***The God Who Created the Heavens and the Earth***

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***Introduction:*** Our concept of God will determine how we live.

 A. The tragedy of idolatry is the kind of people it produced. **(Psa 115:3-8)**

**Psalm 115:3-8**  3 But our God *is* in heaven; He does whatever He pleases. 4 Their idols *are* silver and gold, The work of men's hands. 5 They have mouths, but they do not speak; Eyes they have, but they do not see; 6 They have ears, but they do not hear; Noses they have, but they do not smell; 7 They have hands, but they do not handle; Feet they have, but they do not walk; Nor do they mutter through their throat. 8 Those who make them are like them; *So is* everyone who trusts in them.

 1. A people without the restraints of our holy God will be ruthless. **(Rom 1:28-32)**

**Romans 1:28-32**  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.

 2. There is nothing new to the battles of our culture.

 B. When men turn away from the pressures of men and seek God, they can find Him.

 1. The God of the universe is powerful and He is not a man!

 2. The power of God moves men to yield to Him. **(Acts 17:30-31)**

**Acts 17:30-31 -** 30 "Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, 31 "because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."

 3. Christians are being pressured to change the nature of God by the culture.

***I. God wants all men to know that He is the creator***

 A. This was to be told in the most basic introduction of God. **(1 Chron 16:24-26)**

**1 Chronicles 16:24-26**  - Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all peoples. 25 For the LORD *is* great and greatly to be praised; He *is* also to be feared above all gods. 26 For all the gods of the peoples *are* idols, But the LORD made the heavens.

 1. The one true God and His power were unknown among the idol gods.

 2. The thought of the wisdom and power of creation should leave men in awe.

 B. Behind the power of God was revealed the character of God that men should learn!

 1. As lighting and weather occurred, men should seek the thoughts of God!
 **(Jer 10:10-13; 14:22)**

**Jeremiah 10:10-13 -** But the LORD *is* the true God; He *is* the living God and the everlasting King. At His wrath the earth will tremble, And the nations will not be able to endure His indignation. 11 Thus you shall say to them: "The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth shall perish from the earth and from under these heavens." 12 He has made the earth by His power, He has established the world by His wisdom, And has stretched out the heavens at His discretion. 13 When He utters His voice, *There is* a multitude of waters in the heavens: "And He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth. He makes lightning for the rain, He brings the wind out of His treasuries."

**Jeremiah 14:22 -** Are there any among the idols of the nations that can cause rain? Or can the heavens give showers? *Are* You not He, O LORD our God? Therefore we will wait for You, Since You have made all these.

 2. As a child these concepts helped me to learn to look to God for help.

 C. The great temptation of man is to give in to pride.

 1. How can an arrogant man take the place of God? In blindness he often tries.

 2. Job had some humbling questions asked of Him! **(Job 38:1-11)**

**Job 38:1-11 -** Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said: 2 "Who *is* this who darkens counsel By words without knowledge? 3 Now prepare yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer Me. 4 " Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell *Me,* if you have understanding. 5 Who determined its measurements? Surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? 6 To what were its foundations fastened? Or who laid its cornerstone, 7 When the morning stars sang together, And all the sons of God shouted for joy? 8 "Or *who* shut in the sea with doors, When it burst forth *and* issued from the womb; 9 When I made the clouds its garment, And thick darkness its swaddling band; 10 When I fixed My limit for it, And set bars and doors; 11 When I said, 'This far you may come, but no farther, And here your proud waves must stop!'

 3. You may be surprised in how easy it is for us to cross that line.

 4. Let us never forget that we were created. **(Psa 100:3)**

**Psalm 100:3**  - Know that the LORD, He *is* God; *It is* He *who* has made us, and not we ourselves; *We are* His people and the sheep of His pasture.

 D. His people should often meditate on this and praise Him for such glory! **(Neh 9:6)**

**Nehemiah 9:6 -** You alone *are* the LORD; You have made heaven, The heaven of heavens, with all their host, The earth and everything on it, The seas and all that is in them, And You preserve them all. The host of heaven worships You.

