

☛...THE UNIVERSE - BY, THROUGH AND FOR CHRIST

- It was through Christ that everything without exception was made (Jhn 1:1,3,10; Col 1:16; Heb 1:2)
- He sustains the whole universe (Col 1:17; Heb 1:3)
- By, through and in Jesus, God's image is restored and glorified in us (Rom 8:28-30; Col 1:15; Heb 1:3)

5. Read: Col 1:16-18; In what sense was the creation made "for Him"?

THE UNIVERSE DIDN'T JUST START; SOMEBODY STARTED IT. GOD CREATED THE UNIVERSE BY JESUS, THROUGH JESUS AND FOR THE GLORY OF JESUS CHRIST. AND GOD CREATED MAN, IN HIS OWN IMAGE TO DISPLAY THAT GLORY.

Therefore,

Our lives are not our own. We were created by God to display the image of God (who is Jesus Christ), and in that display, to find our ultimate joy, satisfaction and purpose.

WRITE OUT TODAY'S MEMORY VERSE (REV 4:11)



**THIS, THE SCRIPTURES
TEACH AND THIS WE
BELIEVE ABOUT...**

CREATION



**THIS UNIVERSE...
DIDN'T JUST EXIST - IT HAD A BEGINNING
DIDN'T JUST START—SOMEBODY STARTED IT**

CREATION

Genesis 1:1-2:3

☛ THE UNIVERSE - WHO, WHAT, WHY

- Was created as free act of God's will (Acts 17:25; Rev 4:11)
- Derives its existence from God alone (Gen 1:1; Rev 10:6)
- Is not self-existent or eternal (Gen 1:1; 1 Cor 6:6)
- Was created for God's glory (Col 1:16; Rom 11:33-36)

1. Why do you believe that God created the universe?

☛ THE UNIVERSE - HOW

- Some things created were new (Gen 1:1,21,27; 2:3; Ps 33:6,9)
- All else was formed from existing material (Gen 1:7,16,25; 2:3)
- Created in six ordinary days (Gen 1:4,8,19,23,31; Ex 20:11)
- The work was precisely what God wanted it to be (Gen 1:31)

2. What does the process of creation reveal about God?

Therefore,

All things owe their existence and allegiance to God.

☛ MANKIND - WHO, WHAT WHY

- Man was God's crowning creation, distinct from animals (1:26)
 - They were male and female from the beginning, and the whole human race has descended from a single pair (1:27; 2:4-25)
 - To them were given ordinances of: procreation, marriage; the Sabbath; and work (1:28-2:25)
 - They had a sufficient knowledge of God's will (Rom 1:19; 2:15; Gen 2:16-17)
 - Man was capable of obedience, yet subject to change (Gen 3)
3. What are some of the implications for the man that has no knowledge of good and evil?

☛ MANKIND - HOW

- Man's creation was preceded by a divine counsel (1:26)
 - He was made in God's 'image' (1:26)
 - (Gen 2:7): The breath of Life is one thing, the body of dust is one thing, when the two come together they are "man" (a "living soul"). - the image of God - one thing.
 - Mankind was created with true knowledge, righteousness and holiness (WCF 4:2)
4. What part does the body play in the phrase "the image of God"?

Therefore,

In God's design, it is the **whole** of man and woman that is created to be the image of God.