

The Creator, the Created World, and the Created Order

San Antonio Biblical Worldview Conference, February 3, 2018

(Scripture passages are from the English Standard Version)

Truth 1. The Triune God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – is uniquely God from all eternity, with no peers or equals. Man is the apex of God’s creation, uniquely made in God’s image and likeness, for fellowship with God.

Ps 90:2: Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Gen 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Truth 2. God created all things from nothing by the power of his word. Man is the steward of God’s creation, and God uses man as an instrument for humanity’s perpetuation, but man is not a creator strictly speaking.

Heb 11:3 By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

Gen 1:26 Then 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 birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

1Cor 8:6: ...for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

Truth 3. God sustains his creation with the use of the means that he designates for this purpose. Through Scripture and conscience God holds all human beings morally accountable for their stewardship of creation – in society, in the family, and in their personal lives.

Heb 1:2-3 ...[God] has spoken to us by his Son, ...through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

Rom 2:14-15 For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that the work of the law is written on their hearts, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them...

Gen 1:28 And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Acts 17:24-28 The God who made the world and everything in it...gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, ...that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, for “In him we live and move and have our being...”

Gen 2:24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

Heb 13:4 Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

Lie 1. Each human being is his own god, and determines his own identity, purpose, and destiny. If a god beyond man is envisioned, that god is created by man in the image and likeness of man, as a projection from man, to fulfill the will and purposes of man.

Gen 3:4-5 But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

Ps 14:1-4 The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.” They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is none who does good. The Lord looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one. Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers who eat up my people as they eat bread and do not call upon the Lord?

Lie 2. Each human being can create his own reality by the power of his own will and words. Everyone, including any gods that have been projected from man, must accept the legitimacy of what each human being has so created.

Jer 23:25-28 I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, “I have dreamed, I have dreamed!” How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another...? Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully.

2Tim 4:3-4 ...people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.

Lie 3. Each human being is accountable only to himself, and establishes his own morality for himself. Each human being can decide, as an act of the will, how he will use his body and his resources, for the fulfillment of his own purposes.

Rom 1:18,21-22,24-27 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. ... For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools... Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie... For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men...

Deut 22:5: A woman shall not wear a man’s garment, nor shall a man put on a woman’s cloak, for whoever does these things is an abomination to the Lord your God.

God’s solution to the disparity between what man was created to be, and what man now is because of sin, is Christ. In Christ humanity is forgiven, restored, regenerated, enlightened, and healed.

2Cor 5:17-18 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself...

Rom 8:1-2 There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

1Cor 2:14,16 The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ... “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

John 8:31-32 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”

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