

The Meaning of Life, The Universe, and Everything.

Intro:

This being my first time ever doing this you will have to bare with me. I thought that I would tackle something easy, like the question..What is the meaning of Life, the Universe and Everything.

As I was thinking of a title for this study, I had to laugh to myself.

Throughout my life, Pastors have always used sport analogies to convey a point, and here I am quoting a sci-fi book for the title of this study..sorry probably will never get any sports analogies from me.

In the book, Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy the question asked to a supercomputer is the ultimate question, What is the meaning of life, the universe and everything. After a few thousand years the computer finally answers and says the answer to Life, the Universe, and everything is 42. So what is the meaning of life? To some, it is work, to be succesful as the world measures sucess. To others it is Family, they find their meaning and purpose in their family, and to others it is about themselves, thier comfort and , desires, "He who dies with the most toys win." Really, it is not that difficult, or convoluted, the real answer to this ultimate question is simple, it is Christ.

Turn to Colossians 1:15-18. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. 16 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. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. 18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Christ is God incarnate, become flesh, fully man and fully God whom through all of creation was made, and whom all of creation was made for. Nothing exists without Christ, invisible, visible, natural, spiritual, nothing, all things are his. It seems that people want to always make christianity

about Christ plus something. Christ plus a list of laws. or Christ plus ordinances of the church. Just follow these rules, or these traditions and God will sanctify you, make you holy but that is not what is taught in the bible. It is NOT Christ plus, it is Christ alone and him crucified. The lamb slain before the foundation of the world who died and was raised on the 3rd day, to sanctify his people by his blood, for his glory. Who after his work here on earth was finished was brought up to the right hand of God where he now is ruling and reigning over his creation.

So how is God glorified in his creation? For the unbeliever, and those who rebel against their creator, God is glorified in his righteous judgement and punishment of the sinner. We as fallen man like make excuses for things. We don't think about what it means that God is perfectly Holy, perfectly just, perfectly righteous. We think to ourselves, that we are not that bad, I haven't killed anyone, or I haven't stolen anything, but our measure is not ourselves, or other people, but God. It is impossible in this life to be perfectly holy, perfectly sinless which is why Christ had to come, to take the sin of his people upon himself and die in their place. God is fully justified, even glorified in the punishment of sin, whether that punishment was that which was upon Christ in our stead, or the punishment of those outside of Christ in hell. We think, how can a loving God be so cruel to condemn one to eternal punishment. We lose sight as to who God truly is, and how wicked we truly are. Our natural mind cries out that this is unfair! In our pride and arrogance we forget that we are created, by God, to worship and glorify him, if we do not worship and glorify him we are broken vessels sent to the fire. We owe God everything, that while we were yet sinners, lost in our rebellion and hatred of him, He sent his only Son to die in our place, to cover our sins by his blood reconciling us to himself as adopted sons and daughters.

Which leads us to the next question. How is God Glorified in the life of the believer. Christ has imputed his righteousness to us, giving us the ability to live a holy and just life. It is by the work of Christ in us that God is Glorified. He is glorified by his Son's obedience to the cross, he is glorified by Christ's work in and through our lives. We are to be like Christ,

Roman's 12:1 and 2 .I beseech you therefore of God, that you present your

bodies a living sacrifice, holy acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

We are to set ourselves aside, and live our lives in such a way that Christ will show through us. We are not to be concerned of things on this earth, but to put our heart and mind on Christ and things above.

Ephesians 2:8-10 says For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

None of it is by us, we didn't just decide one day to follow Christ, it is only by his grace through faith he has given us that we are his. To God be all glory, honor and power.

So in conclusion, Christ is the meaning of Life, the Universe, and Everything He was with the Father in eternity past. The earth, the heavens, and all that is in the earth and under the earth was created through him, for him. So what should our reaction to this be? It should be one of reverence, fear, love, and hope. We should bow before the mighty God, our creator who is worthy of all praise. We should fear him, for as Jesus said in

Luke 12:4 and 5. And I say to you my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more power that they can do. But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear him who, after he has killed, has power to cast into hell: yes, I say to you, fear him!

We should love God with all our hearts, mind, and soul, for he has shown such love for us that while we were dead in our trespasses and sins, Christ died so that we may have life. And hope, in our life with Christ. For he says in

John 6:37-40 All that the father gives me will come to me, and the one who comes to me I will by no means cast out. For I have come down from Heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. This is the

will of the father who sent me, that of all he has given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. And this is the will of him who sent me, that everyone who sees the son, and believes in him may have everlasting life and I will raise him up at the last day.

Christ should always be our focus, it should not be on rules, regulations, or church traditions, but Christ, his love shining through us as we go about our life, Christ is our reason for Life, the Universe and Everything.