

## *The Everlasting God*

Ezekiel 12:23: "Now give them this new proverb to replace the old one: 'The time has come for every prophecy to be fulfilled!'" New Living Translation

God's eternity may be defined as follows: 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.<sup>1</sup>

### **GOD IS \_\_\_\_\_ IN HIS OWN BEING**

He has no \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_: *Psalm 90:2: "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed in the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God."* *Job 36:25: "the number of His years is unsearchable"*

God \_\_\_\_\_ is: *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"*

God \_\_\_\_\_ time: *Genesis 1:5 "God called the light day, and the darkness He called night. And there was evening and there was morning, one day."*

...when God created the universe, He also created time. When God began to create the universe, time began, and there began to be a succession of moments and events one after another. But before there was a universe, and before there was time, God always existed, without beginning, and without being influenced by time. And time, therefore, does not have existence in itself, but, like the rest of creation, depends on God's eternal being and power to keep it existing.<sup>2</sup>

### **GOD ALL TIME**

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

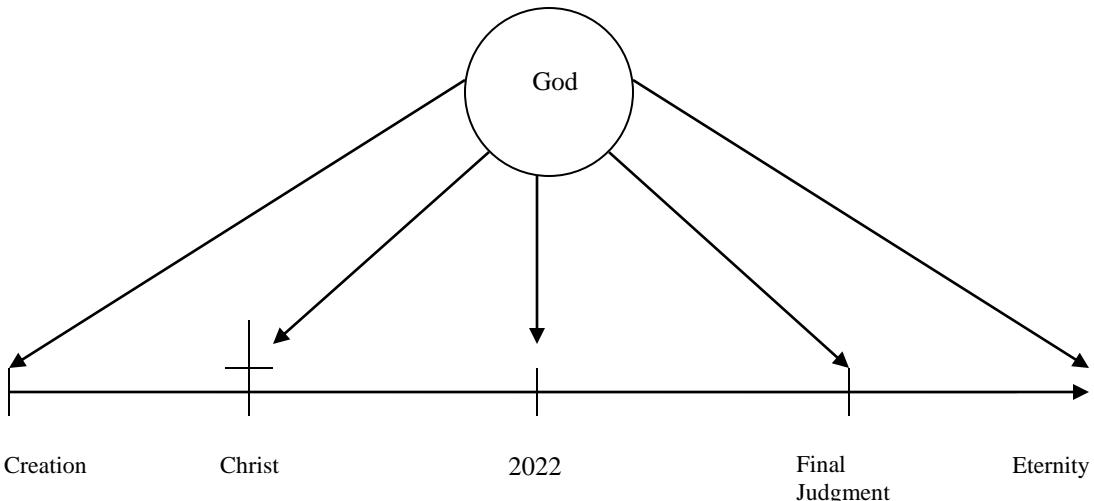
*2 Peter 3:8: "with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day"*

God is the eternal Lord and Sovereign over history, and he sees it more clearly and acts in it more decisively than any other.... These verses speak of God's relationship to time in a way that we do not and cannot experience: god's experience of time is not just a patient endurance through eons of endless duration, but he has a qualitatively different experience of time than we do. This is consistent with the idea that in His own being, God is timeless; He does not experience a succession of moments.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Wayne Grudem, Systematic Theology, pg. 168

<sup>2</sup> Grudem, pg. 169

<sup>3</sup> Grudem, pg. 170



### GOD SEES                    IN TIME AND                    IN TIME

*Galatians 4:4: "When the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son..."*

*Acts 17:30-31: "The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now He commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has fixed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness"*

God is the Lord who created time and who rules over it and uses it for His own purposes. God can act in time because He is Lord of time. He uses it to display His glory. In fact, it is often God's good pleasure to fulfill His promises and carry out His works of redemption over a period of time so that we might more readily see and appreciate His great wisdom, His patience, His faithfulness, his Lordship over all events, and even His unchangeableness and eternity.<sup>4</sup>

### GOD'S TIMING IS

From our perspective, some things happen \_\_\_\_\_

From our perspective, some things happen \_\_\_\_\_

From our perspective, some times we \_\_\_\_\_

God's eternality is not that He has been around for a long time and will exist forever. That God is eternal means that He created time, sees all times – past, present and future – and carries out His work in our lives and in the course of history with perfect timing.

<sup>4</sup> Grudem, pg. 173