

- A. There is more to life than what we naturally experience, because we have been created in the image of the eternal God. God has placed eternity in our hearts (Genesis 1:1,26,27; Ecclesiastes 3:11).
1. There is an appointed *time* for everything
 - a. “A *time* to give birth and a *time* to die”
 - b. “A *time* to plant and a *time* to uproot what is planted”
 - c. “A *time* to kill and a *time* to heal”
 - d. “A *time* to tear down and a *time* to build up”
 - e. “A *time* to tear down and a *time* to build up”
 - f. “A *time* to weep and a *time* to laugh”
 - g. “A *time* to mourn and a *time* to dance”
 - h. “A *time* to throw stones and a *time* to gather stones”
 - i. “A *time* to embrace and a *time* to shun embracing”
 - j. “A *time* to search and a *time* to give up as lost”
 - k. “A *time* to keep and a *time* to throw away”
 - l. “A *time* to tear apart and a *time* to sew together”
 - m. “A *time* to be silent and a *time* to speak”
 - n. “A *time* to love and a *time* to hate”
 - o. “A *time* for war and a *time* for peace”
 2. He has made everything beautiful in its *time*. He has also set *eternity* in the hearts of men (Ecc.3:11).
 3. There is something more within you and within me that cannot be satisfied by anything but the eternal and infinite God.
- B. Only Jesus Christ can fill that sense of eternity that God has placed within you and me (John 1:1-5, 10-13; 7:37-38).

QUESTIONS FOR SABBATH DISCUSSION & MEDITATION:

Take what you have learned this morning and make it into a prayer for yourself, your family, the church and/or your nation. Remember that prayer consists in Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving and Supplication (Feel free to use the outline for praying).

What is a worldview?

What are the three central elements of a worldview?

Why does everyone have a worldview even if they cannot explain it?

Why is the most crucial element of any worldview its belief about God?

Does God believe in atheists? Why?

How should the study of creation confirm our belief in God as Christians? Why should we be diligent and see to it that our children learn about the wonders of God’s creation through the study of various sciences?

Does the complexity and intricacy of creation “prove” God’s existence? Why isn’t creation sufficient to save someone?

How is the kind of science typically taught in schools a type of religious “faith”? How is naturalistic science (i.e. science that rejects God) unscientific?

Read C.S. Lewis’ quote in the above box. Explain in your own words why an atheist has no reason to believe anything.

INTRODUCTION:

'Let's start at the very beginning ... a very good place to start ...', sings Maria von Trapp (played by Julie Andrews) in *The Sound of Music*.

Realizing her charges don't know the first thing about singing, Maria set out to teach the children the basics of music: **'when you read you begin with A B C ... when you sing you begin with do-re-mi.'** Maria recognized an important point: it is difficult for one to truly understand and apply a concept when one lacks foundational knowledge of the concept.

I'll spare you from my singing this morning. But I would like to look at some of the "ABCs" and "do-re-mi's" of life. The ABCs and do-re-mi's of life are CREATION, FALL, REDEMPTION. The first three notes just happen to be, CREATION, FALL, REDEMPTION.

ILLUSTRATION:

Mortimer Adler was one of the great 20th century thinkers. He was born in 1902 and lived to the ripe old age of 98. (At his 80th birthday party, Dr. Adler offered some rules for success and happiness: "Never work more than seven days a week or 12 hours a day, and sometimes a little less. To grow younger with the years, work harder as you get older." Dr. Adler also advised his guests: "Never exercise -- as for dieting, eat only the most delicious calories.")

Mortimer Adler was the author or co-author of over 45 books including books like: *How to Think About God*. He was the editor for the *Encyclopedia Britannica*. He was editor-in-chief for the 54-volume work entitled: *The Great Books of the Western World* library. This set contains the writings of the most influential and greatest intellects and thinkers in Western history-from Aristotle to Shakespeare.

In Volume 1 Adler points out the crucial importance of the issue of God's existence to the greatest thinkers of the Western world. In sheer quantity of references, as well as in variety, this is the largest chapter. Out of 54 volumes, the largest chapter is on the issue of God's existence. The reason for this is obvious. The views of the other 53 volumes all go back to the question of "Where did we come from?" Did we come from God? More consequences for thought and action follow from the affirmation or denial of God than from answering any other basic question.