IF GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH, AND IF GOD CREATED MAN, THEN WHAT?

Genesis 1:1

Genesis 1:26-27

IF GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH, AND IF GOD CREATED MAN, THEN...

- There are some truths about this material universe we must accept
- 2. There are some truths about man's being and nature we must accept
- 3. There are some truths about man's responsibility that we must accept

1) IF GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH, THEN WHAT ABOUT THIS MATERIAL UNIVERSE?

- We should have no problem believing that the things God created are good
 - Psalm 25:8. Genesis 1:31.
 - But not all believe so!
- We ought to believe that He alone has the power to bring them to an end
 - Hebrews 1:10-12
 - 2 Peter 3:5-10
 - Neither man nor his inventions will bring it to an end

1) IF GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH, THEN WHAT ABOUT THIS MATERIAL UNIVERSE?

- We should believe that He alone is the one through whose power it is sustained
 - Colossians 1:17. Hebrews 1:3.
 - He sustains the processes by which it continues.
 - · Orderly, predictable, reliable
 - Genesis 1:14ff. Genesis 8:22.
 - He exercises His providential care. And He is active in the affairs of men.
 - Psalm 104:10-18. Job 38.
 - Acts 14:17
 - Daniel 4:17
 - Reject deism
- No surprise that His creation declares His glory
 - Psalm 19:1

1) IF GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH, THEN WHAT ABOUT THIS MATERIAL UNIVERSE?

- The things that the good God created are good
- He alone has the power to bring them to an end
- He alone is the one through whose power it is sustained
 - He sustains the processes by which it continues
 - He exercises His providential care. And He is active in the affairs of men
- This material universe declares His glory

- · We are totally dependent upon Him for our being
 - Genesis 1:26-27. Psalm 100:3.
 - Acts 17:25, 28
 - He gives to all life, breath, and all things
 - In Him we live, move, and have our being
 - Therefore
 - Live in gratitude. Ask and thank. Matthew 6:11
 - Contrast to the proud. Daniel 4:30 in the extreme. But what about many today?

- Since man is created in the image and the likeness of God,
 - Human life is precious and of great value
 - Do no harm. Romans 13:8-10
 - Murder forbidden. Genesis 4:9-12; 9:6
 - Reject:
 - Abortion
 - Euthanasia

- Since man is created in the image and the likeness of God,
 - Human beings by nature are good, not evil
 - His offspring. Acts 17:29
 - Not evil by birth or because we are human beings, but by choice
 - Ecclesiastes 7:29. 1 Peter 1:18
 - Reject:
 - Calvinism, total hereditary depravity
 - Excuse of "I'm only human"

- Since man is created in the image and the likeness of God,
 - Mankind was created to have meaning and purpose
 - Glorify God. Romans 1:21. 1 Corinthians 10:31
 - Glory due God. Malachi 1:6
 - Only in Christ. Ephesians 3:21. 1 Corinthians 6:20
 - We must make a distinction in value between man and animal/plant life
 - Ecclesiastes 3:21; 12:7
 - Reject the animal rights perversions that place life of beast on par with or above human life

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- Since man is created in the image and the likeness of God,
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- First. Man should be moved to worship the Creator
 - Psalm 33:6-9; 95:6. Revelation 4:11
 - But men have strayed greatly
 - Romans 1:18-25, esp. v25
 - God should be the only object of our worship
 - Should not worship things of man's devising. Acts 17:29
 - Should not worship men. Acts 10:25-26
 - Reject Catholicism
 - Should not worship angels. Revelation 22:8-9
 - God has the right to tell His creature what worship He wants
 - John 4:23-24

- Second. Man is responsible to be a good steward
 - Steward cares for or manages things that belong to another
 - It all belongs to God
 - Psalm 50:9-11
 - 1 Chronicles 29:10-16
 - We possess for a short while. 1 Timothy 6:7
 - Shouldn't this shape our view, our attitude, our actions with these things?

- Second. Man is responsible to be a good steward
 - Faithful in little or much. Luke 16:9-12
 - Not possessed by. Mark 10:17-22
 - Enjoy, yes. Ecclesiastes 5:18-20.
 - But out of balance for many
 - Help others
 - Ephesians 4:28
 - Ecclesiastes 11:1-2
 - Acts 4:32
 - 1 Peter 4:10

- Third. Man is responsible to serve his Creator
 - Matthew 4:10
 - Will either serve God or a false god. Joshua 24:14-15
 - 2 Corinthians 5:15
 - How serve?
 - His servants. Romans 6-17-19
 - Doing His will in every relationship in life. Colossians 3:18-24; Ephesians 6:6
 - Seek to be a God-pleaser. Galatians 1:10

- Fourth. God has the authority, the right, the power, to define right and wrong, good and evil, truth and lie, and to demand obedience from man, and to judge man in the matter. Man has the responsibility to believe and obey.
 - God has defined right and wrong IN HIS WORD. Psalm 19:7-11
 - Isaiah 55:8-9
 - "I am the Lord your God". Exodus 20:1
 - "But I say to you". Matthew 5-6
 - "Go therefore and make disciples". Matthew 28:19

- Fourth. God has the authority, the right, the power, to define right and wrong, good and evil, truth and lie, and to demand obedience from man, and to judge man in the matter. Man has the responsibility to believe and obey.
 - God has always demanded and expected obedience from mankind
 - Genesis 2:16-17
 - Deuteronomy 6:17
 - Jeremiah 11:7
 - John 14:15
 - Because the God who made you said so!
 - But the world is confused abortion, fornication, adultery, false religion, language, love, modesty and shamefacedness, homosexuality, transgenderism, etc. Why?
 - Does not accept His authority which goes back to Genesis 1:1, 26-27

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 - He sustains the processes by which it continues
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IF GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH, AND IF GOD CREATED MAN, THEN WHAT ABOUT...

- 2) Man's being and nature?
 - We are totally dependent upon Him for our being
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 - Human life is precious and of great value
 - Human beings by nature are good, not evil
 - Mankind was created to glorify God
 - We must make a distinction in value between man and animal/plant life

IF GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH, AND IF GOD CREATED MAN, THEN WHAT ABOUT...

- 3) Man's responsibility to his Creator?
 - Man should be moved to worship the Creator
 - Man is responsible to be a good steward
 - Man is responsible to serve his Creator
 - God has the authority, the right, the power, to define right and wrong, good and evil, truth and lie, and to demand obedience from man, and to judge man in the matter. Man has the responsibility to believe and obey.

Genesis 1:1

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

Genesis 1:26-27

"Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.' So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."