

December 1, 2019

## God's Aseity

**1 John 4:8, 16** ...*God is love*...

- In order to better understand the meaning and implications of *God is love*, we must have a more informed understanding of the attributes of God.
- It is inaccurate to consider any attribute in isolation to the rest of God's attributes.
- God possesses in Himself every attribute simultaneously and comprehensively.
- Of all the attributes of God, perhaps the most fundamental to understand is His *aseity*.
- Aseity has to do with God's Self-existence as God.
- God's aseity means that God has always been, that He is uncaused Life in Himself. The reason that God exists is because God exists.
- In Gen. 1:1 we read the two most astounding revelatory statements that God makes about Himself: His aseity and His plurality.

- This verse is the most radical statement about the identity and autonomy of Israel's God, making Him absolutely unique among all the gods of the ancient world.
- In Ex. 3, YHWH called Moses through the agency of the self-burning bush.

*Ex. 3:14 "I AM WHO I AM"; and He said, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"*

- By saying that His Name is I Am, YHWH was proclaiming His timeless Self-existence.

*Gen 21:33 ... [Abraham] called on the Name of the Lord, the Everlasting God...*

*Ps 90:2 ...from everlasting to everlasting, You are God...*

*Is. 40:28 Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth...*

- It is because God is The Everlasting God, that He can impart His own everlasting Life and His love to His people.

*John 6:47 [in the NIV] I tell you the truth, he who believes has [not will have] everlasting life...*

*Jer 31:3 ...the Lord appeared to us in the past, saying: "I have loved you with an everlasting love..."*

- Each Member of the Godhead has Life in Himself.

*John 5:26 ...the Father has Life in Himself...*

*1 John 5:11 ...God has given us eternal Life, and this Life is in His Son...*

*Rom 8:2 ...the Spirit of Life...*

- In John 1:1-4, John asserts God's aseity by restating the Truth of Gen. 1:1 asserts God's aseity:

**John 1:1-4** *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God, 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. 4 In Him was Life...*

**Rev. 1:4** *John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace, from Him [God] Who is and Who was and Who is to come... v. 8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "Who is and Who was and Who is to come, the Almighty." [Ex. 3:14]*

**Rev 22:12-13** *Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done. 13 I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End...*

- God's aseity means that Who God is and all that God does is the outworking of His aseity.