

The Great Questions Of Life #2

Introduction. Earlier we looked at five great questions that everyone needs to answer. We will continue our theme with five more great and deep questions which burrow up from deep within the mind of man. A sufficient answer to these questions, based on the Bible, is fundamental to your understanding of your place in the universe.

I. **Why Set Boundaries On Sexuality And Marriage?**

- A. God wanted men to be happy, not only in heaven for eternity, but also while he lives on the earth. When the earth was created, it was proclaimed to be "very good" (Genesis 1:31). God furthermore created woman to fill the void of man's need (Genesis 2:18). God gave them the command to "be fruitful and multiply" (Genesis 1:28).
- B. When men and women leave this simple plan, suffering ensues. Although it is meant to show the surpassing greatness of wisdom over folly, Solomon discussed the destructive nature of a man with a harlot (Proverbs 7:10-27).
- C. God warned against fornication and adultery (1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Hebrews 13:4). Jesus instituted very strict divorce regulations compared to the opinions of the day (Matthew 19:9-12). Setting boundaries and maintaining purity contributes to happiness and fulfillment in perhaps God's greatest physical gift to man.

II. **Where Did The Different Races Come From?**

- A. In the 1800s, before Darwinian evolution was popular, most people, when talking about "races," would refer to such groups as the "English race," "Irish race," etc. However, this all changed in 1859 when Charles Darwin published his landmark book, *On the Origin of Species*.
- B. Darwinian evolution was (and still is) inherently a racist philosophy, teaching that different groups or "races" of people evolved at different times and rates, so some groups are more like their apelike ancestors than others.
 1. Leading evolutionist Stephen Jay Gould claimed, "Biological arguments for racism may have been common before 1859, but they increased by orders of magnitude following the acceptance of evolutionary theory."
 2. The Australian Aborigines, for instance, were considered the missing link between the apelike ancestor and the rest of mankind. This resulted in terrible prejudices and mistreatment towards the Australian Aborigines.
 3. Common "racial characteristics," such as skin color and eye shape, are only minor variations among people groups. If one were to take

- any two people in the world, scientists have found that the basic genetic differences between these two people would typically be around 0.2% -- even if they came from the same people group.
- C. The Bible does not use the word "race" in reference to people, but it does describe all human beings as being of "one blood" (Acts 17:26). This emphasizes that we are all related, as all humans are descendants of the first man, Adam, who was created in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27). The last Adam, Jesus Christ also became a descendant of Adam (1 Corinthians 15:45). Any descendant of Adam can be saved because our mutual relative by blood (Jesus Christ) died and rose again. This is why the gospel can (and should) be preached to all tribes and nations (1 Corinthians 12:13; Galatians 3:28).

III. *How Can What Is Wrong With The World Be Made Right?*

- A. Each day brings new tragedy. A small child is diagnosed with leukemia and undergoes extensive medical treatment only to die in his mother's arms. A newlywed couple is killed by a drunk driver as they leave for their honeymoon. Thousands are killed in a terrorist attack or mob action. Hundreds drown in a tsunami, and hundreds are buried in an earthquake.
- B. God took pleasure in all of His creation (Revelation 4:11), and He gave man and woman the freedom of choice. When Adam and Eve used that choice to commit sin, the result was that God cursed the ground over which mankind had dominion (Genesis 1:28). He sentenced man and woman to die, fulfilling Genesis 2:17. He also cursed the animals and specifically the serpent (Genesis 3:14-19). Because of Satan, suffering and death are here to stay. They are potent weapons in his arsenal to create unbelief in the minds of mankind. The sad events that occur all over the world are reminders that sin has consequences and that the world needs a Savior (Romans 5:12).
- C. What is wrong with the world can only be made right with Jesus. Just as the first Adam brought death into the world, Christ, as the "last Adam," brings renewed life into the world (John 1:4; 7:38; 2 Timothy 1:10). He was the perfect sacrifice (far exceeding the most perfect, unblemished animal) because He was the holy God and the perfect man (Colossians 2:9). This will not remove injustice, but it will see to it that it is equitably judged (Psalm 73:3-7, 16-20; Romans 12:19).
- D. The New Testament describes death as the last enemy (1 Corinthians 15:26). Those who are saved look forward to the time when the Lord will revoke the curse and restore the universe to its perfect state before man sinned (Revelation 21:4; 22:3).

