

JOHN 5:17-18
EQUALITY IN CREATION!

Please turn in your Bibles this morning to John chapter 5 as we continue our in-depth study of the Gospel of John.

We have covered John 5:1-16 so far and what is going to take place next is born out of what happened here in the opening verses of John chapter 5.

So let me set the stage of what is going on and you will see why Jesus is going to respond to all of this. And, as you will see as we go through the rest of this chapter, if you still had any doubt that Jesus is God, by the time we finish this chapter you won't! And if you still do, it is not because the evidence is not there, it is you have chosen to negate what Jesus has said and believe what others have said, not what the Bible is saying!

We have seen Jesus and His men go to Jerusalem for a feast, one of the three main feasts that every male Jew was to attend.

And then we are told about a man who was there at the Pool of Bethesda, by the Sheep Gate this pool was located, and he was paralyzed, or he could not walk.

And there was this superstition that when the waters of that pool were stirred, when it started to bubble, the first one in would be healed.

Obviously those who were really sick, blind or couldn't walk and so on, they could not make it into the water so those who were basically healthy could. And I guess they were healed of their headache or whatever it was, or so they thought.

As Jesus sees this man, who was in this condition for thirty-eight years, He asks him, **“Do you want to be made well?”** John 5:6.

When you think about it, that is kind of cruel. Of course he wanted to be made well and he tells Jesus the problem he had, why he could not be healed. He said to Jesus, “... ‘Sir, I have no man to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; but while I am coming, another steps down before me.’” John 5:7.

Here is this man with no one to help him into those waters and in steps Jesus and He tells this man “Rise, take up your bed and walk.” John 5:8. And he does!

In fact, this is what we were told and in this we see the problem for some. In John 5:9 we read, “And immediately the man was made well, took up his bed, and walked. And that day was the Sabbath.”

Here was a man who was paralyzed, could not walk for thirty-eight years and now he is walking, carrying his bed and I am sure jumping up and down and everyone should have been praising God!

Yes, they should have but not all were and the problem for the Jewish religious leaders is that this healing, this miracle was done on the Sabbath and this man was working by carrying his bed, and that was not Kosher. At least not Kosher to these Jewish religious leaders, God was fine with it. This was something that was added to what God had said and thus, the joy they should have had towards what was done, the praise that should have been given unto God, was now becoming a death sentence to a man who was healed and ultimately to the One who healed him, Jesus!

Now this man, the one who was healed, did not know who healed him, he did not know it was Jesus, not yet.

As we read on, we find this man in the Temple and I am sure he is now there praising God for this gift he just received, the ability to walk once again. And as he is there Jesus finds him and tells him to sin no more.

I believe it is at this point this man came to saving faith because we see that he went to tell the Jewish religious leaders that it was Jesus who healed him. Not to turn Jesus in, but to show them who this man of God was!

Again, the Law kills but it is the Spirit that gives life, and we see that in John 5:16 where these Jewish religious leaders respond to what this man told them, **“For this reason the Jews persecuted Jesus, and sought to kill Him, because He had done these things on the Sabbath.”**

These Jewish religious leaders who were following the Law, or what they made the Law into, want to kill Jesus and Jesus wants to give them life, everlasting life! How crazy our traditions, what we hold onto can become when we take it outside of what the Word of God has to say!

Now, if you think these Jewish religious leaders were mad at Jesus now, just wait as He, being a man and just a man in their mind, makes Himself equal with God! It will blow them away and make them even madder and want to kill Him all the more!

We will be looking at what Jesus has to say to them over the next few weeks and I have broken down John 5:17-30 into three main studies. They are,

EQUALITY IN CREATION – JOHN 5:17-18

EQUALITY IN POWER – JOHN 5:19-21

EQUALITY TO JUDGE – JOHN 5:22-30

Without a doubt, the Gospel of John shows us the deity of Jesus Christ very clearly, and, as I have said, when Jesus speaks of His divinity, it is hard to argue against that and yet, some still try. But in the end, they will fail because it doesn't matter if they accept it or not, Jesus Christ is Almighty God!

This morning we are going to be looking at the topic – ***EQUALITY IN CREATION!***

And I have broken the verses we will be looking at this morning into two main points and they are as follows.

