

PARK HEIGHTS CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Thus Saith the Lord

FAITH IN GOD

By Jeff Sweeten

It is such a simple statement. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." Straightforward, concise, no pretension whatsoever, the first verse of Genesis confidently asserts God and what He created.

When comparing this creation account with the many other explanations of our origin, there are some stark differences that demand attention. First, there is the idea of monotheism, or the "one God" concept. Many origin stories begin with a multiplicity of gods that are so near humanity in appearance, conduct and attitude that it is difficult to distinguish between the two. Unique to people of God throughout the history of time is the fact that monotheism was unique in the midst of cultures bent on making their gods like man, beast, heavenly bodies, or even atmospheric phenomenon. Thunder gods, gods of the sun, or half-man, half-god mutants make for interesting fiction, but fall woefully short in explaining the beauty and design of creation. Secondly, the fanciful origin stories of cultures foreign to God's word always assume the existence of something as opposed to someOne. The battlefields of the gods are always there; and there's no explanation for them. Yet, the Bible begins with the novel notion that God – mind, as opposed to matter – is eternal; something that is grudgingly admitted by a growing number of scientists now-a-days. The laws of thermodynamics concede that matter can be neither created nor destroyed, and that everything is running down, implying a wound up beginning. Indeed, "In the beginning..." matter began because "...God created." There are many other noticeable differences, but these should suffice to draw a distinction between what God has revealed and man has dreamed up.

When considering all the evidence, it makes sense to believe in God. Faith in Father is not a fanciful notion void of evidence, a better felt than understood fantasy. It is sane, rational, intelligent and reasonable, and there is no need to apologize or cower in the face of naysayers whose agenda negates a priori the possibility of a single, Divine Being. The truth has no need to fear facts. "And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God" (1 Corinthians 2:4-5).

JOIN US ON SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY!

SUNDAY: 9:30 a.m. Bible Class • 10:25 a.m. Morning Worship • 1:30 p.m. Afternoon Worship

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