



Desire for eternity

Immortality and eternity in Bossuet's *Le Carême du Louvre*

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Abstract: Death, though omnipresent, is neither the center nor the horizon of the sermons that make up Bossuet's *Le Carême du Louvre*. Instead, it is eternity and immortality that represent its vanishing point and meditative heart. Pillars of a rhetoric of *dilatatio* more effective than that of *humiliatio*, they teach man his real nature while winning him over. In so doing, they give his instinct for immortality and his desire for eternity their full scope.

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