***JESUS AT WORK – JOHN 5:17
IN CREATION
HOLDS ALL THINGS TOGETHER
ALWAYS WORKING***

THE JEWS GOT IT – JOHN 5:18

Now I do realize that for some, this idea of creation is foolishness. They feel that science has no longer a theory of evolution, but they now believe it is a fact!

A disagree, although, before I was saved, before I looked at the evidence with open eyes, I believed that evolution is a fact. Please understand, it is not.

And Jesus starts out with this point as He is showing these Jewish religious leaders that He has the authority to heal on the Sabbath because He is equal with God the Father because He is God, He is at work just as the Father is at work!

And just to show you that this is not just a Christian viewpoint, there are many out there that see the inability for evolution to occur and produce all the life we see today, and for that matter, even a single cell!

This is what evolutionist George Wald said, A Nobel Laureate, and listen carefully to his words. He wrote,

When it comes to the origin of life there are only two possibilities: creation or spontaneous generation. There is no third way. Spontaneous generation was disproved one hundred years ago, but that leads us to only one other conclusion, that of supernatural creation. We cannot accept that on philosophical grounds; therefore, *we choose to believe the impossible:* that life arose spontaneously by chance!

- George Wald, The Origin of Life, Scientific American, 191:48, May 1954

My prayer as we go through this study and these series of studies is that you would clearly see that Jesus is Almighty God, the One who created all things and the One who keeps them all going or sustains them.

And not only see the evidence for creation, but that you would be able to defend what you believe and show that Jesus is Almighty God because if people reject that fact, then they will die in their sins.

Now that may seem harsh, but it is what Jesus said in John 8:24, “**Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am, you will die in your sins.**” Keep in mind that the “*He*” is not there in the original writings, it was added for clarity, but Jesus is saying that He is the Great *I Am* and if you don’t think that is what He said, why did the Jews take up stones to stone Him?

Because He, being just a man in their minds, made Himself equal with God!

So with that said, let's begin reading in John chapter 5, beginning in verse 17 and let's see what the Lord has for us this morning as we study His Word and we look at this topic –

EQUALITY IN CREATION!

JOHN 5

VERSE 17

Remember what I have called this section – ***GOD IS AT WORK!***

What is interesting is that Jesus did not say that God the Father ceased from His work or that He rested!

Now, in saying that, you may be thinking, ***“Hey, wait a minute. I thought it said that God worked for six days in creation and then He rested! Why does Jesus say that He and the Father are working?”***

I think the reason we struggle with this is because when we work, we get tired and we need to rest, we need to sleep. That is not what is said of God.

Yes, He rested in creation, the work of creation was finished but if He rested, if He ever stopped working, we would be toast.

Also, keep in mind that the Lord was giving us a pattern to follow. To work for six days and rest on the seventh. They were an agrarian society and they worked hard, and they needed that time off with family and with the Lord, just as we do.

But God is always working, He is never sleeping, He is actively involved in our lives, He holds all things together! Again, if God ever stopped working, look out!

Listen to what we are told in Psalm 121:2-4 of God, **“My help comes from the LORD, Who made heaven and earth. He will not allow your foot to be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, He who keeps Israel Shall neither slumber nor sleep.”**

This is from The Living Bible, and we read, **“No! My help is from Jehovah who made the mountains! And the heavens too! He will never let me stumble, slip, or fall. For he is always watching, never sleeping.”**

That should be a great comfort to us!

Clarke sums this up like this, *“Though he rested from creating, he never ceased from preserving and governing that which he had formed: in this respect he can keep no sabbaths; for nothing can continue to exist, or answer the end proposed by the Divine wisdom and goodness, without the continual energy of God.”*

Now, in saying that, why were the Jewish religious leaders coming after Jesus? Why did they want to kill Him?

As I have said, there were two reasons.

First of all, He broke the Sabbath by working on the Sabbath, healing a man on the Sabbath, which was work.

But if God the Father works on the Sabbath, why can't God the Son? Interesting point.

And here is the problem. He not only worked on the Sabbath, but He, being a man, made Himself equal with God! And we will get to that as we finish up this morning.

But at this point, it was only the breaking of the Sabbath that troubled them about Jesus, and they were seeking Him out to discredit Him amongst the people!

