

creation is waiting for the sons of God to be revealed?

3. Does this mean that Christians should look after the earth better than non-Christians?

“Behold, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy”

Isaiah 65:17,18

1. God is going to create the heavens and earth again
2. This event will mean we will rejoice
3. Jerusalem is the name of the city at the heart of this new creation
4. Our hurts will all be over. Would the whole of creation be happy at this?
5. Does this encourage you to remember God as Creator?

DISCOVERING THE BIBLE

LESSON 18 CREATION AND THE CREATOR

“...In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”

Genesis 1:1

1. There was a beginning to the earth
2. God was the one who did the creating

“By the word of the LORD were the heavens made, their starry host by the breath of his mouth. He gathers the waters of the sea into jars, he puts the deep into storehouses. Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world revere him. For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.”

Psalms 33:6-9

1. God used his words to command the creation of the world
2. It is a natural response to fear God because He created the world. ‘Fear’ here is not a negative response—revere is what we understand more easily

“For by him (Jesus) all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him.”

Colossians 1:16

1. Jesus was active in creation
2. There were others involved in the creation—created ‘for him’
3. The earth was created for Jesus

“Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen”

Romans 9:5

1. Jesus has a human ancestry, he descended from the patriarchs of the Old Testament
2. Jesus is also ‘God over all’
3. Because Jesus is ‘God over all’ we are to praise him. What can we praise him for?

“For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--his eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.”

Romans 1:20

1. The earth reveals God’s nature
2. The earth reveals that God has eternal power and is divine
3. Do you think that this earth is now as good as God designed it?

“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope (v.21) that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God”

Romans 8:18-21

1. The creation (earth itself, animals and man) has been subjected to frustration
2. This frustration is because it is decaying
3. God destined that this decay would take place
4. The aim is liberating the whole of creation from this decline
5. The whole of creation, including animals, is waiting for the sons of God to be revealed

“because those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.”

Romans 8:14

1. To become a ‘son of God’ we need to be led by the Spirit of God
2. Read Romans 8:21 again. Why do you think that the whole