

God Is

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 14:1-3 “THE FOOL HATH SAID IN HIS HEART, *There is* NO GOD. THEY ARE CORRUPT, THEY HAVE DONE ABOMINABLE WORKS, *there is* NONE THAT DOETH GOOD. THE LORD LOOKED DOWN FROM HEAVEN UPON THE CHILDREN OF MEN, TO SEE IF THERE WERE ANY THAT DID UNDERSTAND, *and* SEEK GOD. THEY ARE ALL GONE ASIDE, THEY ARE *all* TOGETHER BECOME FILTHY: *there is* NONE THAT DOETH GOOD, NO, NOT ONE.”

When David penned these words his heart and mind must have been in a state of depression, of sadness, of complete despair because of the corruption of mankind that was all around him. He must have felt that he lived in a world full of fools. Fools who live their lives, conduct their business, enjoy what they count as pleasures without a thought of God or the will of God. Well, this old world hasn't changed much has it?

When we look out over the world as it stands today we see over 6 billion souls, the vast majority of which are lost. We see man-made religions professing to provide spiritual nourishment that contain very little that came from the Word of God. We see among those who profess to be religious, those who have made up their own version of what they think worship to God should be and are offering it up to Him expecting Him to accept it. We have a large number of our own brethren who are accepting and teaching new doctrines that are not new doctrines at all but rather the tired old denominational doctrines of years past dressed in new robes. Denominational doctrines that those who sought to restore New Testament Christianity studied themselves out of over 200 years ago. These deny the existence and power of God by their actions and their attitudes toward Him. They worship Him in vain teaching as doctrine the commandments and precepts of men. (**Matthew 15:9, Mark 7:7**).

And then there are those who deny the existence of God completely. They don't even accept the fact that there is a God in heaven. They don't acknowledge a Supreme Being who created the universe and all that is in it. They have invented to themselves a new religion called Darwinism. A new religion anchored in the theories of organic evolution; the religion of the atheist. In this country they are indoctrinating our children with this soul damning nonsense as true science in every school grade level from kindergarten through the universities. In fact, true science denies the very concepts that they teach. They have substituted for true science the very thing that God warned us about through the writing of the Apostle Paul:

I Timothy 6:20 “O TIMOTHY, KEEP THAT WHICH IS COMMITTED TO THY TRUST, AVOIDING PROFANE AND VAIN BABBLINGS, AND OPPOSITIONS OF SCIENCE FALSELY SO CALLED:”

God Is

Darwinism, and Darwin's theories of evolution are "SCIENCE FALSELY SO CALLED", a tool of Satan, designed and used to destroy the faith of uncoun- ted millions of people all over the world.

If mankind does not recover from this sickness of the soul that is being spread throughout the world he will continue to sink into the same kind of pit of sin that existed at the time of Noah. During those days when God looked upon the earth that he had created what did he find?

Genesis 6:5-6 "AND GOD SAW THAT THE WICKEDNESS OF MAN WAS GREAT IN THE EARTH, AND THAT EVERY IMAGINATION OF THE THOUGHTS OF HIS HEART WAS ONLY EVIL CONTINUALLY. AND IT REPENTED THE **LORD** THAT HE HAD MADE MAN ON THE EARTH, AND IT GRIEVED HIM AT HIS HEART."

Friends, neighbors, brothers and sisters in Christ, this old world is not far from being just as wicked and sinful today as it was when God destroyed it by water.

This world needs to change, the people need to change, mankind needs to turn their backs on the false science of man to the knowledge that there is a God, a Supreme Ruler of this universe and Creator of all that is found in it. But someone asks, doesn't most of the world already believe that there is a God? But do they? If so then why have they abandoned the Word of God and substituted something else for so much of His Word? The inspired writer of the book of James tells us that even the devils believe in some form:

James 2:19 "THOU BELIEVEST THAT THERE IS ONE GOD; THOU DOEST WELL: THE DEVILS ALSO BELIEVE, AND TREMBLE."

So in some sense the devils believe, because the divine scripture tells us that they do, but do they really believe? They tremble at the thought of God, they fear Him and his presence but they continue to be devils. Those who claim to believe, yet deny that belief in their actions, in their sinful daily living, are just like the devils in **James 2:19** and will suffer the same end.