But here in John 5:17 Jesus is claiming that He is God, that His Father is God and, as Tenny points out, *“His explanation shows that he did not claim identity with the Father as one person, but he asserted his unity with the Father in a relationship that could be described as sonship.”*

So, in creation we see God the Father at work, but do we see God the Son at work as well?

You bet we do; the Scriptures make this very clear. In Colossians 1:16 we are told, **“For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.”**

I believe as you read the creation story in Genesis chapter 1 you will see God the Father at work, you will see God the Son at work, and you will see God the Holy Spirit at work! One God manifested in three distinct persons.

Listen to what Genesis 1:1 says, **“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”**

Pretty straight forward and yet, in our English translation we miss what the Hebrew is saying.

You see, the word that is used for God is not *EL*, which means one God, but *ELOHIM* and it is in the pleural form meaning more than 2.

Thus, you can read this verse like this, *“In the beginning Gods created the heavens and the earth.”*

Now that sounds like polytheism, but it is not. You see, the pleural noun **“God’s”** is attached to a singular verb, **“created.”**

In other words, we see here a hint at the Trinity being actively involved in the creation process.

Do we see this in the rest of the Scriptures?

You bet we do. Yes, the word Trinity you will not find in the Scriptures, but the concept is there, beginning right here in Genesis!

In Hebrews 11:3 we see God the Father involved in creation, **“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.”**

It is just as the Psalmist tells us in Psalm 33, **“By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, And all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. . . . For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.”** Psalm 33:6, 9.

And in Ephesians 3:9 we are told, **“and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ.”**

God the Father was actively involved in creation.

Also, in Genesis 1:2b we see the Holy Spirit involved in creation, **“. . . And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.”**

Also, Job 33:4 says, **“The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.”**

So we see God the Father and God the Holy Spirit actively involved in the creation of the heavens and the earth.

And we also see Jesus actively involved in creation as we read in Colossians 1:16!

And listen to what we are told in Genesis 1:26, “**Then God said, ‘Let us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness . . .’**”

Who is God speaking to here?

Some would argue that it is just speaking of the plurality of royalty, that He is so immense that He is spoken of in a plural way. Not at all! There is nothing in the Scriptures that would point to that or support that kind of thinking.

Others feel that He is speaking to the angels. Not at all! Angels can’t create things, they are servants of the living God.

Notice that it says “**Let us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness . . .’**”

First of all, it is speaking of more than one person.

Secondly, the creation of man is in the image of who?

Man was created in the image of God as we read “**Our image.**” We were not created in the image of angels or any other created being. We were created in the image of God!

So what we see here is that the Triune God is being spoken and they all were involved in creation. Jesus is our Creator God along with the Father and the Spirit because He is God!

But is there evidence of creation or is this just a story that we are reading, that everything just evolved over billions of years.

Let me be clear on this, there is more evidence for creation than there is for evolution. Even many evolutionists are troubled by this fact, that they are holding onto something in which there is no evidence for!

Let me share some things with you and you will see what I mean about the complexity of life and the impossibility of life just happening by random chance.

Kurt Godel wrote, *“The formation in geological time of the human body by the laws of physics (or any other laws of similar nature), starting from a random distribution of elementary particles and the field is as unlikely as the separation of the atmosphere into its components. The complexity of the living things has to be present within the material [from which they are derived] or in the laws [governing their formation].”* And yet he rejected God!

And to just give you an idea of the complexity of life, listen to this.

This is from Dr. Werner Gitt. He wrote,

Without a doubt, the most complex information-processing system in existence is the human body. If we take all human information processes together, i.e. conscious ones (language, information-controlled, deliberate voluntary movements) and unconscious ones (information-controlled functions of the organs, hormone system), this involves the processing of 10^{24} bits daily.

This astronomically high figure is higher by a factor of 1,000,000 [i.e., is a million times greater] than the total human knowledge of 10^{18} bits stored in all the world's libraries.

- Dr. Werner Gitt, in *Information: The Third Fundamental Quantity*

And we are led to believe that this all happened by random chance or luck! No, we were created by God!

Take a good look at the human body and there is incredible design built into it, not just chance happenings.

Let me share this with you and you will see what I mean. We are told,

Man-made machines are lubricated only by outside sources. But the body lubricates itself by manufacturing a jelly-like substance in the right amount at every place it is needed.

