

# God Is Internally Sufficient

Jeff Rogers / Lamplighter Bible Study

Various Scripture

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**Aseity.** It is a small, obscure word that is not used much today. However, seeing the word “*aseity*” in relation to God should stir our hearts to worship the King! **Aseity** comes from two Latin words: *a* meaning “from” and *se* meaning “self.” Together, they mean “*from self, to have being or existence within oneself*.”

It means God exists in Himself (absolutely) and possesses all He needs within Himself. He is the self-sufficient Sustainer of His own being. He lacks nothing, ever. He needs nothing, ever.

Therefore, God exists beyond all space and time and is immovable and unchanging. His self-existence guarantees the existence of all else. God’s “aseity” marks Him distinctly different from His creation.

On January 7, 1855, at the age of 20, Charles Haddon Spurgeon opened his sermon titled, *The Immutability of God*, with this statement, “*There is something exceedingly improving to the mind in a contemplation of the Divinity. It is a subject so vast that all our thoughts are lost in its immensity, so deep that our pride is drowned in its infinity. Other subjects we can compass and grapple with; in them we feel a kind of self-content, and go our way with the thought, "Behold I am wise." But when we come to this master-science, finding that our plumb-line cannot sound its depth, and that our eagle eye cannot see its height, we turn away...with the solemn exclamation, "I am but of yesterday and know nothing."*”

## I. God is Self-Existent

- A. God’s self-existence presupposes all Scripture (**Genesis 1:1**, *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.*)
- B. God’s self-existence was revealed to Moses.
  1. God’s Presence as a self-sustaining fire (**Exodus 3:2**, *And the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed.*)
  2. God’s Name reveals His self-existence (**Exodus 3:14**, *God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘I am has sent me to you.’ ”*
    - a) God simply “is.” Entirely self-sufficient and in need of nothing.
    - b) God never evolves or devolves. He is not the One who was, but no longer is. Neither will He become something that He presently is not. He is forever the same.
    - c) **Psalm 90:2**, *Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.* {“brought forth” and “formed” carry the idea of birth} God has always been God and forever will be God.
    - d) **Isaiah 43:10**, *“Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me.*
      - (1) No one preceded God or produced Him.
      - (2) No one will ever follow Him.
      - (3) God is the only necessary being.

## II. God is Self-Sufficient

1. Because God is Self-Existent, He must be self-sufficient. Paul proclaimed to the Athenians that God is not “*by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.*” **Acts 17:25**
2. God is self-complete **Acts 17:28**, for “*In him we live and move and have our being*”; God is missing nothing. We provide Him nothing. He provides us with everything.
3. **Romans 11:33–36**, *Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!* 34 “*For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?*” 35 “*Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?*” 36 *For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.*
  - a) God never needs instruction. No one has ever instructed God (**Romans 11:34**)

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- b) God is never in debt. No one has ever put God in the position of being indebted to him (Romans 11:35)
- c) Romans 11:36
  - (1) All things are from Him (reaching back to eternity past; before time) We see His plan!
  - (2) All things are through Him (within the span of time and creation) We see His provision!
  - (3) All things are to Him (reaching forward to eternity future; after time) We see His purpose!

### **III. God is Self Exalting**

- A. All that God does is for His glory
  - 1. **Psalm 23:3**, *He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.*
  - 2. **Psalm 25:11**, *For your name's sake, O Lord, pardon my guilt, for it is great.*
  - 3. **Psalm 31:3**, *For you are my rock and my fortress; and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me;*
  - 4. **Psalm 79:9**, *Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and atone for our sins, for your name's sake!*
  - 5. **Isaiah 48:11**, *For my own sake, for my own sake, I do it, for how should my name be profaned? My glory I will not give to another.*
  - 6. **Jeremiah 14:7**, *"Though our iniquities testify against us, act, O Lord, for your name's sake; for our backslidings are many; we have sinned against you.*
- B. In God's self-exaltation, we find divine purpose
  - 1. **Romans 11:36**, *For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.*
    - a) From Him – He is the Architect of His eternal purpose.
    - b) Through Him – He is the Administrator who brings it to pass.
    - c) To Him – He is the Aim of all things
  - 2. **1 Corinthians 8:6**, *Yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.*
  - 3. **Ephesians 1:4**, *Even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him...Ephesians 1:6*, *to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved...Ephesians 1:12*, *so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory...Ephesians 1:14*, *who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.* (See also **Ephesians 3:20-21**)

### **IV. God is Self-Content**

- A. **1 Timothy 6:15**, *who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, {blessed – happy, content, fulfilled (Matt5)}*
- B. Jesus to the Father (David anticipates/prophetically)
  - 1. **Psalm 16:9**, *Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure.*
  - 2. **Psalm 16:11**, *You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

### **V. God is Self-Giving**

- A. He is the possessor and giver of all life
  - 1. **Acts 17:25**, *Nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.*
  - 2. **John 1:4; Romans 9:26; John 5:26**.
- B. God needs no sustaining, He is the giver of all things, and therefore needs nothing. In God, we have life. Not the other way around.

### **VI. Light for Our Path**

- A. The Prayer of Moses
  - 1. **Psalm 90:1-4**, *Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. 2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. 3 You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!" 4 For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.*
- B. Moses as an Intercessor
  - 1. **The What?** He steps in between God and sinful people. Moses interceded for Israel in the crisis of

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- the golden calf (**Exodus 32-34**)
- 2. **The When?**
  - a) Perhaps when people grumbled (**Numbers 11:1-3**)
  - b) Perhaps when discouraged by the report of the spies (**Numbers 14:26-45**)
  - c) Perhaps on Mount Pisgah before his death (**Deut 34**)
- 3. **The Who?** “Lord” – “the Ruler of the World”
- 4. **The Where?** Our dwelling place (**Deuteronomy 33:27**, *The eternal God is your dwelling place, and underneath are the everlasting arms.*)
- 5. **The Why?** Verses 2-4 (Connecting our mortality to God’s immortality and our ultimate purpose)