

4.9.18

God is the designer of structured human thought

▼ 1. Time:

8. **Revelation 1:1-3 (NKJV)**
 1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants—things which must shortly take place. And he sent and signified **2** by his **angel** **3** to his servant John,
 2 who bore witness to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, to all things that **he** saw.
 3 **Blessed is he who reads and those who hear the words of this prophecy,**

and keep those things which are written in it: for the time is near.

We need to live our lives with the sense of urgency depicted by God to man in Scripture!

Living our life in anticipation that our expense of time as a Christian, that each moment of our life we will be held accountable at the judgment seat of Christ.

Not from the American religious human viewpoint.

I believe it was Stephen Hawking that said to the effect (in order for the human species to survive, we must look to the stars and inhabited another planet within the next 30 to 40 years or so)

Unsaved man and the uneducated Christian are always in fear of the unknown!

But God reveals reality and makes known His intentions for the conduction of human history; and he gives guidance for the humble toward an abundant, peaceful and eternal conclusion.

▼ 2. God initiates language, He structures it for man's understanding of spiritual truths:

Psalms 33:9 (NKJV)

9 For **He spoke**, and it was done. **He commanded**, and it stood fast.

It is God's Word that guarantees that everything is the way that it is.

As we look at Genesis chapter one there are a couple of observations we ought to make.

When God spoke and said:

Genesis 1:3-10 (NKJV)

3 **Then God said**, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness.

5 **God called** the light Day, and the darkness He called Night.

So the evening and the morning were the first day.

6 **Then God said**, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters."

7 Thus God made the firmament, and divided the waters which were under the firmament from the waters which were above the firmament; and it was so.

8 **And God called** the firmament Heaven. So the evening and the morning were the second day.

9 **Then God said**, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so.

10 **And God called** the dry land Earth; and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

what did He do then?
He gave it a name

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God begins to provide **nomenclature** and language to the things that He created.

When God creates Adam He has initialized Adam's vocabulary, and then He gives Adam the responsibility to go out and categorize and name the animals.

This involves Adam's use and development of analytical skills as he evaluates all the animals and he sees which animals belong to which kind, and so what is embedded in language now is also the concept of categorization.

So as God initiates; He gives names and this nomenclature involves categories, and man's thinking, his mental activity, is based on this categorization that God gives.

We are all able to communicate to each other because when we speak, and we talk about a car, for example, there are all kinds of different cars but they are all cars. It is a universal concept, we are able to communicate to each other **because of categories.**

This is how we learn things; and how we store information in our souls, and this is how that information is retrieved and applied.

We get into a situation and we realize we are anxious and afraid, so what promise do we pull out? We reach over into a category and we pull out a promise related to fear and anxiety and we claim that promise.

So all of this structure is built into creation by God.

Creation isn't the way it is by chance. God has created everything the way it is to function certain ways, and everything is interrelated and correlates together.

Words and language and communication are inherent to all of creation.

▼ 3. God expects us to think, and be able to distinguish between opinion and revealed doctrine.

Must not evaluate our spiritual well-being on the basis of emotion, good feelings, and intuition.
Our spiritual well-being is based on the objective word of God; it is verifiable, revealed doctrine.

We know we are in fellowship if we have practiced 1 John 1:9,

and then: we know we are advancing when we are pursuing and implementing doctrine;

By this well-thought-out formula we can know we are doing well spiritually!!!

▼ 4. God expects us to categorize doctrine for our understanding and application of it

1 John 2:2-5 (NKJV)

2 And He Himself is the **propitiation** for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.

3 Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.

4 **He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments,** is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

5 But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. **By this we know that we are in Him.**

We have clearly understood it; and then we did it

ἱλασμός (**hilasmos**, oŭ (ov), ὁ (ho) n.masc.; 1 Str 548; TDNT 8:372—L LN 57:152 *give generously* (Ro 8:32; Gal 2:16; Php 2:8; Phil 2:20); 2. LN 40:12 *means of forgiveness, an atoning sacrifice*

▼ 5. For this reason we memorize key vs. so that we may organize revealed truth in our thinking:

2 Corinthians 5:9-10 (NKJV)

9 Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him.

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

▼ 6. Men's sin and death corrupted God's perfect structure for human existence with God. But God has provided through human volition, that through humility man would be able to receive revealed doctrine and live the intended spiritual life, according to his perfect righteous standard revealed in Scripture.

Hebrews 11:3 (NKJV)

3 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.

▼ 7.

Colossians 2:13 (NKJV)

13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having **forgiven** you all trespasses,

ἡ χάρις (**charizomai**, charizomai, vb.; 1 Str 548; TDNT 8:372—L LN 57:152 *give generously* (Ro 8:32; Gal 2:16; Php 2:8; Phil 2:20); 2. LN 40:10 *forgive, give grace* (2Co 12:13); 3. LN 57:223 *cancel a debt* (Lk 7:40); 4. LN 37:30 *hand over into custody* (Ac 25:16)

Revelation 1:4-6 (NKJV)

4 **John, to the seven churches which are in Asia:** Grace to you and peace **from Him** who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before **His throne**

5 **and from Jesus Christ** the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth.

Part B of vs. To Him who loved us and **washed us from our sins in His own blood,**

6 **and has made us kings and priests** to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

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