Yes, the body is a wonder machine, despite the defects from genetic copying errors (mutations) that have accumulated since the Fall of man brought on by the Curse (Genesis 3).

The body has a chemical plant far more intricate than any plant that man has ever built. This plant changes the food we eat into living tissue. It causes the growth of flesh, blood, bones and teeth. It even repairs the body when parts are damaged by accident or disease. Power, for work and play, comes from the food we eat.

Even in freezing weather our bodies will sometimes overheat. The body's own cooling system then takes over. Drops of perspiration pour from millions of tiny sweat glands in the skin.

This is a major way in which our cooling system keeps our temperature down. The human body has an automatic thermostat that takes care of both our heating and cooling systems, keeping body temperature at about 37°C (98.6°F).

The brain is the center of a complex computer system more wonderful than the greatest one ever built by man. The body's computer system computes and sends throughout the body billions of bits of information, information that controls every action, right down to the flicker of an eyelid.

In most computer systems, the information is carried by wires and electronic parts. In the body, nerves are the wires that carry the information back and forth from the central nervous system. And in just one human brain there is probably more wiring, more electrical circuitry, than in all the computer systems of the world put together. Yes, it is a wonderful thing - this brain of ours.

The control center of the human body is the human brain. It is by far the most complex information-management system in the universe.

In fact, as we look at this very moment, we are actually seeing with our brain. Although, of course, the message is carried there from another marvelous structure, the human eye. Modern cameras operate on the same basic principle as our eyes. In our eye the focus and aperture are adjusted automatically.

The sound we hear is being played on a perfect little musical instrument inside our ear. The sound waves go down the auditory canal and are carried by the bones of the middle ear to the cochlea, which is rolled up like a tiny seashell. The outer ear operates in air. But the cochlea is filled with liquid, and transferring sound waves from air to liquid is one of the most difficult problems known to science. Three tiny bones called the ossicles are just right to do the job that enables us to hear properly. Interestingly, the size of these little bones does not change from the time we are born.

The heart actually is a muscular pump forcing blood through thousands of miles of blood vessels. Blood carries food and oxygen to every part of the body. The heart pumps an average of six liters (1.5 U.S. gallons) of blood every minute, and in one day pumps enough blood to fill more than forty 200-liter (50-gallon) drums.

Yes, the human body is a wonderful machine. The fact that any one of these devices exists is a complete demonstration that they are the work of an intelligent and skillful designer, God Himself. 'So God created man in His *own* image, in the image of God created He him, male and female created He them' (Genesis 1:27).

The raw material, the basic chemicals in our body, can be found in the 'dust of the ground'. However, these chemicals cannot arrange themselves into cell tissues, organs and systems. This can only happen with an input of intelligence.

The book of Genesis teaches that God took ‘the dust of the ground’, a heap of chemicals, shaped a man and then blew into his nostrils the breath of life. Then man became a living soul.

Human beings are different from animals, for ‘God created man in his *own* image’ (Genesis 1:27). Our bodies have been designed with the ability to pass on to the next generation the programmed information required to form another person from simple chemicals.

We are more than the chemicals that form our body. We are a special creation of God. Man is God’s masterpiece - His workmanship, the crown of creation.

- Joseph Paturi, Creation Magazine – September 1, 1998,
The Human Body – God’s Masterpiece

Amen to that. We are fearfully and wonderfully made.

And I am just getting started. You see, in the human body a typical human adult has about 100 trillion cells! Each of these cells, except for red blood cells, contains within its nucleus thin strands of DNA. Each of these cells contains virtually the entire set of information needed for the construction and daily functioning of our bodies!

Keep in mind that DNA you can’t see with the naked eye and yet if you had just one teaspoonful of DNA and wanted to back it up on a CD, do you know how many you would need?

Take a guess!

Keep in mind that a CD can hold over 16,000, five-page Word documents!

Let’s go out on a limb here and say it would take one million CD’s to back up the information in just one teaspoon of DNA!

Sorry, that is not true. It doesn’t.

The reality is that you would have to be given one million CD's every second for 9½ years and then you would be able to back up the one teaspoon of DNA! And it just happened by chance? I don't think so!

And please understand we are just scratching the surface. We are fearfully and wonderfully made. Everything needs to work together, or you can have a disaster.

