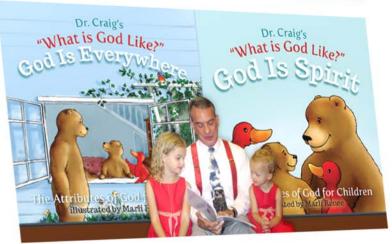
"What Is God Like,»,

Part 3 – God's Eternity





Apologetics Resources for Your Children



What Is God Like?

PARENTS: We all know that small children can ask very profound questions, questions that sometimes leave us searching for answers! "What Is God Like?" is a series of ten illustrated booklets designed to help you teach Christian truth to your children and answer some of their deepest questions about God. These easy-to-understand booklets cover the principal attributes of God, such as omnipotence, omniscience, omnipresence, eternity, self- existence, and so on.



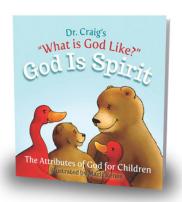
WILLIAM LANE CRAIG, Ph.D., D.Theol., is Research Professor of Philosophy at Talbot School of Theology in southern California and the founder of the web-based ministry Reasonable Faith. He is the

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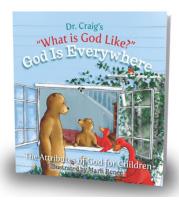


WILLIAM LANE CRAIG,
Ph.D., D. Theol, is
Research Protestor of
Philosophy at Taibot School
of Theology in southern
California and the founder
of the web-based ministry
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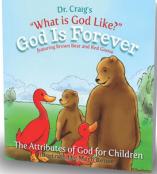


"God Is Spirit" is about what theologians call the "incorporeality" of God (God's being pure spirit without a body). It helps to correct the popular misunderstanding that God has a body. In providing correct teaching about God, "God Is Spirit" also teaches children about the difference between our soul and body. It thereby raises important issues about what happens to a person when he dies and serves as a springboard for discussion with your children about the Christian hope of life after death.



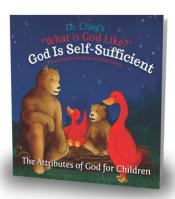
"God Is Everywhere" is about what theologians call God's "omnipresence" (God's being all- present). Our story helps us avoid two errors in thinking about God: thinking that God is localized in a place like heaven and thinking that God is spread throughout space like an invisible gas. It explains that God is everywhere in the sense that He knows what is happening at any place and is active there. It thereby gives your children assurance that God is with them no matter where they go.





"God Is Forever" is about the eternity of God. Just as "God Is Everywhere" deals with God's relationship to space, so "God Is Forever" deals with God's relationship to time. Just as God is everywhere, so God is always. He never comes into existence and never goes out of existence. In contrast to the world around us, God exists permanently. Our story gives your children assurance that God will always be with them and that we shall live with God forever.

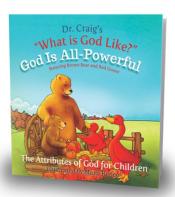




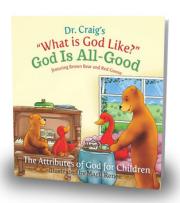
"God Is Self-Sufficient" is about what theologians call God's aseity. "Aseity" refers to God's self-existence. It comprises God's necessity and independence. God doesn't just happen to exist, as if by accident. Rather God exists by a necessity of His own nature; it is impossible for Him not to exist. Moreover, God does not depend upon any other being for His existence. God alone is self-existent, and everything else depends on Him. Many theologians consider aseity to be the most fundamental of God's attributes, but, sadly, the average Christian has never heard of it. This booklet attempts to expand your children's concept of God's greatness by describing Him as self-sufficient. By magnifying their concept of God, you can help your children to see why, as Papa Bear says, "We should depend on the One who depends on no one."



