

Three Questions About Life – 11/03/21

TEXT- Ecc 12:13-14 *Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. 14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.*

INTRO –

I. Where Did You Come From?

A. You cannot ignore that man came from somewhere

There had to be a first

- Evolution?
- UFO'S?
- Creation?

Whenever we are seeking to find out the **ORIGIN** of something, we are asking the question, "Where did it begin?" "How did it all begin?" "How did it originate?" "Where did it come from?"

For example, someone might ask, "What is the origin or the beginning point of the Mississippi River?" Where does this great river start?" If we were to start at the Gulf of Mexico and follow the Mississippi River all the way back to its starting point, we would end up at a location in northern Minnesota. It is there that the Mississippi River **ORIGINates!**

Today everyone agrees that there was a time when there were no men on earth. Even those who do not believe the Bible believe this.

Gen 1:26-27 *And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.*

John 1:1-3 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 The same was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.*

II. What Are You Doing Here?

A. We are here to please God – God is not a spare tire

Col 1:16-17 *For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: 17 And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.*

B. We can be restored back to God by Salvation

2 Pe 3:9 *The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*

C. He has a purpose for each one of us

Ecc 3:1 *To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:*

1. To further his kingdom – Preach the gospel
2. Obey His Word
3. Know God's will for your life

Rom 12:1-2 *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

4. Walk in His steps

Psa 37:23 *The steps of a good man are ordered by the LORD: and he delighteth in his way.*

5. Use Your gifts to serve Him

III. Where Are You Going?

2 Co 5:8 *We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.*

Heaven

1 Th 4:16-17 *For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: 17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.*

or hell

Rev 20:13-15 *And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. 14 And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.*

Rewards or judgment

A. The thief on the cross

Luke 23:43 *And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.*

Sheol – Old Testament

Paadise – Old Testament

Hades, Lake of Fire - New Testament

New Heaven and a new earth, New Jeruslaem – New Testament

CONCL – In the beginning, about four billion years ago, the air is unfit to breathe. The young earth is without life. The sun beats down; storms lash the coasts; volcanoes pour hissing lava into the ocean's waters. These natural jolts fuse simple molecules into more complex ones. Amino acids are formed, then interact with each other, and primitive protein is fashioned, perhaps as a worm-like molecule. Somehow the right molecules get together and the first living cell appears. This first living cell is the great ancestor of all plants and animals on earth, including man. From this first cell, all other forms of life evolved. This tiny first living cell is the father of us all!

How did man come from this first cell? (Remember, there are more cells in the human body than there are people in the world.) Here's the story: As time went on, this first cell developed into amoeba-like organisms and other primitive creatures that could survive in the ocean. After millions of years, these creatures evolved into fish. Some of these fish developed lungs so that they could survive outside of the water. Gradually they began to make their way onto land as the first amphibians. These amphibians then evolved into reptiles and the earth soon became populated with great dinosaurs. Some of these reptiles started to develop legs that could move around better, and these creatures became what we today would call mammals. Other reptiles developed wings and flew away to become birds.

Where did man come from? One of these early mammals was known as a tree shrew. He was not much larger than a squirrel and in many ways looked like a squirrel. This creature lived in trees and gradually evolved into primitive monkeys and other apelike creatures. From these apelike creatures there evolved two major groups: 1) the great apes that we can see in zoos today, such as the gorilla, orangutan, gibbon and chimpanzee; 2) a creature who came down from the trees and who started walking upright (all monkeys and apes walk on all fours). He is now known as MAN!

Our father (that first living cell) would have been very proud of us if he could have seen how far we have come these past millions of years!

This information was taken from two sources: 1) "The Awesome Worlds Within a Cell," *National Geographic*, September, 1976, pp. 392-393; 2) *Evolution*, by Ruth Moore published by TIME Incorporated (TIME-LIFE series), 1964, pp.109-116.