Just think of the importance of the heart! We are told,

To survive, we require a specialized pump that can deliver life-giving blood to all our body parts, day and night, year after year, without fail. To get the job done within the body of a living organism, the heart must overcome some incredible engineering challenges.

Our lives hang on a thread. A constant flow of rich blood must reach cells throughout the body, delivering oxygen and essential nutrients to our extremities, while removing waste products like carbon dioxide. Stop the flow for just a few minutes, and life will cease.

How did the Creator ensure a steady flow?

He gave us a pump made of soft flesh, not of hard steel. Estimates vary, but this powerful muscle pushes blood through at least 1,500 miles (2500 km) of blood vessels, some as narrow as one red blood cell. The heart must keep beating 100,000 times a day without tiring or malfunctioning. . . .

Blood needs to flow through two separate circuits of blood vessels at the same time. The first circuit gathers the blood from the body and sends it to the lungs so it can pick up oxygen and get rid of carbon dioxide.

The second circuit picks up the oxygen-rich blood returned from the lungs and sends it to the rest of the body.

But we are given only one heart to pump blood in these two directions. How can this challenge be overcome?

TWO PUMPS IN ONE The right side of the heart pumps blood through the lungs, while the left side pumps blood through the tissues of the head and body. . . .

Each of these pumps has its own two-chamber pumping system. . . . The muscles in one chamber contract and squeeze out blood, while muscles in the other chamber relax and fill with blood. The heart continually wrings out blood by a twisting motion, like wringing a mop.

Wringing out liquid is more efficient than the direct squeezing of typical man-made pumps.

The same action squeezes blood out of both pumps—filling one chamber while it empties the other chamber. But this presents a problem. The left side must create six times more force than the right side to move the blood throughout the body. (More force is necessary because it's harder to move blood to the rest of the body than through the nearby lungs.) To compensate, the left side has been designed with more powerful muscles. . . .

The nerves responsible for our senses tire quickly. Have you ever smelled a strong odor and then stopped noticing the smell? Your nose's nerve cells simply stopped firing. You literally stopped smelling.

The nerves to the heart, in contrast, can never stop firing for as long as we live. Ever.

How can this difficulty be resolved? God designed a separate system of nerves called the autonomic nervous system. These nerves differ from the nerves of our five senses because they continuously transmit without fail. They don't get overwhelmed with information (like the strain on your eyes from staring too long at a bright tie-dyed shirt), so they don't tire out.

Yet our hearts are different from typical autonomic systems. Most systems, like digestion, don't have to run constantly. The heart, on the other hand, must function all the time. So God gave the heart a built-in pacemaker that allows it to run regularly, without active outside control.

Sitting on the upper right side of the heart is a cluster of specialized cells called the sinoatrial node. They generate electrical impulses that stimulate the muscles in the upper chambers to contract. The signal continues moving down to another cluster of cells above the lower chambers, which then fire.

These electrical impulses ebb and flow in regular waves, without the need for direct input from the brain.

If needed, however, the brain can directly control heart rate and blood pressure. The brain constantly monitors the heart to evaluate when to step in.

During a rigorous tennis game, for example, our muscles need more oxygen to burn. So the brain signals the heart directly to increase the heart rate. At the same time, the heart stimulates the adrenal glands to release the chemical adrenaline. Adrenaline then keeps the heart rate up without further assistance from the brain.

When the tennis match ends and the muscles relax, the brain signals the adrenal glands to stop producing adrenaline, and the heart rate returns to normal.

- Heather M. Brinson, Answers – Constantly Beating Death, September 2, 2009

Random chance happenings? I don't think so!

What does evolution have to offer us in regard to a scientific explanation?

This is from Popular Science magazine and just listen how they explain the Big Bang Theory. And keep in mind this is a science magazine that promotes evolution and not creation!

This is what they wrote,

In the beginning, there was nothing. Then, with a big bang, an almost infinitely small, hot and dense universe exploded into existence.

- Popular Science, February 2001, p. 70

And another science magazine, Discover, explained it like this,

The universe burst into something from absolutely nothing – zero, nada. And as it got bigger, it became filled with even more stuff that came from absolutely nowhere.

- Discover, April 2002, cover text

And they say we don't believe in science, go figure! That is a fairy tale, not science!

