

CREATOR

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CHRIST OUR CREATOR

"In the beginning, O Lord, You laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands" (Hebrews 1:10).

NATURE'S TESTIMONY

Creation forms a grand chorus—the stars, the mountains and the creatures of this world sing out, "Hear ye, hear ye!" But what do they want us to hear? Like the royal edicts announced by town criers of old, creation rings forth that Jesus Christ is our great and wonderful Creator!

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world (Psalm 19:1-4).

The "speech" of creation—which proclaims

God's eternal splendor—can be heard throughout the universe. If we were able to travel to the far reaches of the Milky Way galaxy, we would still hear it!

Nature *radiates* the truth written about God in Scripture. Creation can do no less than affirm Christ's wonderful character because nature is under the sovereign rule of its King. Nothing in the world happens by accident but only at our Creator's command (Job 38-41)! A coyote howls at night, for instance, because God leads it into the worship of Himself.¹ Creation gives us a physical reference point for Christ's beauty and majesty; it is a "book" advertising the thoughts of God, a signpost pointing to our Treasure in Heaven.

Throughout history, many have doubted that Jesus fashioned all that we see and hear around us.² Due to our fallen state, a study of nature alone cannot prove Christ's creative



Star Cluster
NGC 290

¹ Read more about how animals worship their Creator in **CREATOR** 12-4.

² The ancient heresy of Arianism denies that Jesus Christ is God.

authority. We must, therefore, turn to the Bible. It is here that we clearly see our Lord Jesus Christ as the invisible Creator—through whom all things were made.

THE TESTIMONY OF SCRIPTURE

So what do the Scriptures teach us about the Maker of the universe? (After all, God's Word is the *only* written record about Himself.)

In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed Heir of all things, and through whom He made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful word. After He had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven (Hebrews 1:1-3).

The beginning of the gospel of John reaffirms this truth:

Through [Christ] all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made (John 1:3).

And again in Ephesians, chapter three, it is written:

. . . God, Who created all things by Jesus Christ (KJV).

Hebrews 1 also tells us that Jesus made “purification for sins” (verse 3), thus, Christ is the Redeemer of His people, as well as the Creator of the universe. The *cross* magnifies

Christ as the power and wisdom of God (1 Corinthians 1:24). The *creation* magnifies Him in a similar way:

He made the earth by His power; He founded the world by His wisdom and stretched out the heavens by His understanding (Jeremiah 51:15).

It is by this divine power and wisdom that creation came into being and exists to this very day (Proverbs 3:19, 20; 8:22-31; Jeremiah 10:12).

So closely is Christ tied to the Scriptures that the book of John, chapter one, proclaims our Lord Jesus Christ as *the Word*:

The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth (John 1:14).

Only the Creator of all things can raise a decomposing corpse from the grave or calm a raging storm (John 11:43-44; Matthew 8:23-27).

And because of His obedience, Jesus has supremacy over all of creation:

Therefore God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:9-11).

Put differently, Christ Jesus *is* Truth (John



14:6), and it is Christ's Spirit who inspired all the writers of the Bible to record this truth about Himself. Though creation certainly *reflects* God's glory, the Scriptures plainly bring to light Christ's full position as Creator.

THE BIBLE & SCIENCE

It might be good to mention here that the Scriptures do not, however, present us with a full scope of *scientific* understanding. God never intended for the Bible to be a textbook on science, since many details about His creation are not found in the Word of God. For example, nowhere are the plants and animals of the Americas or Australia mentioned in the Bible. Why should they be? At the completion of the Scriptures 2,000 years ago, none of God's people had ventured to these continents, so a biblical reference to foreign plants and animals would have been meaningless to them. Can you imagine what the average Jew of Jesus' day would have thought of a description of the duck-billed platypus?³



Are there any inconsistencies between God and nature, the Bible and science? No, none whatsoever! The ultimate purpose of the Bible and the creation are exactly the same—they *bring glory to God*, and inspire us to worship Him.

