

## V: God; Eternal, Immense, and Infinite

“But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the heaven of heavens cannot contain You.  
How much less this temple which I have built!” I Kings 8:27 NKJV

### I. Introduction

- A. An (ironically) immense task
- B. A (necessarily) fearful task

### II. Definitions

- A. God doesn't have attributes, He is His attributes
  - a. Using the temporal to describe the eternal
  - b. Knowing truly, not comprehensively (Ecc. 3:11)
- B. What does 'immense' really mean? – definition by way of negation
  - a. Eternality
  - b. Immensity
  - c. Infinity
- C. Omnipresence and Immanency – the attribute vs the revelation of the attribute

*“God is in heaven in regard of the manifestation of glory, in hell by the expression of his justice, in the earth by the discoveries of his wisdom, power, patience, and compassion, in his people by the monuments of his grace, and in all in regard of his substance.”*

*Stephen Charnock, The Existence and Attributes of God, Volume 1, Discourse VII, III, 1,1*

- a. Omnipresence – present in every place, at every time (Psalm 139)
  - i. For God, the entire creation, throughout all time, is Present and Now
  - ii. Limits of created beings, including Satan
- b. Immanence – Indwelling creation and its processes, yet distinct (Acts 17:28)
  - i. Creator-creature distinction
  - ii. Natural law is still governed by God, directly and not “mechanically”
- D. A word about Time
  - a. Augustine – We know, yet do not know
  - b. Our experience of time is not mechanical
  - c. The eternal state; timeless?

- III. Scriptural evidences
  - A. OT references
    - a. Job 36:26
    - b. Psalm 90:2
    - c. Psalm 139:7-12
    - d. Isaiah 40:18, 25
  - B. "Spatial" terms in the OT
    - a. Genesis 3:8-9
    - b. Genesis 11:5
    - c. Psalm 138:6
    - d. Proverbs 15:29
  - C. NT references
    - a. John 8:58
    - b. Colossians 1:15-19
    - c. Revelation 1:8; 22:13
  - D. The Incarnation – how the Infinite can occupy the finite
    - a. Isaiah 7:14 (Matthew 1:23)
    - b. Brief excursus on the gospel of John, in contrast to the synoptic gospels
- IV. Practical Considerations/Applications
  - A. How to comprehend the incomprehensible
  - B. What would it mean to worship a finite god?
  - C. How then should we live?
  - D. Proper theology leads to doxology