Let me share this with you and you will see the impossibility of macro evolution and life just happening by random chance and evolving into all that we see today – plants, animals, insects, birds, fish, mammals, and more! We don't see one creature evolving into another, ***NONE!***

The article is called – ***THE ODDS OF A CELL FORMING RANDOMLY BY CHANCE ALONE.***

This is what was written and listen to the odds of this happening by chance. We are told, Stephen Meyer, in chapter 9 of his book *Signature in the Cell: DNA and the Evidence for Intelligent Design*, entitled Odds and Ends, talks about the odds of a minimally complex cell coming into existence. . . .

On pg 205, he talks about how even a relatively short protein, of which cells are made of, in the range of “say, 150 amino acids”, that there are approximately 10^{195} possible combinations.

. . . to quote myself:

Let's start with something small. The generally accepted age of the universe is around 13.8 billion years. When you translate that into seconds, the number of seconds that have passed in the entire history of the universe is 10^{17} , also known as 10 to the power of 17. . . .

So the number of seconds that have passed in the universe is 10^{17} . Or 1 followed by 17 zeroes.

The number of estimated cells in the human body is 10^{14} The number of sub-atomic particles in the known universe is 10^{80} . . .

Back to Dr. Meyer's book and the Odds and Ends chapter. He discusses how “the probability of building a chain of 150 amino acids in which all linkages are peptide linkages” (or the linkages that bond together the amino acids of DNA) is roughly 1 chance in 10^{45} . (pg 206)

He also explains that

. . . in nature every amino acid found in proteins . . . has a distinct mirror image of itself; there is one left-handed version, or L-form, and one right-handed version, or D-form . . . The probability of attaining, at random, only L-amino acids in a hypothetical peptide chain 150 amino acids long is . . . again roughly 1 chance in 10^{45} . (Pg 206-207) . . .

Hoyle then explains that it would be equally as difficult for the accidental formation of only one of the many chains of amino acids in a living cell in which there are about 200,000 such amino acids. Now if you would compute the time required to get all 200,000 amino acids for one human cell to come together by chance, it would be about 293.5 times the estimated age of the earth (set at the standard 4.6 billion years). The odds against this happening would be far greater than a blindfolded person trying to solve the Rubik's Cube!

In another analogy Hoyle bolsters his argument. He likens this to a "junkyard mentality" and asks, "What are the chances that a tornado might blow through a junkyard containing all the parts of a 747, accidentally assembling them into a plane, and leave it ready for takeoff?" Hoyle answers, "The possibilities are so small as to be negligible even if a tornado were to blow through enough junkyards to fill the whole universe!"

Back to Meyer's book, he now delivers the punchline:

If we assume that a minimally complex cell needs at least 250 proteins of, on average, 150 amino acids and that the probability of producing just one such protein is 1 in 10^{164} as calculated above, then the probability of producing all the necessary proteins needed to service a minimally complex cell is 1 in 10^{164} multiplied by itself 250 times, or 1 in $10^{41,000}$.

(pg 213, Emphasis mine).

Did you catch that? The odds of a minimally complex cell forming randomly by chance is 1 in $10^{41,000}$!

[That is beyond any mathematical probability that it could happen!]

Dr. Meyer finishes this with:

This kind of number allows a great amount of quibbling about the accuracy of various estimates without altering the conclusion. The probability of producing the proteins necessary to build a minimally complex cell – or the genetic information necessary to produce those proteins – by chance is unimaginably small. (pg 213)

- <https://bit.ly/3thLTJy>

I realize that there were a lot of numbers in there and it can get overwhelming and that was my hope. I hope you were blown away by the fact that it is mathematically impossible for life to form from non-life, not even a minimally complex cell forming!

We see our God in Creation, make no mistake about it.

But here is the problem and evolutionists state it themselves.

Leonard Susskind, a Stanford University physicist puts this perspective on this issue,

“Two stories are possible. The first is creationist: God made man with some purpose that involved man’s ability to appreciate and worship God. Let’s forget that story. The whole point of science is to avoid such stories.” (Leonard Susskind, The Cosmic Landscape: String Theory and the Illusion of Intelligent Design)

Is that the point of science, to avoid the facts, that there is a Creator, there is a Designer, there is a God?

Of course not, but when you want to reject God, you have to suppress the truth and believe the lie and promote the lie!

Not only has Jesus created all things, but He holds them all together!

