



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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