

The Baby Around Whom the Universe Revolves

Selected Scriptures

1.

One of the most fundamental abilities which separates God from all else is that He is able to create. The single greatest act of creation in all of history was God's initial creation of all things in six days (Gen. 1:1; John 1:1-3). The Lord continued to the necessary centrality of His importance when He showed His kindness to Israel as He blanketed the ground with tasty and edible food for 40 years (Ex. 16:4, 13-18, 31, 35). God's kindness extends beyond the nation of Israel and believers (cf. Luke 6:35b), and He showed His kindness by creating oil and flour for in order to feed a widow and her son (1 Kings. 17:8-16; cf. 2 Kings 4:1-7). The Lord Jesus Christ also displayed that He was sent from God as He created food to feed masses of people who were following Him at two different times (Matt 14:13-21; 15:32-39; cf. Matt. 16:9-10).
2.

God alone has the power to create, and He has the authority and power to destroy. In the garden, God unleashed His destructive power upon the earth when He cursed all of creation after Adam disobeyed His commands (Gen. 3:14-19). The great flood which nearly destroyed all of life (Gen. 6:5-7) and the confusion of languages which forever separated societies and cultures (Gen. 11:6-9) are two other examples of the universal impact of God's ability and willingness to destroy. The Lord's destructive power was often shown in His wielding of nations against one another (Gen. 15:16; 2 Kings 17:6; Dan. 1:1-2; cf. Dan. 2:36-45; Prov 21:1). But sometimes God has destroyed nations in ways that it is obvious to all that He has taken special notice of them (Gen. 19:24-26; Ex. 7-11; cf. Num. 33:3-4).
3.

The Lord's care and power in sustaining all of life is so normal that it is easy for men to forget that He is active in this way (Col. 1:17; Heb. 1:3; cf. Gen. 8:22; Matt 5:45b; 6:25-34). The gift of life, of conception and of birth, are all in God's sovereign control (Isa. 66:9; cf. Gen. 20:18; 29:31; 30:22; 1 Sam 1:5-6). The Lord's particular sustaining care was clearly on display during Israel's forty-year wilderness wandering, which was chastisement from the Lord, where He ensured that

they lacked for nothing (Deut 2:7) and that their clothing did not even wear out (Deut. 8:4-5). The Lord Jesus Christ mercifully displayed the power of God in His ministry through His cleansing of lepers (Luke 5:13), healing of the sick (Luke 7:21), and the raising of the dead (Luke 7:11-15). The Lord Jesus also displayed His power over the creation which sustains all of life by commanding the elements of nature (Mark 4:41) and by ordering fish to fill a net in order to feed people (Luke 5:4-8).

4.

All authority has been given to the Son (Matt 28:17) and that includes the authority to hold people accountable to the laws which He has set up (Gen. 2:15-17; Deut 5:11; Ecc. 7:20; Ezek. 18:4; James 2:10; 1 John 3:4). He will render a judgment upon all men for how we behave with all that He has given to us (Matt 25:14ff; Luke 12:42-48). Everyone who the Lord judges strictly upon the basis of their own works will be condemned (cf. Matt 25:31-46) whereas those of us who have received salvation by faith alone in Christ alone will receive some rewards on the basis of our works for Him (cf. 1 Cor. 3:10-15). All judgment for the eternal destiny of man has been handed over to the Son (John 5:22, 27, 30), and apart from His commending of His own to the Father, no one will receive everlasting rest with God (Matt 7:21-23; 10:32-33).
5.

Just as the Lord has always been willing and ready to dispense His judgment upon Men, He has always been a willing Savior (2 Sam. 22:3; Ps. 17:7; 61:1-4; Isa. 43:1-3, 10-11; Ezek 18:30-32). God has most clearly shown His nature as Savior first in the Exodus of His people from Egypt (Ex. 20:1-2; Deut 4:20), but primarily in the saving work of Christ for all who believe (Col. 1:13-14; cf. John. 3:36). God's work as Savior was that Christ would stand in the place of those who believe while we would be treated as He deserves (2 Cor. 5:21). The work of Christ in salvation is completed and irrevocable (Rom. 5:1; 8:1) because the very power of the sin which would condemn us has been paid for and the debt has been cancelled (Col. 2:14). That God did not spare the Son in His redemptive plan ensures that there is nothing that He will not do to save and to keep those who are His own (cf. Rom. 8:32; Heb. 7:25).