath given to us eternal life**, and this life is in his Son.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but **have everlasting life.**

God dwells in a **different realm**—the **spirit realm**—beyond the perception of our physical senses.

“Let us, by our Forerunner, send forward our anchor, Hope, within the **veil that parts us from the unseen**; where it will grapple in ground and will not yield, but hold until the day dawns, and we follow it into the haven guaranteed to us by God's immutable “counsel. - *F. B. Meyer*

It's not that God isn't real. He is **not limited by the physical laws** and dimensions that govern our world – the world He created.

John 4:24 **God is a Spirit**: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

He sits **outside the dimension of time.** He is not constrained by time.

Acts 17:24 **God that made the world and all things therein**, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, **dwelleth not in temples** made with hands; 25 Neither is worshipped with men's hands, as though he needed any thing, seeing **he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things**; 26 And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and **hath determined the times before appointed**, and the ***bounds of their habitation***; 27 That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us: 28 **For in him we live, and move, and have our being**; as certain also of your own poets have said, For **we are also his offspring.**

I believe **God sees time**, as clearly as we see a **three-dimensional spatial object**. Take a **box** for example. He can see the end from the beginning, even before the beginning.

How? Again, beats me.

God is **omniscient** – all-knowing. He **sees all events** laid out before him, as one can see an **entire procession** from a high vantage point.

It gives better **understanding** to Peter's statement:

Peter 3:8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that **one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day**.

This was **not a mathematical equation**. He was saying that God is not confined by time.

For God time is never a limit. God's existence is "*above time*," **not continuing through time**.

Psalm 90:4 For **a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday** when it is past, and as a watch in the night.

We cannot get our **finite heads** around the notion of time. We are **trapped in it**.

There is a **raging theological argument** – **does God merely see events** in time **or** does He **cause them**. I believe the answer is **both** – and/or.

[Ditches] Truth always lays between the two warring extremes.

Prophecy – Our Bibles are self-authenticating through prophecy. God sees before it occurs. Josh McDowell saved through prophecy. ... God also enters time to cause what He desires – Old Testament; Jesus in the New Testament.

He is able to, and does, **enter into time at his discretion**.

Light & Time

The Speed of Light is the **upper limiter of velocity**. Why? No Idea!

Light travels at 186,000 miles/second. It can travel around the **earth 7.5 times** in one second. Don't try this at home ...

But, **if you could**, as an object with mass, **reach the speed of light**, once you reached the speed of light you would be **instantly everywhere all at once, and time would cease**.

Isn't interesting that **God** describes Himself in terms of **Light** so often in Scripture? He is **outside the dimension of time and infinitely everywhere all at once**.

I pondered such notions in Quantum Physics classes.

Illusion

We live in an **illusion**.

If you want to blow your mind, audit a **Quantum Physics** class at a university. You will be saying, '*but God, but God.*' Einstein did of the quantum world.

[**Cameron** – *Quantum at UGA*]

Speaking of the Quantum world, **Einstein** said that "**there are things we will never understand apart from God.**"

The **world is utterly dependent on God**; God is not at all dependent on the world.

John 1:3 **All things were made by him (Jesus); and without him was not any thing made that was made.**

Romans 1:20 For the **invisible things of him from the creation** of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even **his eternal power** and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

Hebrews 3:4 For every house is builded by some man; but **he that built all things is God.**

God made it all; God holds it all together.

[**Things we think we know, that we don't know.**] It is a shallow dive into quantum physics, from a Biblical perspective. It will enlarge your view of God.

"Science would not be possible without God designing the universe to be orderly, which allows for consistent, scientific laws." - *Breanna Broad, AIG*

Most people are exposed to a **little science**; thus, they do not know **how much they do not know**. Moreover, they do not know how much **nobody knows**. As a result, they **do not comprehend how impossible our universe is**.

“The more I study science, the more I believe in God ... The most beautiful thing we can experience is the Mysterious” – *Albert Einstein*

“The **first gulp** from the glass of natural sciences will turn you into an atheist, but **at the bottom of the glass God is waiting for you.**” - *Werner Heisenberg, who was awarded the 1932 Nobel Prize in Physics*

“A little science estranges a man from God. **A lot of science brings him back.**” - *Sir Francis Bacon*

Psalm 19:1 The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

Sadly, we give our **kids** a “*first gulp*,” a “*little science*.”

