

What is God *really* like?

(Part 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.

Psalm 90.2

Where did God come from? When did He begin? Will He ever cease to be? These are questions that the Bible itself answers for us in just one verse - verse 2 of Psalm 90.

First of all we are taken back through time.

Before – the mountains and the earth came into being ...*thou art God*. God existed before anything else did, including angels, the universe, the world and mankind.

We may ask, how far back does *before* actually go? We are told *from everlasting to everlasting thou art God*. *From everlasting* literally means ‘concealed’; in other words the beginning of God is untraceable. We cannot trace the beginning of God simply because there was no beginning to God. He has always existed.

This brings us to another question. Where did the universe come from? The Bible explains here that God *formed the earth and the world*. We have exactly the same teaching in Genesis 1, verse 1 - *In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth*.

God predated the entire material universe, and the spiritual realm too, and it was He who created all that exists out of nothing. That is exactly what the Bible teaches.

Now we can see that God is the only Being who was not created; He has always been there! We’re left with a truth that is hard for us to take in, but the fact is that before He created the universe, God existed entirely alone; there simply was nothing, but God!

Then we are taken forward through time by the words ...*from everlasting to everlasting*. Just as God’s beginning is concealed and untraceable so is His end. Just as He never began, so He will never end! However far back we go and however far forward we go ... *thou art God!* God will be there for ever in the future just as He was there forever in the past. He cannot die, He cannot be destroyed and neither can He change, or lose His power. He has many enemies, but none of them can ever overcome Him, for *from everlasting to everlasting thou art God*.

What a contrast there is between God's eternity and our short life span! There is God with no beginning and no end, yet we all know our date of birth, and we wonder about the time of our death. Even if we live to a ripe old age our lives are just a small drop in the ocean of God's eternal ages. Verse 4 of Psalm 90 makes the startling statement that *a thousand years in thy (God's) sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.* To put that into a form that we can grasp, we must think of the Battle of Hastings of 1066 as an event that happened yesterday!

Although we all had a beginning when we were conceived in our mother's womb, we shall never cease to be in the future. Although we shall certainly die and leave this life, our souls live on and pass from time into eternity. That's why verse 12 of Psalm 90 says *Teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.* It's a prayer that God would teach us that our days in this life are numbered; we should realise that we may have fewer days here than we think, and then we pass into eternity.

This is something that we don't like to think about, but it's a fact nevertheless and there's nothing we can do to avoid it. It's by far the best thing to face up to it and *apply our hearts unto wisdom.* If we are wise we shall make sure that we are right with the eternal God, and be certain that when we pass from time into eternity we shall spend that endless age in the loving and wonderful presence of the eternal God! There is just one way of being right with God and that is by faith in Jesus Christ. He is the Son of God, and as such never had a beginning Himself, but He became a man and was born into this world in order to pay the penalty of our sin by dying on a cross at Calvary, just outside Jerusalem. Then He rose from the dead and now He lives for evermore. If we will turn from our sin and believe upon Him we can be sure of everlasting life in the presence of the eternal God!

Be wise, therefore, and believe on Jesus Christ!

He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.

John 3. 36