The only remedy for this sickness of the souls of mankind is to restore in their hearts and minds the fact that there is a God. That He is the Supreme Ruler of all things, that He is the creator of this universe and all that is in it. Restore the fact in the minds of men that when man sinned by transgressing the law that He had given them in the Garden of Eden, that God made a plan to redeem us from our own foolishness. That he sent his "ONLY BEGOTTEN SON" to die to provide the means to cleanse our souls of sin. In order for the people of this world to recover from that which will consign their souls to a devils

hell is to rebuild their faith in God. The beginning point for this much needed recovery is simply a deep rooted, grounded, rock solid, belief that GOD IS.

And now as we explore the proof that there is a God, that He is the God of this universe, the Creator of all things let us follow the advice of the prophet:

Arnos Vale church of Christ, Kingstown, St. Vincent Sunday Evening; August 7, 2011

Page Three

God Is

Isaiah 1:18 "COME NOW, AND LET US REASON TOGETHER, SAITH THE LORD: THOUGH YOUR SINS BE AS SCARLET, THEY SHALL BE AS WHITE AS SNOW; THOUGH THEY BE RED LIKE CRIMSON, THEY SHALL BE AS WOOL."

For there is a God in heaven. There is a God that sent His only begotten son to die for our sins. There is a God in heaven that Jesus Christ, His son, returned to when he was resurrected, Jesus, the Savior of the world, returned to prepare a place for His people (**John 14:2-3**). His people are those who would be saved, those who God would add to His church (**Acts 2:47**).

The Universe Exists

The existence of God can be proven based simply on the fact that we exist, the earth exists, the universe that he created exists. This universe had to come from somewhere. The universe has not always been here and it is not eternal. The answer to this question is so simple that even a small child knows the answer. The sacred scripture tells us so plainly:

Hebrews 3:4 "FOR EVERY HOUSE IS BUILDED BY SOME *man*; BUT HE THAT BUILT ALL THINGS *is* GOD."

Anyone with the intelligence to reason can readily see that if there is a house that somebody had to build that house. They can readily see that if there is a watch that there had to be a watchmaker. When they see the moon and stars they can readily see that there had to be someone who made the moon and stars and put them in their places. They can readily see that since we exist, the earth exists, the universe exists then there must have been a Master Builder who made all of these things.

The scripture doesn't leave us in the dark concerning these things:

Genesis 1:1 "IN THE BEGINNING GOD CREATED THE HEAVEN AND THE EARTH."

Well, how did he do that? Did he gather up a bunch of space dust, pound it together make our earth? Well, if he did where did the dust come from? Did he create a great turmoil in the heavens, bring the pot to a boil and generate a big bang and all of matter and life jump into existence? If he did, then where did the heavens come from? Where did the ingredients that he put in his recipe for

the pot come from? Even the youngest of our young ladies know that you can't make a cake from nothing! The scripture tells us what happened!

God Is

God created. Even in the modern dictionaries in use today the first meaning of the word create is to "cause to come into being". To make something where there was nothing; God created the "HEAVEN AND THE EARTH", He brought them into being from nothing.

Genesis 1:3 "AND GOD SAID, LET THERE BE LIGHT AND THERE WAS LIGHT."

"AND GOD SAID"; God said and things appeared. God said and what was dark was now divided into dark and light.

Genesis 1:6 "AND GOD SAID, LET THERE BE A FIRMAMENT IN THE MIDST OF THE WATERS, AND LET IT DIVIDE THE WATERS FROM THE WATERS."

"AND GOD SAID, and the waters that were in the heavens were divided from the waters on earth.

Genesis 1:9 "AND GOD SAID, LET THE WATERS UNDER THE HEAVEN BE GATHERED TOGETHER UNTO ONE PLACE, AND LET THE DRY *land* APPEAR; AND IT WAS SO."

"AND GOD SAID", and the waters on earth were gathered together, their boundaries set and dry land appeared.

And there are more but these are sufficient for our purpose here. God spoke and these things came to be. God, the Master Builder, spoke and order came to the chaos that had previously existed. God spoke and the earth was placed just the right distance from the sun. Any closer and we would all burn up, any further away and it would be a ball of ice upon which no man could live. God spoke and the herbs and grass of the fields came to be, the animals, fowls of the air, bugs and insects and all things including the ancestors of you and I came to be.

Someone says oh, yes, I believe that God made the earth but he did it over a long period of time, millions of years. Why science proves that. But the so-called science that supposedly proves that has been proven science falsely so called. What does the sacred scripture say? Moses wrote as God directed him, as did all of the other writers of scripture. Moses wrote:

Exodus 20:11 “FOR *in* SIX DAYS THE **LORD** MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH, THE SEA, AND ALL THAT IN THEM *is*, AND RESTED THE SEVENTH DAY: WHEREFORE THE **LORD** BLESSED THE SABBATH DAY, AND HALLOWED IT.”