Before All Things

So how old is God? He is not. You say that is not an answer, but it is; Because, He is.

He is **eternal**. He is the “*I am that I am*.”

Psalm 93:2 Thy throne is established of old: **thou art from everlasting.**

Until we reach Heaven, we have to merely accept that. ... And, once we reach heaven we may merely have to accept that.

He is the **self-existent** one. He is “*before all things*.”

Colossians 1:16 For **by him were all things created**, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: **all things were created by him**, and for him: 17 And **he is before all things, and by him all things consist.**

Remember:

“There is nothing miraculous about the things we can explain.” – *Oswald Chambers*

Magnitude of God

Eternity is **mind boggling**. Eternity is one of the **most beautiful attributes of God**.

But, it is not merely an attribute. The doctrine of **Simplicity** of God states, He is not a collection of attributes, He is eternal.

For if He were not eternal, we would have **reason to despair**.

Deuteronomy 33:27 **The eternal God is thy refuge**, and underneath are the **everlasting arms**: and he shall thrust out the enemy from before thee; and shall say, Destroy them.

“The same **God who directs the earth in its orbit**, who feeds the burning furnace of the sun, and trims the lamps of heaven, **has promised to supply thee with daily strength**.” – *Charles Spurgeon*

This is all somewhat **academic**. So, the real question is: **How big is your God?**

The True God is eternal, existing *outside of time, space and matter*.

God is **infinite**. He is so far beyond our **finite minds** that there simply are **not words** to describe Him, **or thoughts** to contain Him.

Romans 11:36 **For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things:** to whom be glory **for ever**. Amen.

We in our **finite minds** try to confine an **infinite God** to our **finite understanding**, even our finite time schedule.

We all have as **much of God as we want**.

Do you have God in a **box**? Most do; in fact, all do. Some have bigger boxes; others have smaller boxes. Are you limiting your God by how you perceive Him?

Ask God for a **desire to know Him better**, for a desire of **more of Him**.

[Higher Calling]

Relationship

Aristotle believed that his god, **could not love the world**, because such love would compromise his self-sufficiency. In his view, a god who loved the world would be dependent on the world, relying on the world to arouse his affection.

But, our God is different.

Romans 5:8 But **God commendeth his love toward us**, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Salvation presupposes God's self-sufficiency, for in salvation we are desperate; yet, God is all-sufficient.

Before God spoke, **before time began**, He **knew you** and had a plan for you; even to redeem you.

2 Timothy 1:9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an **holy calling**, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was **given us in Christ Jesus before the world began**,

Titus 1:2 In hope of **eternal life**, which God, that cannot lie, **promised before the world began**;

Ephesians 1:4 According as he hath **chosen us in him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

1 Peter 1:20 Who (Jesus) verily was **foreordained before the foundation of the world**, but was manifest in these last times for you,

Jeremiah 1:5 **Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee**; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

Most astonishing is that Jesus did not die for our sin that we would just go to heaven one day. No! He died that we might have a **personal relationship** with the **Eternal Living God** now, and forever more – eternally!

“**A relationship with Christ**” has become a euphemism for ‘*salvation*.’ I would that it were; it should be. But, I doubt it is universally so.

[*Spiritual Warfare & Hearing God*] Two side of the same coin.

“If men and women are not willing to assume this listening attitude, there will be no meeting with God in living, personal experience.” – *AW Tozer*

“He who does not long to know more of Christ, knows nothing of him yet.”
– *Charles Spurgeon*

Knowing God

Our God is awesome! He is eternal. He is the Self-existent One. He is the creator of all things. He is above all things; before all things.

And, **He – the Eternal God – wants you to know Him personally.** In fact, He wants to be your friend.

That is the most *mind-bending* concept of all!

“Let a Christian insist upon rising above the poor average of current religious experience and he will soon come up against the need **to know God Himself as the ultimate goal of all Christian doctrine.**” – *AW Tozer*

“I am ashamed of my lack of desire. O God, the Triune God, I want to want Thee; I long to be filled with longing; I thirst to be made more thirsty still. Show me Thy glory, I pray Thee, that so I may know Thee indeed.” –
AW Tozer