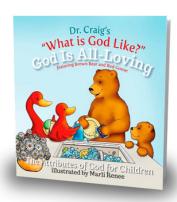
"God Is All-Knowing" is about what theologians call God's omniscience. "Omniscience" comes from two Latin words omni (all) and scientia (knowledge). It is the attribute of knowing only and all truths. This booklet focuses on God's foreknowledge, or His knowledge of truths about the future. It explains that although God knows infallibly what will happen, we still remain free in our choices. For we can choose differently than we shall choose, and if we were to choose differently, God's foreknowledge would have been different than it is. Several practical applications are drawn as a result of God's knowing all about us.



"God Is All-Powerful" is about what theologians call God's omnipotence. "Omnipotence" comes from the Latin words omni (all) and potentia (power). Although God has all power, theologians have not typically thought that God can do the logically impossible (like make a square circle). Such logical contradictions are not, properly speaking, really things at all, but just combinations of words. In this booklet Papa Bear quizzes the children concerning a number of such "things" that God cannot do. By confronting these difficult questions at home, the children are better equipped to meet the challenges they will inevitably confront in school. Mama Goose helps them to see as well the practical implications of having God's unlimited power living within them.



"God Is All-Good" raises profound and very important questions about the foundation of moral values. Papa Bear maintains that without God moral values and duties have no foundation and are therefore just subjective matters of opinion. The terrible consequences of such an atheistic view are made plain. But Papa goes on to explain that God Himself is the foundation for objective moral values and duties. Papa thereby answers an age-old objection to basing morality in God: is something good just because God wills it, or does God will something because it is good? This is a false dilemma. The answer is that God wills something because He is good. That is to say, God is Himself the standard of goodness, and His commands are expressions of His nature. Thus, God's commandments are not arbitrary but reflect the nature of a Being who is Goodness itself.



"God Is All-Loving" emphasizes God's unconditional love for us. God's love for us is not based upon our performance. Even though God hates our sin, He loves us. This wonderful truth is unique to the Judaeo- Christian faith. Other religions like Islam teach that God's love is conditional and has to be earned. But the God of the Bible loves sinners. God's unconditional love is the basis upon which we can accept ourselves, despite all our shortcomings. Understanding God's love can thus help your child to have a proper self-image. It can also help us to see that we should love others, too, whether they are nice or not, since God loves them unconditionally.



"God Is Three Persons" is about the important doctrine of the Trinity. The doctrine of the Trinity is not the logical incoherence that three persons are somehow one person or that three Gods are somehow one God. It is the doctrine that the one God is tri-personal. God has three minds or self-conscious selves. There are three divine persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and together they make up the one being that is God. Each one has all the attributes of God, but each person plays a different role in the plan of salvation. This booklet will stimulate your children's thinking about the Christian doctrine of God and help them to understand the relations between the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, as well as our adoption into God's family.



According to St. Anselm (1033-1109), God is the greatest being conceivable. For if we could think of something greater than God, then that would be God! This series of ten booklets has been all about the greatness of God. We have seen that God is incorporeal, omnipresent, eternal, self-existent, omniscient, omnipotent, the paradigm of goodness, omnibenevolent, and triune. By sharing these booklets with your children you have expanded their minds to contemplate the greatest being conceivable. God is not like Zeus, the Tooth Fairy, the Flying Spaghetti Monster, or any other finite thing. Your children, if they have absorbed these booklets, will never be fooled by any of the paltry substitutes for God marketed in popular culture. We hope, too, that their awe and worship of God will have grown more profound. "The Greatness of God" does not add an additional attribute to our concept of God but sums up the entire series and issues in adoration and worship of God.





Home > William Lane Craig



William Lane Craig

Biographical Sketch

William Lane Craig is Research Professor of Philosophy at Talbot School of Theology and Professor of Philosophy at Houston Baptist University. He and his wife Jan have two grown children.

