

God's Self-Sufficiency Psalm 50:5-15

Does God really need man at all? What happens to a person's actions and beliefs when they believe that God needs them? How does the Christian God differ from pagan gods?

Israel's Surprise ...

- God Calls a Gathering
- God Declares Judgment

Possession Confusion

- God's Sarcastic Defense
- God's Extensive Declaration

"An elementary but correct way to think of God is as the One who contains all, who gives all that is given, but who Himself can receive nothing that He has not first given." — A.W. Tozer

Treat Your Stuff as if on Loan from God!

Pity Confusion

- Does God Need Man?
"Twentieth century Christianity has put God on charity. So lofty is our opinion of ourselves that we find it quite easy, not to say enjoyable, to believe that we are necessary to God." — A.W. Tozer
- Does God Need Sacrifice?

God's Self-Sufficiency

- Echo in New Testament
"The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things." — Acts 17:24-25
- Contrast to Paganism
"Ancient paganism thought of each god as bound to his worshipers by bonds of self-interest, because he depended on their service and gifts for his welfare. Modern paganism has at the back of its mind a feeling that God is somehow obliged to help us." — J.I. Packer

How should we apply this truth?

- Treat Your Stuff as if on Loan!
- Sacrifice with Thanks NOT Charity
- Cherish His Grace All the More
"God has a voluntary relation to everything He has made, but He has no necessary relation to anything outside of Himself. His interest in His creatures arises from His sovereign good pleasure, not from any need those creatures can supply nor from any completeness they can bring to Him who is complete in Himself." — A. W. Tozer