



God's Answers to Good Questions

Lesson 4 - Did God Create the World?

PREPARE

- Please read the following passages:
 - Genesis 1
 - Exodus 20:11
 - Psalm 104:1-9
 - John 1:1-3
 - Colossians 1:16
- Watch the video lesson and complete the Study Guide while watching

STUDY GUIDE

I. Preliminary Matters

- A. _____ is a branch of philosophy that studies _____ and addresses the question, "How do we know what we know?"
- B. Christian epistemology is based on God's _____
1. We know as God reveals _____ to us
 2. This comes generally through the _____ world ... it also comes specially through the _____ and through _____
- C. Non-Christian thought has various answers to the question of epistemology:
1. Skeptics, cynics, and critics say there is _____ to know truth:
 - a. Skeptics, cynics, and critics even question the _____ of the concept of truth
 - b. This position was articulated by _____, the governor who condemned Jesus to death (what is truth?)
 2. Others suggest _____:
 - a. What we can _____, what we can _____, what we can _____, what we can _____, what we can _____ is true

- b. There's some attraction to that because we do gather a lot of information through our _____
 - c. Is sense perception adequate, though, to tell us whether something is true or false, _____ or _____?
 - d. Is what we are perceiving always _____ portrayed to us?
3. Some suggest _____:
- a. We _____, we _____, and through the rational processes of the human mind, we _____ truth
 - b. Just because someone thinks something _____ make it true, though
4. The most popular position is _____:
- a. We've heard this in the media - _____ will tell us the truth ... trust the _____ ... implicitly, trust the _____ who tell us what science says
 - b. Science has its proper place in Christian studies - science can be a very _____ for understanding the world around us that God created
 - c. Is science the _____ source of truth, though? Can science tell us right or wrong?
 - d. " _____ " is a bastardization of true science - science is always _____ because they're always putting out new _____ and testing their hypotheses and coming to new _____ (sometimes new conclusions overthrow old conclusions)

D. We know truth because _____ has revealed it

II. God's Clear Word

A. Genesis 1:1-3 - *"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit*

of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light."

1. Did God _____ the world and everything in it ... yes ... because God Himself _____ He did
2. God _____ the world because He has always existed
3. The passage goes on to tell us what God was doing in the _____ - the earth was formless and void, darkness was over the surface of the deep, the _____ was investing all that dead matter with energy
4. The whole first chapter of Genesis tells us very plainly that _____ created the world and everything in it

B. Exodus 20:11 - *"For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it."*

C. Psalm 104:1-9 - *"Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, thou art very great; Thou art clothed with honour and majesty. Who coverest thyself with light as with a garment: Who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain: Who layeth the beams of his chambers in the waters: Who maketh the clouds his chariot: Who walketh upon the wings of the wind: Who maketh his angels spirits; His ministers a flaming fire: Who laid the foundations of the earth, That it should not be removed for ever. Thou coveredst it with the deep as with a garment: The waters stood above the mountains. At thy rebuke they fled; At the voice of thy thunder they hasted away. They go up by the mountains; they go down by the valleys Unto the place which thou hast founded for them. Thou hast set a bound that they may not pass over; That they turn not again to cover the earth."*

1. Though these things are true, we don't think that this is _____ how God did it - this is a _____ description that helps us to understand the _____ of His prophetic works
2. God is saying through the historical narrative of _____ and _____ and through the wisdom literature of _____, "Yes, I made the world and it was glorious!"

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

1. The " _____ " that is spoken of in this passage is actually _____
2. _____ things came into being through Jesus Christ in two different ways:
 - a. _____ - all things came into being through the Word ... through Christ
 - b. _____ - apart from Him, nothing came into being that has come into being

E. Colossians 1:16 - *"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 ..."*

1. _____ things have been created through Christ and for Christ
2. All things not only bear His _____ (His fingerprint), but He _____ them because He created them

III. Theological Considerations

A. The _____ in man

1. When God created the human race, He created humans _____ from the animals, from the birds, and from the fish
2. Human beings bear God's _____ and have His _____
3. This has a lot to say about _____ - we treat other people with _____ and _____ (even if we disagree with them) because they also bear the image of God

B. _____ and _____ in life has been given to us by God the Creator

C. Creation Ordinances:

1. _____ - we are to govern this world as God's _____,
as His _____, and our work of ruling this world is for God's
_____ and our _____
2. _____ - God created a woman to go with the man ... the
_____ of marriage was given by God in the Garden of Eden, and
it was for man's _____ and for the _____ of the
human race
3. _____
 - a. One day out of seven we get to set aside our worldly cares and
_____ in Christ and His finished work for us
 - b. One day out of seven we get to _____ so that we can be
refreshed as we _____ and _____ God before we
go out for another week of labor

D. God not only created all things, but He _____ all things - that gives
_____ and make _____ out of life

E. Since God is the Sovereign Creator of all things, He is therefore the
_____ of all things

IV. The Alternative: Darwinian Evolution

- A. Darwinian evolution, which began in the mid 1800s, has continued
_____, _____, _____, and it's different today
than it was in Darwin's day
- B. His whole theory began with some scientific observations about
_____ within species in the Galapagos Islands
- C. Although the Darwinian position has lots to say about changes within species
and even changes between species, it can never ever answer the question of

- D. The Darwinian evolutionist has a theory that says this world is governed by the _____
- E. What Darwinian thinking gives you is naturalistic materialism where there is no _____, there is no _____, there is no _____
- F. How can you have _____, how can you have _____, how can you have _____ if it's just survival of the fittest?

V. Why This Matters

- A. Because _____ has said He created the heavens and the earth
1. Darwinian evolution challenges the _____ of Scripture, which is to say it challenges the _____ of God Himself
 2. Truth _____ - the truth is the truth, we should not abandon it
- B. Because Darwinism destroys human _____, and it turns us into mere _____
1. Within our own hearts, we know that we have _____ and _____, that God's _____ is still borne by us, and we want people to treat us _____ and we want to treat others rightly
 2. In so many places where Darwinism has taken over, a _____ follows
- C. Because it's only a Christian creation view that can uphold an _____ society that has _____ and _____ and _____
1. There is no meaning of _____ in Darwinism
 2. But when you have a Christian understanding of God and His creative work, you can have a society where people love _____ and love their _____ as themselves, where people treat others with _____ and _____, and where people can _____ in a healthy and productive way