At the age of sixteen as a junior in high school, he first heard the message of the Christian gospel and yielded his life to Christ. Dr. Craig pursued his undergraduate studies at Wheaton College (B.A. 1971) and graduate

studies at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (M.A. 1974; M.A. 1975), the University of Birmingham (England) (Ph.D. 1977), and the University of Munich (Germany) (D.Theol. 1984). From 1980-86 he taught Philosophy of Religion at Trinity, during which time he and Jan started their family. In 1987 they moved to Brussels, Belgium, where Dr. Craig pursued research at the University of Louvain until assuming his position at Talbot in 1994.

He has authored or edited over thirty books, including The Kalam Cosmological Argument, Assessing the New Testament Evidence for the Historicity of the Resurrection of Jesus; Divine Foreknowledge and Human Freedom; Theism, Atheism and Big Bang Cosmology; and God, Time and Eternity, as well as over a hundred articles in professional journals of philosophy and theology, including The Journal of Philosophy, New Testament Studies, Journal for the Study of the New Testament, American Philosophical Quadedu Philosophical Studies Philosophy and British Journal for Philosophy of

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Receive our free Newsletter Get Dr. Craig's newsletter and keep up with RF news and events. Subscribe.

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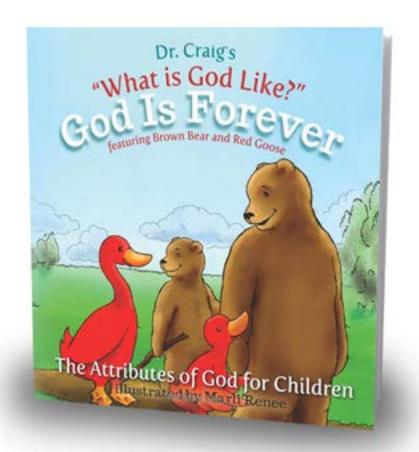


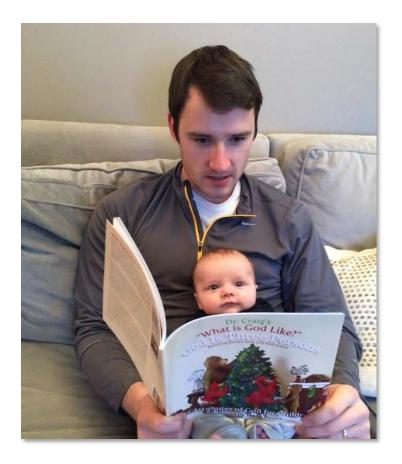
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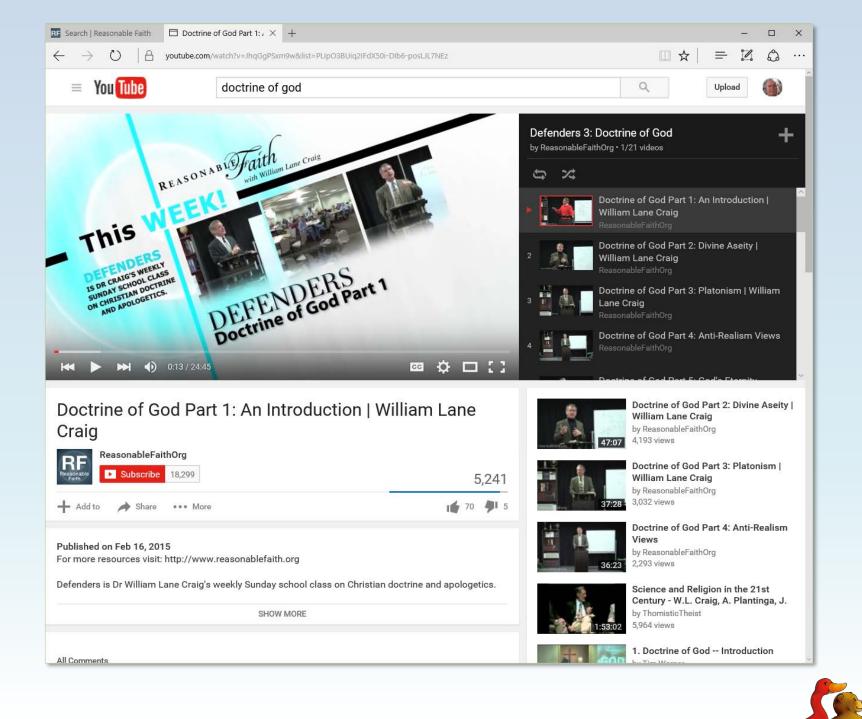