Consider the following illustration: Let's imagine that you find yourself in a great palace with exquisite architecture and



breathtaking beauty. In this royal residence, there are a myriad of rooms. And as a temporary visitor, you spend most of your time in just one of the spacious guest quarters in the palace, but you never get bored. You explore your room with great delight. Occasionally you peek your head out of your quarters, peering up and down the immense hallway, which is lined with the doors of countless other rooms.

In your chamber, the architect of the palace, whom you have never met in person, has kindly placed his autobiography. On the desk with this book are extensive notes that you have made of your discoveries, along with a very crude blueprint that you have painstakingly created—which is an educated guess of the royal mansion's layout. You long to explore this great building, and you wonder about the contents of the other rooms. More than this, you desire to know the architect of the palace. You have gotten a sense of his character and his personal tastes by examining the design of your room and the immensity of the hallway. But you have also come to realize that if you really want to know the heart and the mind of the architect, you must read his autobiography. And when you do, you discover that he is not only the builder of the palace, but the king as well!

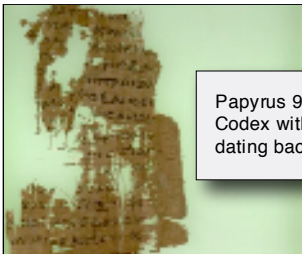
This palatial mansion represents the universe; the notes and blueprints are modern science; the architect/owner/king is

3 *Ornithorhynchus anatinus*



God; and the autobiography is the Bible. Your room is the earth, and the room across the hall represents the moon and the planets of our solar system.

Scientific study is fascinating, but we mustn't become so engrossed with our exploration, notes, and blueprint design that we neglect the One who makes creation possible. The personality of our great Creator, Yeshua,⁴ is reflected in nature, yes, but a personal knowledge of Him *originates* in His Word.



Papyrus 90
Codex with text of John 19:1-7
dating back to the 2nd century

At this point you might be thinking, "Didn't God the Father make the universe, and isn't He the Creator?" As we read in Hebrews 1:2, yes, He did make the universe, and yes, He is the Creator as well: ". . . through whom (Jesus) also He (the Heavenly Father) created the world." Additionally, the Holy Spirit of God *has been and continues to be* critically involved in the creation:

When You send Your Spirit, they are created, and You renew the face of the earth (Psalm 104:30).

It was God's Spirit who was present at the moment of creation (Genesis 1:1-2).

⁴ Yeshua is Hebrew for Jesus.

THE TRINITY: OUR CREATOR

Confusing? Well, let me put it this way—our Heavenly Father created the universe through His Son Jesus, by the power and the wisdom of the Holy Spirit. Since our Heavenly Father, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are all one God (Deuteronomy 32:6; Romans 9:5; 2 Corinthians 3:17), all are one Creator!

For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything (Hebrews 3:4).

Consider another, albeit imperfect, analogy: Someone hires a construction firm to build a house. The construction company



is owned by three relatives—they include the architect, the general contractor, and the master carpenter of the firm (the architect's son). Who then gets credit for building the house—the architect, the general contractor, or the master carpenter? The answer is, all three do! Who then made the universe? Did our Heavenly Father, the Holy Spirit or the Lord Jesus Christ? *All three did as one God.*

Scripture repeatedly reveals Christ's personal involvement throughout creation. In 1 Corinthians we see that God the Father is the source of creation and that Jesus is the means through whom it came into being:

... yet for us there is but one God, the Father, *from* Whom all things came and for Whom we live; and there is but one Lord, Jesus Christ, *through* Whom all things came and through Whom we live (1 Corinthians 8:6 emphasis added).

THE PURPOSE OF CREATION

The book of Colossians goes further still by demonstrating not only Christ's rightful position as the Creator, but also His ongoing involvement in creation, and the very purpose of the universe:

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together (Colossians 1:15-17).

We again see that the universe was made by Jesus, and that Christ prevails in sustaining life and the whole of creation. Only God can do this . . . so this is another way of saying that *Jesus is fully God*, equal with the Father. This also implies that if Christ's Spirit were to leave the universe—if *that were possible*⁵—all things, including us, would fall apart, turn to dust and disappear (Psalm 104:29).

