

Morning Sermon September 20, 2020

"Our Creator God!" Genesis 1:1

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1

Some years ago, I found myself sitting at the end of a long table, maybe two tables, as I was being examined for licensure in the Christian Church Disciples of Christ. One much older man was sitting next to me, and an equal number of male and female so called pastors lined the table as I remember, about ten each. I still remember the first question the older man asked me, one I thought I was ready for – "What is God?" I started my answer, "God is a Spirit, Infinite, Eternal, Unchangeable..." Before I could finish the old man was yelling, "No, no, no, that is not what I am asking you! I am asking you is God a man or a woman?"

What is obvious is that question was influenced by feminism, what is less obvious is the question was also influenced by evolution and even atheism!

The old man was not concerned at all with what the Bible said about God, he wanted a god who served his own ends, not a God Who creates but a god he created!

I. The absolute necessity and extreme importance of these first words of the Bible –

1 In the beginning God created ... Genesis 1:1

- 1. Without the truths expressed in these first words of Scripture the foundations of morality are destroyed –*

³ If the foundations are destroyed, What can the righteous do? Psalm 11:3 (NKJV)

The man who asked me whether I believed God was a man or a woman was no longer believing in a God Who creates, rather he believes in a god he or others had created!

- 2. Darwin, with his theory of evolution, which is just a theory, not even a theory in the*

proper sense, has made us into moral dogs and worse, devils –

¹ The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none who does good. Psalm 14:1 (NKJV)

Once we start believing there is no God above us, no creator, no ruler of and over the universe, anything goes ...

When my brothers and I still believed mom and dad were a long time coming home, with a lax babysitter, we behaved badly ...

³ knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, ⁴ and saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation." 2 Peter 3:3-4

However, when we thought they might come any minute, our behavior improved! Those who believe no God will ever come to judge them, have no restraint for their sin!

- 3. Those who believe men designed, created God, want to throw off all the rules they think a fake God made –*

² "I am the LORD your God, ... Exodus 20:2 (NKJV)
What if people think He is NOT? What happens when people do not believe in a God above them? What if they believe the God above them is a made up story, to rule them, to oppress them? All God's rules go out the window! No more -

¹² "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³ "You shall not murder.

¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ "You shall not steal.

¹⁶ "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷ "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's." Exodus 20:12–17 (NKJV)

- 4. Those who believe God was made up to oppress, will make up their own "gods" and "goddesses" to compete with or destroy the true God and His people, to break His rules –*

A. *They give up the true God, despite clear revelation, which comes from creation –*

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them. ²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, ²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.
Romans 1:18–21 (NKJV)

B. *In rebellion they create their own gods, philosophies, ideologies, which replace God, evolution, belief in global warming are replacement of God Who both created and maintains our world -*

²² Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

²⁴ Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

C. *These God replacers do not restrain people from sin -*

²⁶ For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. ²⁷ Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. ²⁸ And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; ²⁹ being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; *they are* whisperers, ³⁰ backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, ³¹ undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; ³² who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them. Romans 1:22–32 (NKJV)

II. *Meaning, purpose, glory and joy find their roots, their life in the truths of these words –*

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1

1. *If God did not create this world, if it all came about as the atheists and evolutionists claim, by accident, all real meaning and purpose are gone -*

They admit it -

“That man is the product of causes that had no prevision of the end they were achieving; that his origin, his growth, his hopes and fears, his loves and his beliefs, are but the outcome of accidental collocations of atoms; that no fire, no heroism, no intensity of thought and feeling, can preserve individual life beyond the grave; that all the labors of the ages, all the devotion, all the inspiration, all the noonday brightness of human genius, are destined to extinction in the vast death of the solar system, and that the whole temple of Man's achievement must inevitably be buried beneath the debris of a universe in ruins- all these things, if not quite beyond dispute, are yet so nearly certain that no philosophy which rejects them can hope to stand.

Only within the scaffolding of these truths, only on the firm foundation of unyielding despair, can the soul's habitation henceforth be safely built.”

Bertrand Russell (Famous, near atheist, agnostic)

Do you want to build your life on a foundation of unyielding despair?