<u>"God Is Forever"</u> is about the eternity of God. Just as "God Is Everywhere" deals with God's relationship to space, so "God Is Forever" deals with God's relationship to time. Just as God is everywhere, so God is always. He never comes into existence and never goes out of existence. In contrast to the world around us, God exists permanently. Our story gives your children assurance that God will always be with them and that we shall live with God forever.







Doctrine of God Part 5: God's Eternity



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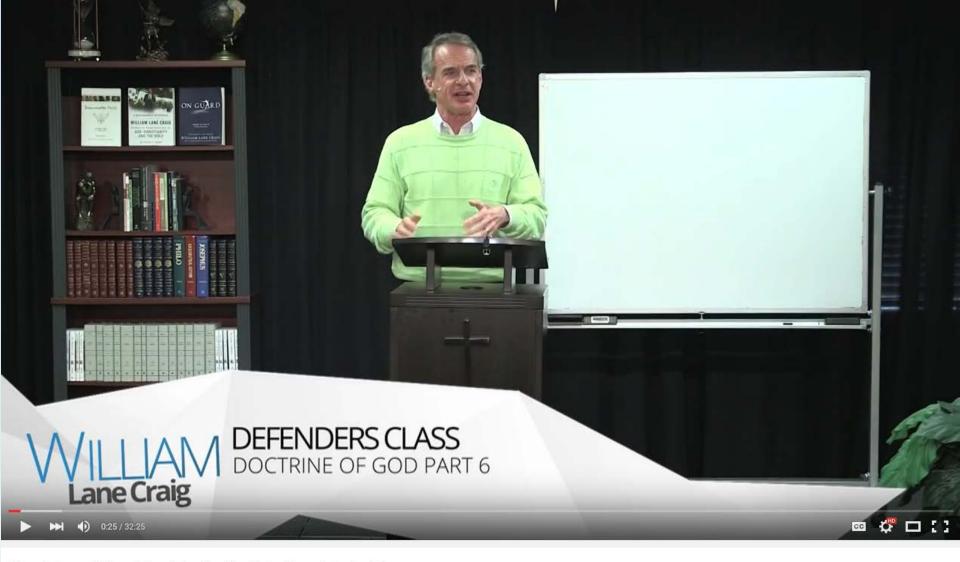












Doctrine of God Part 6: God's Relationship to Time



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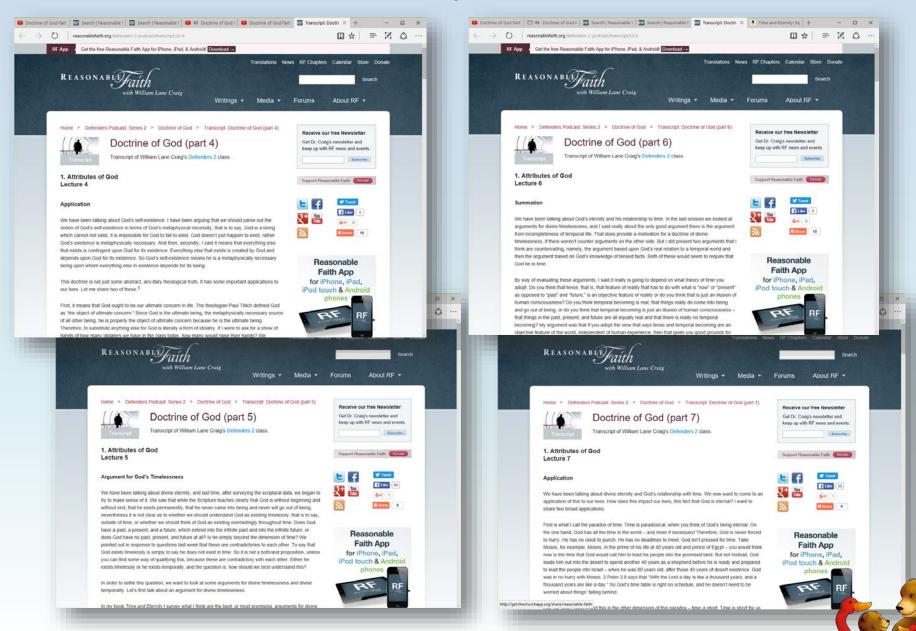


