



Section 2: Concerning The Godhead (Cont.)

Question 9: Is God dependent on some other being for his existence?

Answer 9: No, God is self-existent and possesses life within Himself.

Memory Verse: **John 5:26**
For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;

Support Verses: **Exodus 3:14**
And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

1 Timothy 1:17
Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Discussion Points:

1. Discuss the meaning of immortal... Not subject to death.

- "Immortal" means, "Having no principle of alteration or corruption; exempt from death; having life or being that shall never end... Perpetual; having unlimited existence." (Webster's 1828)
- According to the Thayer's Greek Lexicon the word also means "uncorrupted, not liable to corruption or decay, imperishable."
- The word "immortal" conveys an interesting thought about the being of God, namely that He is unchanging, and at the same time superior to, and unaffected by any influence of change.
- The same could be said about His character as it relates to corruptible influences.
- He is superior to, and unaffected by any agent of corruption.
- He is principally pure.

2. What does it mean to be self-existent?

- He is the source of life itself.
- He is the possessor of life itself. Consider also, John 1:4.
- He possesses this distinct quality above and apart from all of creation.
- In fact, this distinction establishes the truth toward us that He is separate from His creation, and in fact possessor of His creation.
- "Life" as we know it is only relatable to those elements of creation that demonstrate that we are part of it and subject to it.
- Examples would be... Time. You know you are subject to this aspect of creation because you continue to age. Another would be pain, as you know you are subject to this aspect of creation because you feel pain.



- God is independent of such external influences from His creation.
- He is above and beyond it. His existence is not defined by His relationship to the principle elements of creation.

3. The Hebrew word for "I Am" or "hayah" means "to be."

- It is a verb form that is used often to show a relationship between a particular thing and the influences over it.
- Consider how the same word is used in Exodus 32:1.
- The people questioned what had "become" of Moses as a result of being on the mount.
- Consider also Genesis 1:3, where it is used to describe the relationship of the newly manifested light to the creation.
- So this word used to relate to God is unique in that there are no influences that affect His existence.
- That is, you could never describe God in terms such as "He is, because..."
- The fact is, God has always been and always will be ever present in every time, and every place, and every circumstance without any influence affecting His being.

Notes:

Psalms, Hymns, Spiritual Songs:

- "God of the Ages" (Hymn - #86 - Rejoice Hymns)
- "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (Hymn - #10 - Rejoice Hymns)