Lastly, this section of Paul's letter to the Colossians brings to light the ultimate purpose of creation—"all things were created . . . for Him." *The universe exists for God's pleasure* (Revelation 4:11 KJV). Please know that God also wants us to enjoy His mountains, stars,

insects and flowers, for this brings Him glory.

In the Bible, we find *the method* by which Christ originally formed and now sustains the universe (Psalm 148:5, Hebrews 11:3):

By the Word of the Lord were the heavens made, their starry host by the breath of His mouth . . . For He spoke, and it came to be; He commanded, and it stood firm (Psalm 33:6 & 9 emphasis added).

These verses show us, once more, the Father's plan and design to have creation reflect the glory of His Son, the Word of God. Specifically, Christ's words have created and sustain our world, and nature resonates with His divine thoughts and sovereign commands.



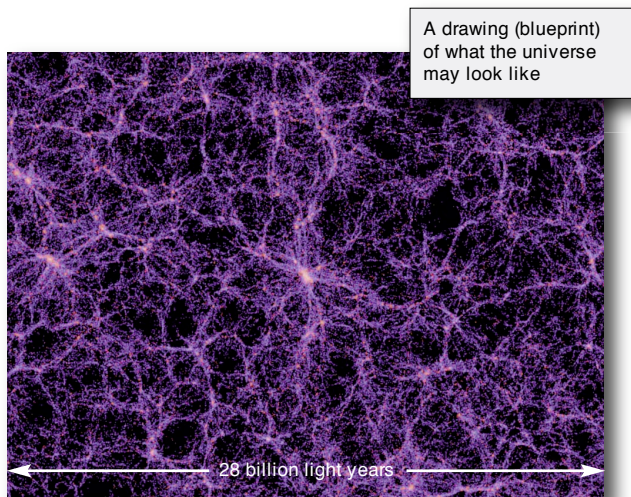
The universe thus demonstrates Christ's power and glory as God (Romans 1:20). We need only look back to Scripture to be settled in this view:

Before the mountains were born or
You brought forth the earth and the
world, from everlasting to everlasting
You are God (Psalm 90:2).

He is before all things . . . (Col. 1:17).

Christ our Creator existed *before* the creation came into being. He is the unmade One and Only of God. Jesus is infinitely greater than

⁵ This is not possible because Christ fills the universe (Ephesians 4:10).



the universe; the creation was made through Him, and His being fills it through and through (Ephesians 4:10). He is eternal, and nature is not. Christ is infinite, but the creation—including all angels—has limits. Christ will rule as the King of kings forever; the present universe will pass away, but He will remain (Revelation 1:5,6, Mark 13:31).

Our Heavenly Father is pleased to have nature tell the story of His Son's glory. This is the very heart of the HIS CREATION ministry. And this is the ultimate purpose of *each person's life*—to shine forth the majesty of God, that His Son might be *worshiped*:

[The angel] said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give Him glory, because the hour of His judgment has come. Worship Him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water" (Revelation 14:7).

As we continue to explore God's "palace," the Heavens and the Earth, we will hear songs of praise to our Creator, if we're willing to listen. In order to know God personally, however, we must turn to His Word. In the Bible, we find a full knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, *the Maker of the universe and Savior of the world!*

"Know Me"

Jeremiah 24:7

"To know God personally"—this implies that it's possible to have an intimate friendship with God, *and we can!* But all people—including you and me—have rebelled against Him. How then can we make things right with our Creator? We must come to believe that Christ alone took on the punishment for the sins of His people (Isaiah 53:4-6).

We cannot make things right with God apart from Christ—apart from believing in Jesus and what Christ has accomplished. Jesus is God's gift to us who believe (John 3:16). And God has promised that if we receive Christ, we will become His children (John 1:12).

Do you recognize *your own* rebellion against your Creator and how this has destroyed your relationship with Him? If you do, that's good! And though we are *infinitely guilty of sin* before our Maker, He has freely provided the means—the only means—by which our sins can be forgiven, and for us to know the love of our Heavenly Father. *Please believe in Christ Jesus and His finished work on the Cross.*



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