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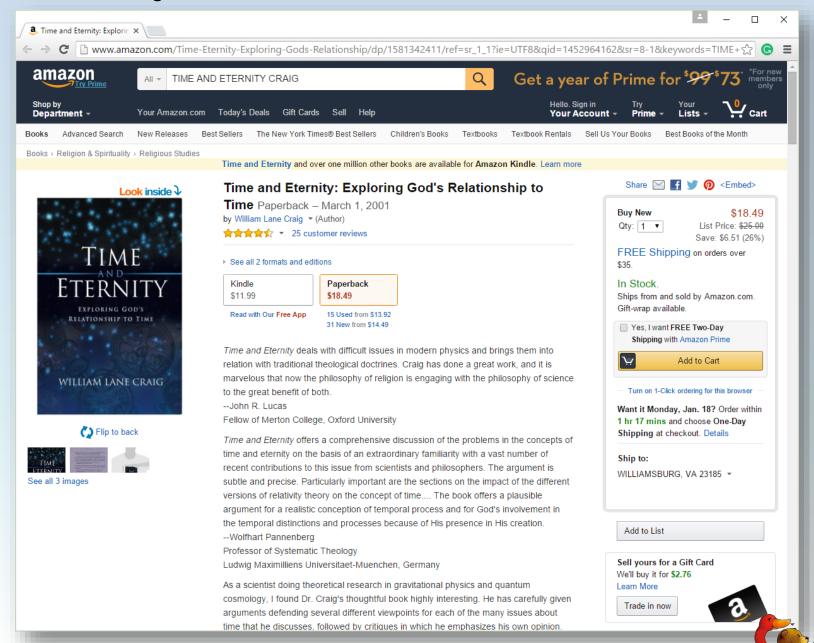
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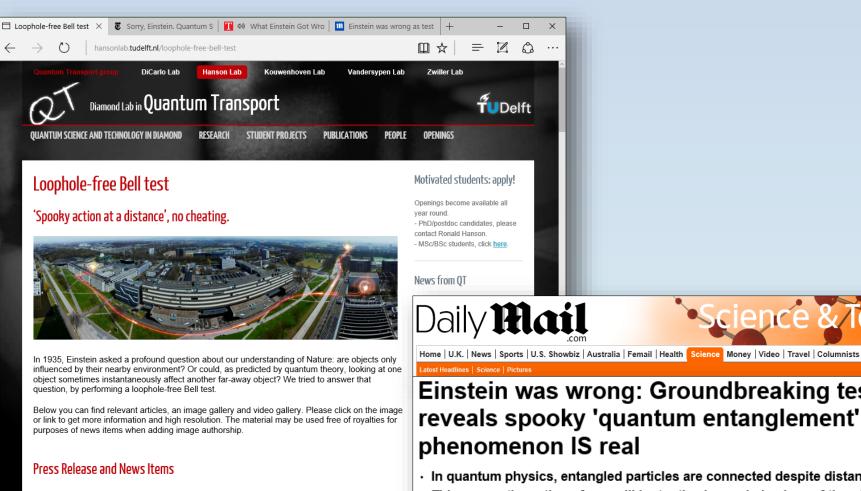


Note: The Defenders 3 videos have not been transcribed. The material covered can be found in the following four Defenders 2 transcriptions...