IV. ***Does Science Disprove Or Confirm The Bible?***

- A. There are a number of laws in our universe with which the Bible agrees.
1. The law of biogenesis. There is one well-known law of life: life always comes from life. This is what observational science tells us; organisms reproduce other organisms after their own kind, just like Moses said (Genesis 1:11-12, 21, 24-25).
 2. The laws of chemistry. Life requires a specific chemistry. Our bodies are powered by chemical reactions which depend on the laws of chemistry operating in a uniform fashion. Every living being has massive amounts of information stored in DNA. Life as we know it would not be possible if the laws of chemistry were different. The properties of elements and compounds are not arbitrary. In fact, the elements can be logically organized into a periodic table based on their physical properties. God designed the laws of physics just right so that the laws of chemistry would work in the way He wanted in order to support life.
 3. The laws of planetary motion. Johannes Kepler discovered that the planets in our solar system obey three laws of nature. He found that planets orbit in ellipses (not perfect circles as had been previously thought) with the sun at one focus of the ellipse; thus, a given planet is sometimes closer to the sun than at other times. As with the laws of chemistry, these laws of planetary motion are not fundamental. Rather, they are the logical derivation of other laws of nature.
 4. The laws of physics. There are many different laws of physics, and they describe the way in which the universe operates. There are laws of physics that describe how light propagates, how energy is transported, how gravity operates, how mass moves through space, and many other phenomena. There is a hierarchy in physics, and these laws exist because God wills them to.
 5. Universal constants. The physical constants of nature are parameters within the laws of physics which set the strengths of the fundamental forces (such as gravity), and the masses of fundamental particles (such as electrons). These constants are essential for life, and God alone has set their value. In many cases, if the fundamental constants had a slightly different value, life would not be possible.
 6. The laws of mathematics. The laws of physics are highly mathematical in nature. They would not work if there were not also laws of mathematics. Mathematical laws include the rules of addition, the transitive property, the commutative properties of addition and multiplication, the binomial theorem, etc. The laws of

mathematics are an example of a "transcendent truth." God's nature is logical and mathematical.

7. The laws of logic. All the laws of nature, from physics and chemistry to the law of biogenesis, depend on logic. Like mathematics, the laws of logic are transcendent truths. The atheist cannot account for the laws of logic, even though he or she must accept that they exist in order to think rationally. But according to the Bible, God is logical. Indeed, the law of noncontradiction details God's nature -- God cannot lie or be tempted with evil because these would contradict His perfect nature (Numbers 23:19; James 1:13). Since we have been made in God's image, we can look at truth and reason logically.
8. The uniformity of nature. The laws of nature do not change arbitrarily, and they apply throughout the whole cosmos. The laws of nature apply in the future just as they have in the past -- this is one of the most basic assumptions of science. Moreover, without this assumption, science would be impossible. God is Lord over all creation and sustains the universe in a consistent and logical way (Jeremiah 33:25).
- B. The laws of nature depend on other laws of nature, which ultimately depend on God's will. He laid the foundations of the earth (Job 38:4-6, 31-33; Psalm 102:25). Could any human have been able to solve such a complex puzzle? Could a process have developed this level of complexity? Yet, God has done so when He created "the heavens and the earth." The Bible affirms the only reasonable, logical explanation for these laws.

V. ***Why Should The Bible Be The Authority In My Life?***

- A. There are many Christians who say they believe in biblical authority. They may even claim to adhere to biblical inerrancy and say they take the Bible "literally," or as it is written. However, in practice, many of these Christians really ignore the Bible.
- B. The primary reason why Christians do not adhere to biblical authority is because they are influenced by humanism.
 1. Much of the liberal thought in religion today is the result of humanist influences. Classic liberalism, modernism, situation ethics, and the social gospel all find their roots in humanist philosophy.
 2. Humanism directs man in his own steps (cf. John 3:27; 2 Corinthians 3:5). Therefore, in this religion, God would be lower than man, or would not exist at all.
- C. Because God is the Creator of everything (Psalm 33:6, 9), everything belongs to Him (Psalm 24:1; 50:10-11); therefore, God has the right to make the rules. Rules are for man's highest good (Proverbs 6:23).

No idol was ever invested in the good of man -- they were all worthless. An absolute moral code makes sense. But if the Bible were not true, then why should we follow any code of behavior? If God made the world, God made the rules, and you are obligated to obey!

Conclusion. Have these lessons convinced you that God has something wonderful planned for you? If so, Jesus Christ is the answer. If you will obey Him with your faith, confession, repentance, and baptism, then God will forgive you and bless you eternally. The great questions of life must be answered, and Jesus and the New Testament have the answers. If you would like to obey or be restored, then do it while we give you the opportunity.