Paul tells us of that fact in Colossians 1:17, “**And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.**”

I do realize the people hear that and laugh, but make no mistake about it, Jesus holds everything together and apart from Him holding us together and this universe together, it would explode into nothing! Just read II Peter chapter 3 and you will see what happens when Jesus let’s go.

This is what Peter tells us in II Peter 3:10. “**But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.**”

Now this is interesting to me. When Peter says the “**elements will melt**” he uses the Greek word LOU which means “*to be loosed.*”

An atomic explosion takes place when slow moving neutrons are used to bombard the nucleus of the atom. I guess you can say that they were loosed!

When that happens the positively charged protons respond according to their nature and begin to repel one another - the result is the atom is split and an atomic explosion takes place.

They say that the amount of nuclear material that was used in the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima was only about the size of a dime - and look at the devastation it caused!

The physical universe is estimated to be 12 billion light years in diameter.

Now think about that for a minute. Someday Jesus, who is holding all the atoms in the universe together, will let go and there will be a nuclear bomb detonated that is 12 billion light years in diameter!

There will suddenly be a “**great noise**” and the physical universe will instantly be vaporized as everything will dissolve in zillion-degree “**fervent heat**” and cease to exist.

You see, I do believe in the Big Bang, and not as a theory, but it hasn't happened yet. It will happen when Jesus let's go – thus – ***THE BIG BANG!***

Now evolutionists are trying to figure this out and they are coming up with ideas on what holds things together. Just listen to this one and then I will expound on it. We are told,

A proton is made of three quarks, yes, but the quarks are infinitesimal - just 2 percent or so of the proton's total mass. They're rattling around at near light speed inside the proton, but they're imprisoned in flickering clouds of other particles - other quarks, which materialize briefly and then vanish and, above all, gluons, which transmit the force that binds the quarks together.

Gluons are massless and evanescent [fleeting], but they carry most of the proton's energy. That is why it is more accurate to say protons are made of gluons rather than quarks.

Protons are little blobs of glue - but even that picture conveys something too static and substantial. All is flux and crackling energy inside a proton; it is like an unending lightning storm in a bottle, a bottle less than .1 trillionth of an inch in diameter.

“It's a very rich, dynamic structure,” says Wilczek. “And it's very pleasing that we have a theory that can reproduce it.”

- <https://bit.ly/3yOakjc>

So they are telling us that what is holding proton's together has no mass and lasts briefly and yet they have enough power, even though they have no mass and are there for one brief second, less than that, and then they disappear.

I don't think so. When science is set on trying to disprove God, they have to ignore the facts and believe that protons are held together by something that has no mass and is gone before you know it. I will trust what the Bible says, that God holds everything together!

And here's the thing. I know that Jesus created the heavens and the earth – because He is God!

I know that He holds everything together – because He is God!

And because of that I am thankful that He is always working – because He is God!

That is what we are told here in John 5:17, “**... ‘My Father has been working until now, and I have been working.’**”

But it truly all boils down to what you want to believe because none of us were there when God created the heavens and the earth. All we can do is look at the evidence and draw our own conclusions and what I see is consistent with what the Bible is telling me.

Still doubt that. Listen carefully to the chance that life appeared spontaneously, randomly. We are told,

A chance of 1 out of 1,000,000,000,000,000 (quadrillion, 10 with 14 zeros) is considered a virtual impossibility.

But when DNA co-discoverer Francis Crick calculated the possibility of a simple protein sequence of 200 amino acids (much simpler than a DNA molecule) originating spontaneously, his figure was 10 with 26 zeroes after it.

Those who remember one fad of the past will appreciate British scientist Fred Hoyle's view of the odds against evolved life. “Anyone acquainted with the Rubik's Cube,” he wrote, “will concede the impossibility of a solution being obtained by a blind person moving the cube faces at random.”

Mr. Hoyle's best-known analogy, however, has a tornado in a junkyard taking all the pieces of metal lying there and turning them into a Boeing 747. It might be possible for two pieces to be naturally welded together, and then two pieces more in a later whirlwind, but production of even a simple organic molecule would require all of the pieces to come together at one time.

- Marvin Olasky, "Things Unseen," World (4-14-01)

If Jesus created all things . . .

If Jesus holds all things together . . .

If Jesus is always working . . .

What conclusion can you come to?

