

HIS NAME IS THE EVERLASTING FATHER

Isaiah 9:6

INTRODUCTION

- The word *eternity* is one of the weightiest words in the English language, yet how little do we understand it!
- The world flippantly uses the terms eternity, everlasting and forever with great ignorance
- Even “time” is an elusive concept that philosophers scientists have struggled to define for centuries
- Eternity might be described as both the *absence* of time, as well as the *encompassing* of all time
- Man within him has an awareness of eternity (Ecclesiastes 3:11)
- We cannot begin understand eternity without seeking to know the only eternal Being: God
- The name of Christ we are looking at today is “everlasting Father”, sometimes rendered as “the father of eternity”

I. THE ETERNAL SUBSTANCE OF HIS PERSON

A. Christ is without beginning

1. God is the only being that has eternally existed

a. Most false religions, including atheism, have some concept of eternal pre-existence, whether gods or matter/energy

b. In the beginning, before anything was created, God was (Genesis 1:1; John 1:1)

2. While created beings, including the redeemed, can be said to have everlasting life, only God is both *from* everlasting to everlasting (Psalm 90:2)
3. Christ's "goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting" (Micah 5:2)
4. He is The Uncreated One, the First Cause, who created and sustains all things
 - a. He is the I AM (Exodus 3:14; John 8:58; 18:4-6)
 - b. As the eternally begotten Son, he shared his glory with the Father before the world was (John 17:5)
 - c. All things are made by him, and by him all things consist (Colossians 1:16-17)

B. Christ is without end

1. This is true of his divine nature (Hebrews 1:10-12; Revelation 22:13)
2. This is true of his human nature (Psalm 21:4; John 5:26; Hebrews 7:25; Revelation 1:18)

C. Christ dwells in eternity (Isaiah 57:15)

1. He created time, and is Lord over it
2. The events that transpire over the course of time are under his governance (Ephesians 1:11; Romans 8:28)
3. As the eternal God, he is *immutable* (changeless), he is "the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever" (Hebrews 13:8)

II. HIS PATERNAL SOVEREIGNTY OVER HIS PEOPLE

- A. This does not refer to the Person of the Father in the Godhead

1. Modalists use this verse to teach the heresy that the Son *is* the Father, that they are the same person revealed in different modes
- B. The term “Father” is a Hebraism where the originator of a thing is called the father of it (Genesis 4:20-21)
1. The devil is referred to as the father of lies (John 8:44)
 2. Christ is the author, originator and Lord of eternity and only he can be called the Father of it
- C. He is Father in his authority
1. This term is used in Scripture by inferiors towards their superiors (1 Samuel 18:27; 2 Kings 2:12; 5:13; 13:14)
 2. He is the highest of all authority, and it is proper that we reverence him as Father (Exodus 20:12; Malachi 1:6)
- D. He is Father federally over the human race
1. Adam, the first man, represented all of us when he sinned, hence we sinned in Adam, and his sin is imputed to us (Romans 5:12,19)
 2. Christ, the Second Adam, became our representative for righteousness, through his life and death, imputing his righteousness to all those who believe in him (Romans 5:18)
- E. He is Father in his giving life to us
1. “Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us?” (Malachi 2:10)
 2. Isaiah 53:10 says of Christ, “He shall see his seed”
 3. In Hebrews 2:13, Christ speaks of “the children which God hath given me”

4. Jesus Christ is “the life” (John 14:6) and he gives abundant, everlasting life to his people (John 5:25; 10:10)
- F. He is Father in his care for us (Job 29:16)
1. His love (Jeremiah 31:3; Romans 8:38-39)
 2. His guidance and direction (Psalm 73:24; Proverbs 3:5-6)
 3. His nourishing (Ephesians 5:29)
 4. His support (Deuteronomy 33:27; Psalm 18:35)
 5. His comfort (John 14:18; 16:33; 2 Thessalonians 2:16)
 6. His provision (Matthew 6:25-33; Philippians 4:19)

CONCLUSION

1. We should be constantly mindful, particularly now at the beginning of a new year, that our time in this world is brief, and we must prepare for eternity
2. *“A life once spent is irrevocable. It will remain to be contemplated through eternity. If it be marked with sins, the marks will be indelible. If it has been a useless life, it can never be improved. Such it will stand forever and ever. The same may be said of each day.”* (Adoniram Judson)
3. Christ is the Everlasting Father, but only the redeemed can claim him as their Father
4. Who is your spiritual father? Adam? The devil? Or God? (Is. 40:28)
5. It is a great tragedy when a father loses his child, but Christ loses none of his children (John 10:28)
6. A father’s likeness is manifest in his children
7. If Christ is your Everlasting Father, it will be shown in your life (Romans 8:29)