

ETERNAL THINGS



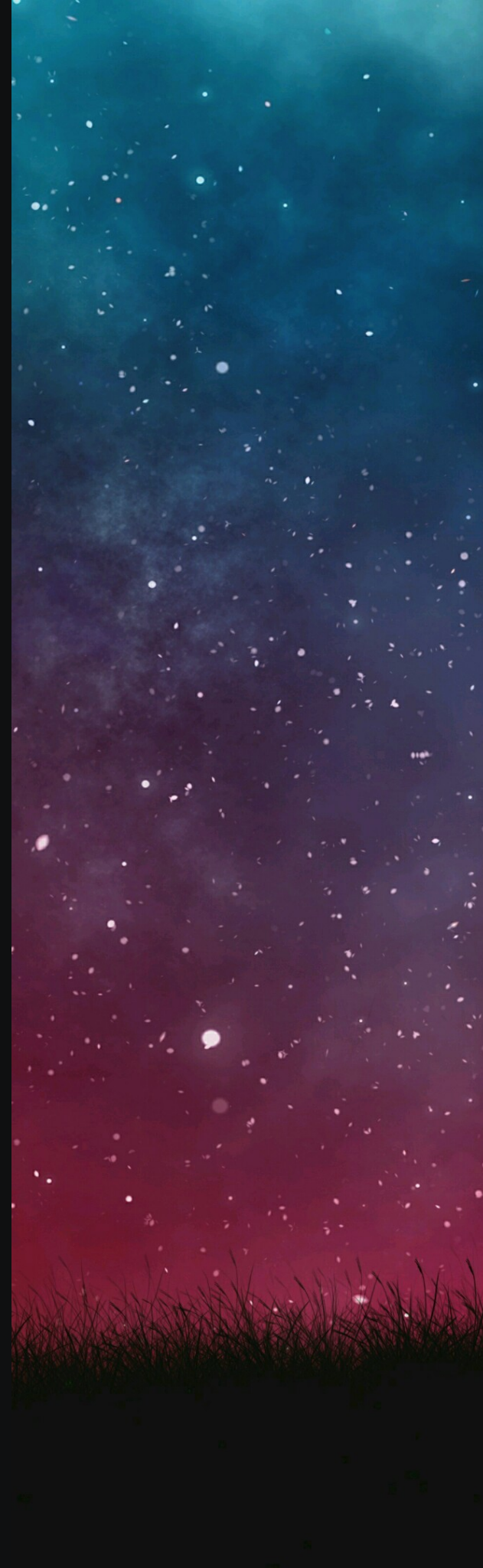
WHAT IS ETERNITY?

- “for ever, an unbroken age, perpetuity of time, eternity” (Thayer)
- It is contrasted with the temporal (2 Cor. 4,5).
 - Temporal things decay (4.16) and collapse (5.1); the idea of mortality (5.4).
 - Eternal things endure — they do not decay or collapse. It is the idea of immortality.



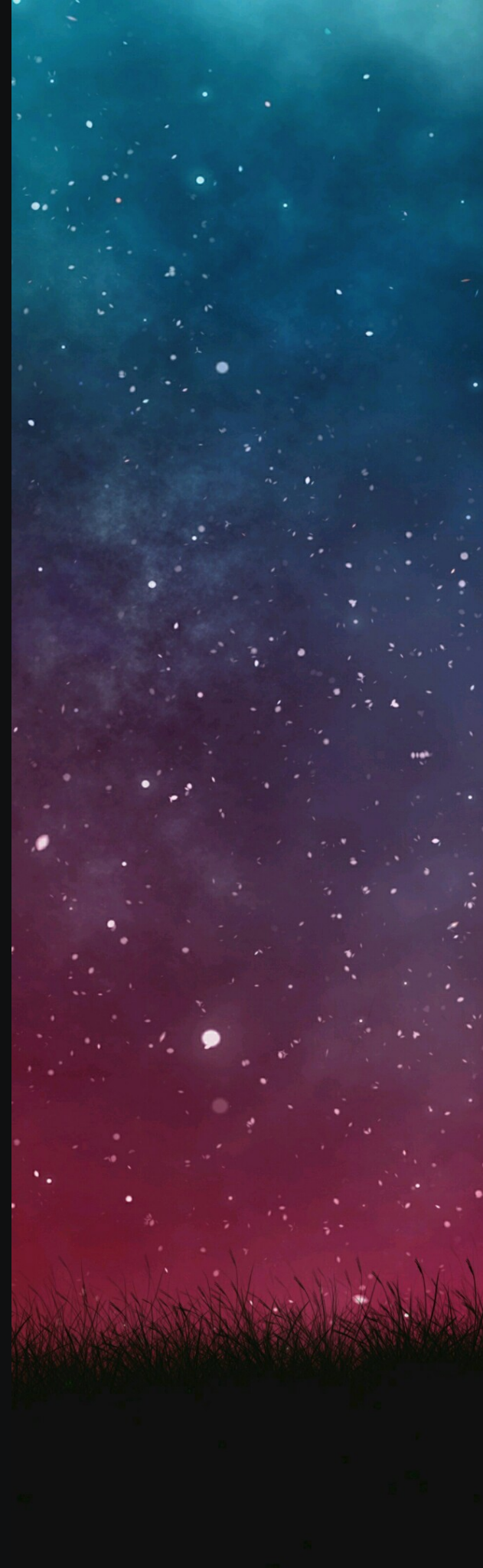
SOME THINGS THAT ARE NOT ETERNAL:

- My life in this fleshly body.
 - My time on the earth will end — Hebrews 9.27-28
 - Raised and changed into a body suitable for an eternal existence — 1 Corinthians 15.51-53
- The earth and its works.
 - 2 Peter 3.7-11
- My opportunities to reconcile to God.
 - 2 Corinthians 5.9-10



ETERNAL THINGS:

- The salvation available in Jesus Christ.
 - Hebrews 5.9; 9.11-15
 - What Jesus offers is not just a good life here — He offers a salvation that will endure forever.
- Our lives after this life (2 Corinthians 5.1-9).
 - Our lives here are marked by decay and mortality.
 - After this life, there is an unending, immortal life.
 - 1 Corinthians 15.42,51-53



ETERNAL THINGS:

- The duration of man's existence in Heaven.
 - This existence is often called "life" — not with reference to being, but quality of existence.
 - Cf. John 3.16; Romans 6.23; 1 Timothy 6.12
 - Eternal life is not simply about an unending existence
 - An eternal glorified existence of peace with God (Rom. 2.7,10)
- The duration of man's existence in Hell.
 - The counter to eternal life — eternal destruction (2 Thess. 1.9)
 - "Eternal destruction" is not about a terminal condition — it is a description of the *quality* of existence.
 - Eternal fire (Mt. 18.8; 25.41); eternal punishment (25.46)