THAT HE IS ALMIGHTY GOD!

Now you may be thinking that I am coming to a biased conclusion. That it is my idea that Jesus is saying here that He is God.

Please, don't take my word for it. It is true, my view can be biased, but it is not. But don't listen to me!

I want you to listen to what conclusion these Jewish religious leaders came to, and you will see they knew exactly what Jesus was saying and Jesus will continue on here in John speaking of the fact that He is God!

This last verse we will be looking at this morning will deal with – ***THE JEWS GOT IT!***

VERSE 18

Okay, the Jews wanted to kill Jesus because He healed a man on the Sabbath, and now we are told that they want to even kill Him more. Not sure how that works, you want to kill someone, that is bad. And then you want to kill him more, seems odd, but hatred, envy, jealousy can get the better of people and it can destroy lives!

But why did they want to kill Him more?

Because Jesus once again claims to be equal with God the Father! They did not believe that God was going to become flesh and blood to save them from their sins. They had the Law, they had the sacrifices. And in their minds, that is all that they needed! Their Messiah was to be just a man like Moses, not God!

And I know that the Jehovah Witnesses, the Mormons and other cults say that Jesus never claimed to be God. Wrong!

At least the Jews were honest, and they recognized that Jesus made Himself equal with the Father, and He is!

Remember in John 4:26 the *EGO AMI* statement of Jesus or the "I AM" statement. Jesus said to the woman at the well in Samaria, "I Am, that speaks to you."

To say that Jesus never claimed to be God goes against what the Scriptures teach!

Morris said, "*He was claiming that God was His Father in a special sense. He was claiming that He partook of the same nature as His Father. This involved equality.*"

And please understand that this was not just a one-time incident that maybe they misunderstood. They didn't misunderstand and Jesus continually claimed that He was God, equal with the Father.

How do I know that?

Because the verbs “**broke**” and “**said**” are in continuous tenses. That means that He habitually broke their man-made Sabbath rules and He habitually said that He was equal with God!

And if you still doubt it, then just listen to verse 18 again, “**Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.**”

It is so important for us to understand who Jesus is because our Christian faith is not built upon principles, but it is built upon the Person and work of Jesus Christ.

Think about it. You can remove Mohammed from Islam, Buddha from Buddhism, Confucius from Confucianism and nothing would change, because those religions aren't built on their leaders. They are built upon their teachings, but not on them personally.

But, if you were to remove Jesus Christ from Christianity, then Christianity would cease to exist because Christianity is built upon the Person and work of Jesus Christ!

Why do you think the cults and false teachers, really Satan, attacks the Person of Jesus, who He is?

Because if you get this wrong you will miss heaven and enter into eternal destruction in Hell. Thus, Satan gets people to worship a false Jesus.

That is why this is so important, to understand who Jesus is!

And that is exactly what Jesus is doing here, showing them and us that He is Almighty God, because this is a matter of life and death, eternal life with Jesus or eternal separation from Him!

One writer put it like this, **“The hostile Jewish authorities clearly understood that Jesus’ use of the title Son of God was a claim to deity. Otherwise, they would not have accused Him of blasphemy (cf. 10:36). In fact, it was Jesus’ claim to be the Son of God that led the Jews to demand His death: *“The Jews answered [Pilate], ‘We have a law, and by that law He ought to die because He made Himself out to be the Son of God’”* (19:7). Even while He was on the cross, some mocked Him, sneering, *“He trusts in God; let God rescue Him now, if He delights in Him; for He said, ‘I am the Son of God’”* (Matt. 27:43). All of the above lines of evidence converge on one inescapable point: Jesus Christ claimed absolute equality with God. Thus He could say, *“I and the Father are one”* (10:30); *“He who sees Me sees the One who sent Me”* (12:45); and *“He who has seen Me has seen the Father”* (14:9). Those who would deny that Jesus claimed to be God must deny the historical accuracy and truthfulness of the gospel records and thereby establish themselves as superior sources of truth.”**

They knew exactly what He was saying and that is why they wanted Him dead! The Jews got it; they just didn’t believe.

What about you?

You see, nothing else will be made right, not your marriage or your finances or anything else in your life, until you call Jesus **“Lord”** and not as a name but as the title of the One who is in control of every area of your life and start to obey everything He has told you to do!