...and the following text.





Press release of the TU Delft: English, Nederlands

Nature Video: a video explaining quantum 'spookiness'

Nature News and Views

Einstein was wrong: Groundbreaking test reveals spooky 'quantum entanglement' phenomenon IS real

- In quantum physics, entangled particles are connected despite distance
- · This means the action of one will instantly change behaviour of the other
- Theory riled Einstein as it suggested data could travel faster than light
- · A Dutch team proved the phenomenon using entangled electrons held in tiny diamond traps 0.8 miles (1.3km) apart

By ELLIE ZOLFAGHARIFARD FOR DAILYMAIL.COM 🔰 and PRESS ASSOCIATION

PUBLISHED: 13:40 EST, 21 October 2015 | UPDATED: 18:23 EST, 21 October 2015

For nearly a century, scientists have struggled with the phenomenon of quantum entanglement, which appears to break the classical laws of physics.

It seems to show that pairs of sub-atomic particles can be invisibly connected in a way that transcends time and space.

Now, a groundbreaking experiment has provided the clearest proof yet that this quantum effect which Albert Einstein famously dismissed as 'spooky action at a distance' - is in fact real.

O Lord, you have been our protector through all generations! Even before the mountains came into existence, or you brought the world into being, you were the eternal God. You make mankind return to the dust, and say, "Return, O people!" Yes, in your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday that quickly passes, or like one of the divisions of the nighttime.

[Psalm 90:1-4 NET]

My days are coming to an end, and I am withered like grass. But you, O LORD, rule forever, and your reputation endures. ... In earlier times you established the earth; the skies are your handiwork. They will perish, but you will endure. They will wear out like a garment; like clothes you will remove them and they will disappear. But you remain; your years do not come to an end.

[Psalm 102:11-12, 25-27 NET]

You bring their lives to an end and they "fall asleep." In the morning they are like the grass that sprouts up; in the morning it glistens and sprouts up; at evening time it withers and dries up.

[Psalm 90:5-6 NET]





"Yes, God is great - beyond our knowledge! The number of his years is unsearchable.

[Job 36:26 NET]

Who acts and carries out decrees? Who summons the successive generations from the beginning? I, the LORD, am present at the very beginning, and at the very end - I am the one.

[Isaiah 41:4 NET]

to the only God our Savior through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time, and now, and for all eternity. Amen.

[Jude 1:25 NET]

And do this because we know the time, that it is already the hour for us to awake from sleep, for our salvation is now nearer than when we became believers. The night has advanced toward dawn; the day is near. So then we must lay aside the works of darkness, and put on the weapons of light.

[Romans 13:11-12 NET]





We must perform the deeds of the one who sent me as long as it is daytime. Night is coming when no one can work.

[John 9:4 NET]

Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into this or that town and spend a year there and do business and make a profit." You do not know about tomorrow. What is your life like? For you are a puff of smoke that appears for a short time and then vanishes. You ought to say instead, "If the Lord is willing, then we will live and do this or that." But as it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.

[James 4:13-16 NET]

The night has advanced toward dawn; the day is near. So then we must lay aside the works of darkness, and put on the weapons of light. Let us live decently as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in discord and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh to arouse its desires.