2. *That God created the Heavens and the earth and all in them with a PURPOSE is one of the great truths of Scripture –*

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork. Psalm 19:1 (NKJV)

¹¹ “You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created.” Revelation 4:11 (NKJV)

3. *Human beings, being created in God's image have this purpose even more than others –*

³¹ Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31 (NKJV)

- A. *We were created in God's image to give God glory!*
- B. *We were redeemed, bought with a price, for this same purpose –*

¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?* ²⁰ For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Corinthians 6:19–20 (NKJV)

III. *When we consider the grand nature of creation we should wonder at the fact, the Creator cares for us –*

¹ O LORD, our Lord, How excellent is Your name in all the earth, Who have set Your glory above the heavens! ² Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained strength, Because of Your enemies, That You may silence the enemy and the avenger. ³ When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained, ⁴ What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him? ⁵ For You have made him a little lower than the angels, And You have crowned him with glory and honor. ⁶ You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all *things* under his feet, ⁷ All sheep and oxen— Even the beasts of the field, ⁸ The birds of the air, And the fish of the sea That pass through the paths of the seas. ⁹ O LORD, our Lord, How excellent is Your name in all the earth! Psalm 8

1. *However great the universe, the heavens, may be, God's glory is above it – Psalm 8:1* **Who have set Your glory above the heavens!**

- Our earth is 8,000 miles in diameter
- The Moon is 240,000 miles from earth
- The Sun is 400 times further from us than the Moon is, 93 million miles
- Neptune's orbit is 30 times greater than the earth, Pluto is even further
- If the orbits of all the planets in our solar system were place in a cube, the cube would be 6 BILLION MILES to a side!
- 4,278 such solar system cubes fit between ours and the next nearest!
- Sirius is the brightest star in our night sky because it is relatively near, 50 trillion miles away; it is twice the diameter of our Sun.
- The star Rigel stretches 70 Suns across

- Betelgeuse 400 light years away, is a star 600 times the diameter of our sun, if it were in the center of our solar system we would be inside it
- Beyond this, still in our own galaxy, we see globular clusters of stars, these are clusters of thousands of stars, there are about 100 such globular clusters in our Milky Way Galaxy, which is 80,000 light years across (a light year is 5.88 trillion miles)
- Yet, our Galaxy is just one of BILLIONS of Galaxies in our Universe
- Our God is above, outside of over and GREATER THAN ALL of this!

2. *God gets glory from babes – Psalm 8:2*
3. *The vastness of the Heavens glorify God – Psalm 8:3, Psalm 19:1*
4. *Yet, His mindfulness of us, His care, expressed ultimately in Christ's cross – Psalm 8:4; Revelation 1:5*
5. *The high position to which He raises us – Psalm 8:5-8*
6. *All these things should result in our praise – Psalm 8:9*

IV. *The fact that the Ultimate Author of Scripture, is the Creator of our universe, and of us, should cause us to respect His Book, His Words* —

¹⁶ All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16–17 (NKJV)

The same God Who created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1

Gave us instructions regarding how to live in it!

1. *Just as the Apostle Paul establishes his authority as he begins his letters – Ephesians 1:1 (NKJV) 1 Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, To the saints who are in Ephesus, and faithful in Christ Jesus:*

So, God's Authority is established at the beginning of His Book -

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1

2. Surely, the God Who made us knows, why He made us!
3. Surely, He knows His purpose and design!
4. His Words are Creative –

³ Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. Genesis 1:3 (NKJV)

5. Surely, the Words and Commands He gives are powerful and for our benefit, they communicate even more than the Heavens do –

¹ The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork. ² Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night reveals knowledge. ³ There is no speech nor language Where their voice is not heard. ⁴ Their line has gone out through all the earth, And their words to the end of the world. Psalm 19:1-4

⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; ⁸ The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; ⁹ The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. ¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. ¹¹ Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward. Psalm 19:7-11

Perfect for conversion of the soul - :7
Sure, for making wise the simple - :7
Right for rejoicing the heart - :8
Pure for enlightening the eyes - :8
Clean, enduring forever - :9
True and righteous, altogether - :9
Desirable & valuable - :10
They give warning and reward - :11

6. God spoke things into being –

³ Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. Genesis 1:3 (NKJV)

³ By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. Hebrews 11:3 (NKJV)

Scientists have just recently discovered DNA, the instructions for life –

- *A single strand of DNA is thousands of times thinner than a human hair, and yet one pin head of DNA stores enough information to*

fill a stack of books which would reach from the earth to the moon and back, 500 times!

- *God’s creations come with instruction books: the seeds for an oak tree, grow oaks, palm trees – Palms, pea DNA has instruction for peas, and human DNA for humans ... and yet God’s creative power goes beyond DNA -*

7. The Word of God, the Creative power of God is His Son – talk of Personal, Creative, Communication -

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. John 1:1–5 (NKJV)

- A. *It is no coincidence that John 1, and John 1:1 read a lot like Genesis 1! Even John 1:1 and Genesis 1:1 almost match!*

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14 (NKJV)

- B. *These words show us God is not only Creative with His Word, but Communicative and He communicates to us through His Son –*

¹ God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, ² has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; ³ who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, Hebrews 1:1–3 (NKJV)

- C. *This same Word, Who became flesh and died for us, is coming again –*

¹² “And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End, the First and the Last.” Revelation 22:12–13 (NKJV)

Revelation 22:14–15 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. ¹⁵ But outside are dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.

Arnold Brevick