 1. When you think of this truth imagine the power available to those who have the
 right to claim His promises!

 2. Praise God with your children as you observe His creation. **(Ps 148:4-6)**

**Psalm 148:4-6 -** Praise Him, you heavens of heavens, And you waters above the heavens! 5 Let them praise the name of the LORD, For He commanded and they were created. 6 He also established them forever and ever; He made a decree which shall not pass away.

 3. This is available to you every day!

***II. Consequences of denying God’s revealed creation account***

 A. How does one go from being a Christian to an atheist? Notice the steps! (See Chart)

 1. The modern seminaries are filled with denial of the creation account.

 2. Does it matter if Genesis is historically accurate? Is the creation account
 figurative? It is recorded as history. **(Gen 2:4)**

**Genesis 2:4 -** This *is* the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens,

 3. Is this just a matter of differences in Bible interpretation?

 B. God’s people under Moses were expected to believe this! **(Ex 20:11; 31:17-18)**

**Exodus 20:11 -** For *in* six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that *is* in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

**Exodus 31:17-18 -** 'It *is* a sign between Me and the children of Israel forever; for *in* six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, and on the seventh day He rested and was refreshed.' " 18 And when He had made an end of speaking with him on Mount Sinai, He gave Moses two tablets of the Testimony, tablets of stone, written with the finger of God.

 1. Just as there were seven literal days in a week so there were in creation!

 2. The prophets considered Noah as a historical person. **(Ezk 14:14)**

**Ezekiel 14:14**  - "Even *if* these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver *only* themselves by their righteousness," says the Lord GOD.

 3. Why would men deny the account of God who was there in order to appease
 men who were not there?

 C. You must then deny the words of Jesus.

 1. He taught the creation**. (Mk 13:19)**

**Mark 13:19 -** "For *in* those days there will be tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the creation which God created until this time, nor ever shall be.

 2. He taught about Adam and Eve and the beginning of the marriage relationship.

 **(Matt. 19:4-6)**

**Matthew 19:4-6 -** And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made *them* at the beginning 'made them male and female,' 5 "and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? 6 "So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."

 3. He taught about Noah and the flood **(Matt. 24:38-39)**

**Matthew 24:38-39**  - "For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, 39 "and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.

 D. You have denied the foundation of the cross of Christ. **(1 Cor 1:18-21)**

**1 Corinthians 1:18-21**  - For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 19 For it is written: "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, And bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent." 20 Where *is* the wise? Where *is* the scribe? Where *is* the disputer of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? 21 For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.

 1. We are saved from sin that was first introduced through the historical person of
 Adam! **(Rom 3:23; 5:12-15; 6:23)**

**Romans 3:23**  - for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

**Romans 5:12-15**  - Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned -- 13 (For until the law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. 14 Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. 15 But the free gift *is* not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many.

 2. If Adam was not real then was the need for the cross real?

 3. When you eliminate a historical foundation then terrible consequences must
 logically follow.

 4. Many of the new “non-traditional” churches have now denied the historical
 truth of the creation account. Many are now saying men evolved from
 chimpanzees.

 5. Many brethren have wholly turned to the social gospel to making this world a
 better place (soup kitchens, etc..) and away from the gospel of Christ.

***III. The blessings of knowing the God who created everything***

 A. We can know that He created all things!

 1. We can learn some things from the creation. **(Rom 1:20)**

**Romans 1:20**  - 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,

 2. We can know the details clearly from God’s word. **(Heb 11:3)**

**Hebrews 11:3 -** 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.

 3. Men should tremble at His word and not ridicule brethren for believing it.

 B. We can have great confidence in His power.

 1. This is a great reason to reverence and praise Him. **(Ps 96:4-6)**

**Psalm 96:4-6 -** For the LORD *is* great and greatly to be praised; He *is* to be feared above all gods. 5 For all the gods of the peoples *are* idols, But the LORD made the heavens. 6 Honor and majesty *are* before Him; Strength and beauty *are* in His sanctuary.