[Romans 13:12-14 NET]



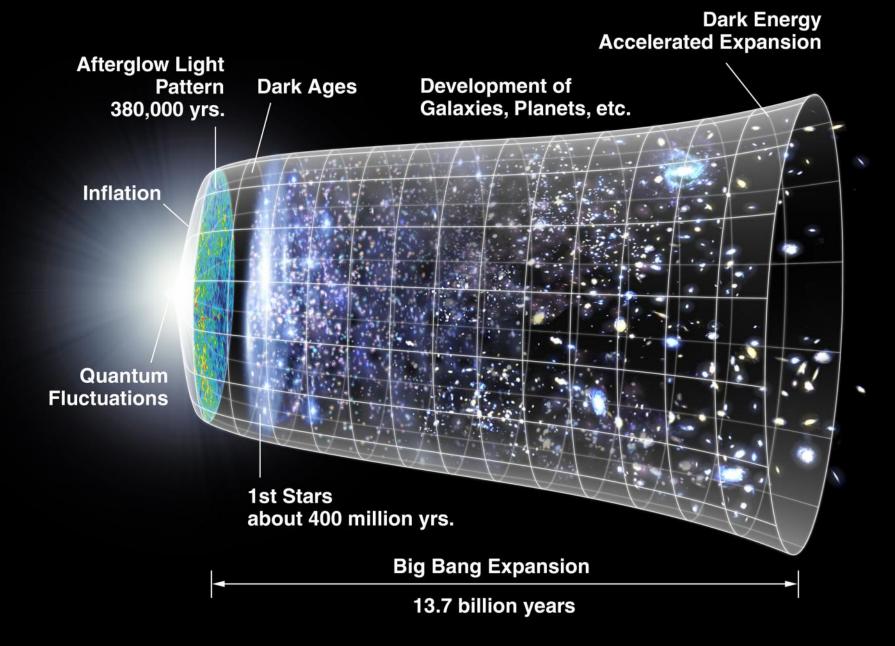


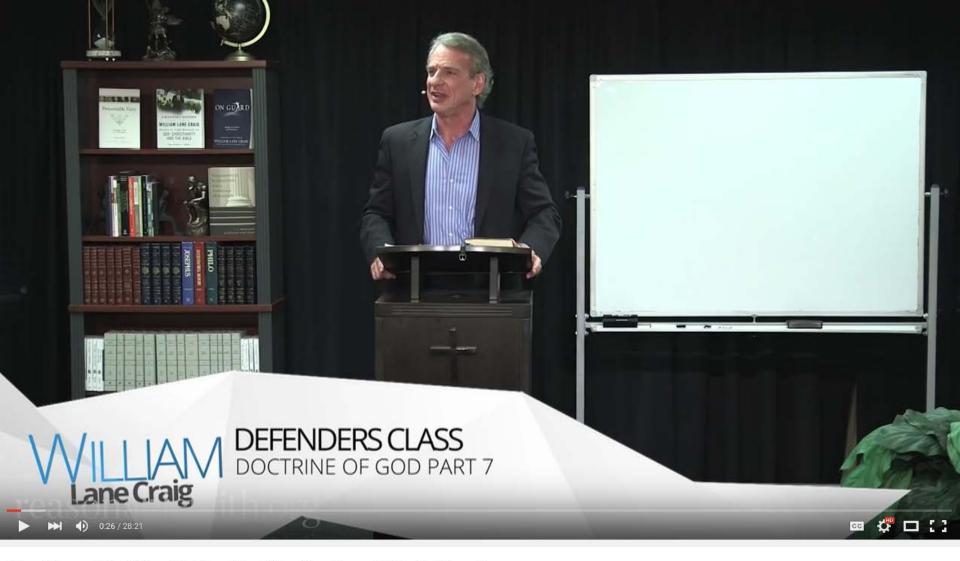
Now, dear friends, do not let this one thing escape your notice, that a single day is like a thousand years with the Lord and a thousand years are like a single day. The Lord is not slow concerning his promise, as some regard slowness, but is being patient toward you, because he does not wish for any to perish but for all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief; when it comes, the heavens will disappear with a horrific noise, and the celestial bodies will melt away in a blaze, and the earth and every deed done on it will be laid bare. Since all these things are to melt away in this manner, what sort of people must we be, conducting our lives in holiness and godliness, while waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God? Because of this day, the heavens will be burned up and dissolve, and the celestial bodies will melt away in a blaze! But, according to his promise, we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness truly resides. Therefore, dear friends, since you are waiting for these things, strive to be found at peace, without spot or blemish, when you come into his presence. And regard the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as also our dear brother Paul wrote to you, according to the wisdom given to him, speaking of these things in all his letters. Some things in these letters are hard to understand, things the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they also do to the rest of the scriptures.

