

Glad Tidings

“And we bring you good tidings of the promise made unto the fathers...” (Acts 13:32)

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The Self-Existing God

(Jerry Fite)

When Moses asked God by what name he should give identifying the one who has sent him, God said, “*I AM THAT I AM...thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you*” (Exodus 3:14). God identifies himself as ETERNAL in that He is always present. There never was a time in which He “WAS NOT” for He is “I AM”. By such language, God is also identifying Himself as also being SELF-EXISTENT in that He depends on no other for His existence. “I AM THAT I AM” is speaking to Moses, not someone who must depend upon some other being for existence.

Is it rational and logical to believe in God who reveals Himself this way in the Bible? When we think about it, it is illogical to believe otherwise.

Imagine that there was a time when absolutely nothing existed. No universe, no matter, and yes, no God is allowed in this momentary thought. If this were so, then nothing would exist today. Why? For out of nothing,

nothing comes. You cannot get something out of nothing.

When we are answering the unending questions of our children who are asking, “Where did the trees come from” and we say, “God made the trees”, eventually they are going to ask, “Ok, then, who made God?” What will you say?

You cannot logically say that God made Himself. For that is a logical impossibility. For God to make Himself, He would have to “Be” prior to “Becoming”. You cannot logically “Be” and “Not Be” at the same time. Something cannot come from Nothing. When God says He is the “I AM”, he distinguishes himself from all Creation, and focuses upon the fact that He is not made and does not have to depend upon another for His existence. He is the self-existent “I Am”.

Since something cannot come from nothing, the fact something exists demands that something is eternal. If we believe there is no God, then we must believe the universe is eternal. But we must ask, “What part of the

universe is eternal?” We surely do not believe that our computers, cloths, and cars which make up part of the universe are eternal. The Atheist must logically conclude that “MATTER,” comprising the elements of the known universe is what’s eternal. It is just as illogical to believe matter created matter, as to believe God made God!

When people argue today that things came into existence by “CHANCE” they are thinking illogically. Chance has neither being nor power to produce or create anything. It is merely the “odds” of something occurring, not the force behind the existence of something. When people argue that the universe began 15 billion years ago with a “Big Bang” they are saying that the universe we observe had a beginning. But something had to “Be” before the beginning, for what blew up in the “Big Bang”? It is therefore logical to believe that behind the observable universe something has always existed. The Bible logically identifies that being not as “Mighty Matter”, but as God - the eternal, self-existent “I AM”!