

**Attributes of God –** Self-existent and Eternal

Equipping Hour – 2/25/2018

**Introduction**

* Goals
  + Higher view of God – Worship
  + Greater appreciation of how we fit into God’s plan – Gratitude/enthusiasm

**Self-Existent**

1. Definition (self-existence, independence, aseity)
   1. Dr. Mook (TMS) - “The independence of God is that perfection of God according to which He is the eternal foundational Being, and, consequently, is the absolute Being, not dependent on anything outside Himself, self-sufficient in every respect.”
   2. Grudem - “God does not need us or the rest of creation for anything, yet we and the rest of creation can glorify him and bring him joy.”
2. Biblical Proof
   1. God is self-existent, having life in and of Himself (Exod 3:14-15; John 5:26)
   2. God created all things (Gen 1:1; Ps 90:2; Rev 4:11)
   3. God is Lord of all (Deut 10:17)
   4. God depends on nothing; all things depend on Him; He is the source of everything (Rom 11:36; 1 Cor 8:6)
   5. God does whatever and everything He wills (Ps 115:3; Dan 4:35)
   6. God’s counsel is the basis of everything – Eph 1:11
   7. God needs nothing – Job 41:11; Acts 17:24-25; Rom 11:35
3. Further Explanation
   1. What if God never created the universe?
   2. God is entirely unique
   3. Are we meaningless and unimportant?
   4. God’s independence should motivate us to worship and service
   5. God’s independence should keep us humble

**Eternal**

1. Definition
   1. Dr. Mook - “God’s perfect transcendence of all limitations of time, so that He is w/o beginning, w/o ending, and w/o succession of moments in His experience of His being and His consciousness of all reality.”
   2. Grudem - “God has no beginning, end, or succession of moments in his own being, and he sees all time equally vividly, yet God sees events in time and acts in time.”
2. Biblical Proof
   1. God existed before creation (Gen 1:1)
   2. God is God from everlasting to everlasting (Ps 90:2; Isa 40:28)
   3. God inhabits eternity (Isa 57:15)
   4. God lives forever (1 Tim 6:16; Rev 10:6)
   5. The number of God’s years cannot be discovered (Job 36:26)
   6. God existed and acted “before the ages began” (2 Tim 1:9; Tit 1:2)
   7. God is the first and the last at once (Isa 41:4; Rev 1:8)
   8. In God’s sight, a thousand years and one day are alike (Ps 90:4; 2 Pet 3:8)
3. Further Explanation
   1. Atemporal or temporal (succession of moments)?
      1. God acts within time
      2. God transcends time
   2. God is entirely unique
   3. Remember, God interacts with His creation and responds to His creatures within time