[2 Peter 3:8-16 NET]









Doctrine of God Part 7: Practical Application of God's Eternity



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And, after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace who called you to his eternal glory in Christ will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

[1 Peter 5:10 NET]

Therefore we do not despair, but even if our physical body is wearing away, our inner person is being renewed day by day. For our momentary, light suffering is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison because we are not looking at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen. For what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

[2 Corinthians 4:16-18 NET]

But God, being rich in mercy, because of his great love with which he loved us, even though we were dead in transgressions, made us alive together with Christ - by grace you are saved! - and he raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, to demonstrate in the coming ages the surpassing wealth of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

[Ephesians 2:4-7 NET]





If from a human point of view I fought with wild beasts at Ephesus, what did it benefit me? If the dead are not raised, *let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die*.

[1 Corinthians 15:32 NET]

Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ... "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire that has been prepared for the devil and his angels! ... And these will depart into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

[Matthew 25:34, 41, 46 NET]





Now this is the gospel message we have heard from him and announce to you: God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him and yet keep on walking in the darkness, we are lying and not practicing the truth. But if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say we do not bear the guilt of sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous, forgiving us our sins and cleansing us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar and his word is not in us.

[1 John 1:5-10 NET]





Questions?





Videos on the Doctrine of God

God is Spirit – Incorporeality

https://youtu.be/80bMJRbdPOE (0:49 Craig Intro)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JhqGgPSxm9w (24:45 to be cut?)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bTHftmEm2O4 (34:10 to be cut?, includes Immutability)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EcVDhmv9bYU (31:07)

2. God is Everywhere – Omnipresence

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AhYguRSR_SA&list=PLIpO3BUiq2IFdX50i-DIb6-posLJL7NEz&index=8 (32:41 laryngitis)

3. God is Forever - Eternity. God's relationship to time

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YD4BfTIC7tY&list=PLIpO3BUiq2IFdX50i-DIb6-posLJL7NEz&index=5 (35:05)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s-JD2TDtEuU (32:25)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-ql6awsrqk (28:21)

4. God is Self-Sufficient – Aseity

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CWscWmEdpJ8 (47:06)

5. God is All-Knowing – Omniscience

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Cfahfd7EAg (36:55)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9pStF1fBg90&list=PLIpO3BUiq2IFdX50i-DIb6-posLJL7NEz&index=12 (43:11)

6. God is All-Powerful – Omnipotence

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B16my7f85q4&list=PLIpO3BUiq2IFdX50i-DIb6-posLJL7NEz&index=16 (39:32)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P3dkwLHeTIY&list=PLIpO3BUiq2IFdX50i-DIb6-posLJL7NEz&index=17 (32:26)

7. God is All-Good - Goodness, Objective Morals

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-CQWsu0JAtg&index=18&list=PLIpO3BUiq2IFdX50i-DIb6-posLJL7NEz (38:27) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G8I7-FuyZV4&list=PLIpO3BUiq2IFdX50i-DIb6-posLJL7NEz&index=19 (35:45)

8. God is All-Loving - Grace, Unconditional Love

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rSVxeGoPW10&index=20&list=PLIpO3BUiq2IFdX50i-DIb6-posLJL7NEz (31:41)

9. God is Three Persons – Trinity

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gU1qHmgW0GQ (11:58)

http://www.reasonablefaith.org/defenders-2-podcast/s5 (series of audio podcasts)

10. The Greatness of God - Summary, Wrap-Up

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ApBu8Ob6hjo&list=PLIpO3BUig2IFdX50i-DIb6-posLJL7NEz&index=21 (22:39)