 2. Make this praise commonplace in your life.

 C. We can have great confidence in His word. **(Psa 33:4-6)**

**Psalm 33:4-6**  - For the word of the LORD *is* right, And all His work *is done* in truth. 5 He loves righteousness and justice; The earth is full of the goodness of the LORD. 6 By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.

 1. How can such a powerful God care for me? How can I know His promises are
 true? Our God He is alive!

 2. Israel was assured of the return from captivity by God promises and even His
 naming the king before he was even born! **(Isa 45:1, 11-13)**

**Isaiah 45:1 -** "Thus says the LORD to His anointed, To Cyrus, whose right hand I have held -- To subdue nations before him And loose the armor of kings, To open before him the double doors, So that the gates will not be shut:

**Isaiah 45:11-13**  - Thus says the LORD, The Holy One of Israel, and his Maker: "Ask Me of things to come concerning My sons; And concerning the work of My hands, you command Me. 12 I have made the earth, And created man on it. I -- My hands -- stretched out the heavens, And all their host I have commanded. 13 I have raised him up in righteousness, And I will direct all his ways; He shall build My city And let My exiles go free, Not for price nor reward," Says the LORD of hosts.

 3. When you trust in the God who created everything then His promises are sure!
 **(Isa 45:17-19)**

**Isaiah 45:17-19**  - *But* Israel shall be saved by the LORD With an everlasting salvation; You shall not be ashamed or disgraced Forever and ever. 18 For thus says the LORD, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: "I *am* the LORD, and *there is* no other. 19 I have not spoken in secret, In a dark place of the earth; I did not say to the seed of Jacob, 'Seek Me in vain'; I, the LORD, speak righteousness, I declare things that are right.

 D. We can have great confidence in our future as we trust Him.

 1. Our confidence in His mercy is tied to creation! **(Ps 136:3-9)**

**Psalm 136:3-9 -** Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords! For His mercy *endures* forever: 4 To Him who alone does great wonders, For His mercy *endures* forever; 5 To Him who by wisdom made the heavens, For His mercy *endures* forever; 6 To Him who laid out the earth above the waters, For His mercy *endures* forever; 7 To Him who made great lights, For His mercy *endures* forever -- 8 The sun to rule by day, For His mercy *endures* forever; 9 The moon and stars to rule by night, For His mercy *endures* forever.

 2. Is anything too hard for God? When we know this then His promises will
 absolutely change us. **(Jer 32:17-19)**

**Jeremiah 32:17-19 -** 'Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, You have made the heavens and the earth by Your great power and outstretched arm. There is nothing too hard for You. 18 '*You* show lovingkindness to thousands, and repay the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them -- the Great, the Mighty God, whose name *is* the LORD of hosts. 19 '*You are* great in counsel and mighty in work, for your eyes *are* open to all the ways of the sons of men, to give everyone according to his ways and according to the fruit of his doings.

 3. When men turn from the God who created the earth in 7 days you begin to see a
 turn back to the world. Church history is filed with these sad examples.

 4. One day the power of God will raise my body from the dead!
  **(1 Cor 6:14; 15:43)**

**1 Corinthians 6:14**  - And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.

**1 Corinthians 15:43 -** It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power.

***Conclusion:*** What God do you serve? **(Isa 40:25-31)**

**Isaiah 40:25-31**  25 " To whom then will you liken Me, Or *to whom* shall I be equal?" says the Holy One. 26 Lift up your eyes on high, And see who has created these *things,* Who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, By the greatness of His might And the strength of *His* power; Not one is missing. 27 Why do you say, O Jacob, And speak, O Israel: "My way is hidden from the LORD, And my just claim is passed over by my God"? 28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, The Creator of the ends of the earth, Neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. 29 He gives power to the weak, And to *those who have* no might He increases strength. 30 Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, 31 But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew *their* strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.