

Eternity Is Now!

Webster's 1828 dictionary defines eternity as a "Duration or continuance without beginning or end." Webster also says, "We speak of eternal duration preceding the present time. God has existed from eternity. We also speak of endless or everlasting duration in future and dating from present time or the present state of things. Some men doubt the eternity of future punishment, though they have less difficulty in admitting the eternity of future rewards."

With God, there is no beginning or ending of time because for Him, time does not exist. Technically, it is wrong to say that God has existed in eternity past because, for Him, there is no past. For Him, it is all eternal! We say "eternity past" because our finite minds are not capable of comprehending the infinite. We are in our present state mortal beings with an immortal soul. The mortal part will one day cease to function and, when it does, the immortal soul flees from its present housing.

Think on this for a moment – eternity is now! Time, as we know it, did not exist until God created this world and all that is in it, including we humans. Time, as already mentioned, is something we use to measure things by and without which we would be more than helpless.

For humanity, eternity began the moment we were created during the act of natural reproduction. During conception, the child has all the attributes it will ever have, including a sin nature inherited from Adam, the first person created by God. Adam disobeyed God and by his disobedience sin came into the realm of humanity. {Genesis 2:16-17; 3:6; Romans 5:12} The soul of every person is an eternal soul and, as such, will continue without end. Now the question remains, where in eternity will each respective soul be? For those who do not know Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, "And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." {Matthew 10:28} In contrast, for those who have repented of sin and trusted Jesus Christ as Saviour, "We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord." {2 Corinthians 5:8}

It is difficult to fully understand eternity since we have not experienced it and, all that we know about it is in God's word, the Bible. This is where faith comes in; believing what God has said! God has never broken a promise and He never will because He is holy and to break a promise would be against His very nature. "Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy hill; for the LORD our God is holy." {Psalm 99:9} God is unchanging, "For I am the LORD, I change not;" {Malachi 3:6} and eternal, "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty." {Revelation 1:8}

God is a God of love even though some people refuse to believe in Him. His love is so great that He allowed His Son, Jesus Christ, to suffer, bleed, and die on the Cross of Calvary as full payment for our sin debt. "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." {Romans 5:8} Why would He do this for us? The answer is this, "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." {2 Peter 3:9} "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." {John 3:16}

Friend, you are in eternity today and experiencing a physical life but, one day soon, you will leave your physical body as your soul goes to one of two places, Heaven where God is or hell that was created for the devil. There are no second chances; once the soul leaves the body at physical death, there will not be another opportunity. As graciously as I know how, I encourage you to repent of sin and trust Jesus Christ as personal Saviour. He has already paid your sin debt with His shed blood! "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:" {1 Peter 1:18-19} Call on His name today and be saved! "For whosoever [this means anyone] shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." {Romans 10:13} Eternity is now; you have no guarantee of another day of earthly existence. "... For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." {James 4:14 b} "And they said, **Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved** [emphasis added], and thy house." {Acts 16:31} "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." {Acts 4:12}

~Richard A. Ciarrocca/July 2020

All Scripture references are KJV