

Day 1: Why Christianity? (Part 1)

The best place to start is always at the beginning. Think about it. When you miss the beginning of a television show or a movie, the story can be hard to figure out. So our 40-day journey with Jesus begins with asking a simple question. *Why Christianity?*

Why is Christianity so important? Because Christianity is truth; it is the only worldview that can answer what I will call The Five Crucial Questions: 1) *How did we get here?* 2) *Why are we here?* 3) *What went wrong with this world?* 4) *Why is there a longing in our hearts for things to be different?* and 5) *How can I satisfy that longing?* Our first devotional will take a look at the first two crucial questions.

1. *How did we get here?*

While billions of dollars have been spent on space exploration and scientific research in an effort to find out the origins of the earth and mankind, findings have been inconclusive and the “experts” continue to struggle to come up with theories to explain how we got here. These theories include, but are not limited to, “the big bang theory” and “the evolutionary theory”. The “big bang theory” tells us that our existence is the result of a cosmic accident. And the “evolutionary theory,” puts forth that all life started from a single cell and tells us we are most directly descended from apes. These ideas are taught as gospel in our public schools

despite many holes in both theories. What is more troubling, however, is that they suggest that our existence is the result of an *accident*. If this is the case, then our existence means no more than that of a rock or a cockroach (I know...yuck!). Conversely, the Bible tells us, “So God created man in His own image...” (Genesis 1:27), and “... from the dust of the ground...” (Genesis 2:7). The elements that make up the human body are wonderfully consistent with Scripture. How did we get here? Simple. God placed us here!

2. *Why are we here?*

Now we know how we got here...but why are we here? What is the purpose? If we were the result of an *accident*, and we are the descendants of apes as secular theories support, then there really is no meaning or purpose. The Bible, however, shows us that God created man for relationship and to worship Him. “For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever” (Romans 11:36). God didn’t create man because He had to. Rather, He created mankind for His glory, and to reflect all that is good about Himself. We see this clearly in the book of Genesis as mankind was under perfect living conditions enjoying beautiful communion with God, one another, and all of creation.

Application

1. *Write about something that you have seen in God's creation that leaves you in awe (i.e., waterfall, ocean, sky, stars, animals, etc.).*
2. *Read Ephesians 2:10. What difference does it make in your life to know that you were created with a purpose, and that you are the object of God's affection rather than being an accident?*
3. *Pray and thank God for all He has made, and for making you!*

Extra Scripture Readings: Psalm 139, Jeremiah 29:11