God Is

God made. God made heaven and earth in six normal human days and then on the seventh he rested. Hear the testimony of the Holy Spirit through the pen of the psalmist:

Psalm 146:5-6 “HAPPY *is he* THAT *hath* THE GOD OF JACOB FOR HIS HELP, WHOSE HOPE *is* IN THE **LORD** HIS GOD: WHICH MADE HEAVEN, AND EARTH, THE SEA, AND ALL THAT THEREIN *is*: WHICH KEEPETH TRUTH FOR EVER:”

Hear further from **Psalm 104**; the writer is writing about the nature of God and describes him this way:

Read Selected from **Psalm 104:1-24**:

But many people would have us believe that the modern theory of evolution, originated by Charles Darwin explains the beginning of the universe. But this theory, published over 150 years ago, was being disproved by true science even before it was written. The pet theory of the atheist would have us believe that the physical world is in a constant state of change, getting ever stronger and better. But the physical laws of nature, that which was, is and always will be proven by true science, prove that the universe is slowly running down. It's just like an old wind up alarm clock that some day will stop if God doesn't bring to an end first. These laws of true science prove that the universe had a beginning, that the process of degeneration had a beginning. Yet millions of men deny the existence of God and billions more live like it.

But matter had to have been created initially, out of nothing, by some superior, eternal, omnipotent force. There had to be an uncaused First Cause, and Unmoved Mover. The very existence of the universe is proof positive of the existence of a universe maker. So finally, as we noted earlier, consider again this fundamental truth that is so simple and so basic that even little children understand it.

Hebrews 3:4 “FOR EVERY HOUSE IS BUILDED BY SOME *man*; BUT HE THAT BUILT ALL THINGS *is* GOD.”

The Master Designer

We not only see proof of the existence of God in the fact that the universe and everything in it exists but also that everything in God's creation exhibits design, order and purpose. I spent a major portion of my life working in construction, building industrial plants, office buildings and other things of that nature.

God Is

Before we turned a shovel of dirt, before anyone drove a nail there had to be a design for what we were building, the order in which the work would go forward would have to be determined, and the purpose for every part of the facility being constructed known and fully understood. If we didn't we had a disaster on our hands, sometimes we had problems anyway when the design was flawed. You say but that's just common sense, everybody knows that. Then why do men reject that truth when it applies to the existence of God?

All we need to do is to look around us. The King David wrote:

Psalm 19:1 "THE HEAVENS DECLARE THE GLORY OF GOD; AND THE FIRMAMENT SHEWETH HIS HANDYWORK."

And again:

Psalm 8:1-4 "O LORD, OUR LORD, HOW EXCELLENT *is* THY NAME IN ALL THE EARTH! WHO HAST SET THY GLORY ABOVE THE HEAVENS. OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES AND SUCKLINGS HAST THOU ORDAINED STRENGTH BECAUSE OF THINE ENEMIES, THAT THOU MIGHTEST STILL THE ENEMY AND THE AVENGER. WHEN I CONSIDER THY HEAVENS, THE WORK OF THY FINGERS, THE MOON AND THE STARS, WHICH THOU HAST ORDAINED; WHAT IS MAN, THAT THOU ART MINDFUL OF HIM? AND THE SON OF MAN, THAT THOU VISITEST HIM?"

If we readily recognize that intelligent planning is behind all ordered design, how could nature's intricate and detailed networks have no planner? How can we look at the sun, the moon, the stars in the heavens, see the order of the constellations and declare that there is no God? How can we look at the bloom of a rose with the beauty of it's color, the intricate nature of it's construction, knowing how it grows and deny the existence of God? How can we plant a seed, see it germinate, sprout, grow and produce fruit and deny the existence of a Master Designer?

Psalm 104:14 “HE CAUSETH THE **GRASS** TO GROW FOR THE CATTLE, AND **HERB** FOR THE SERVICE OF MAN: THAT HE MAY BRING FORTH FOOD OUT OF THE EARTH;”

Who can hold a new born baby in their hands, and not recognize what the Psalmist David wrote concerning the everlasting presence and power of God. Praising and honoring God he penned these words:

Psalm 139:14 “I WILL PRAISE THEE; FOR I AM FEARFULLY *and* WONDERFULLY MADE: MARVELLOUS *are* THY WORKS; AND *that* MY SOUL KNOWETH RIGHT WELL.”

Arnos Vale church of Christ, Kingstown, St. Vincent Sunday Evening; August 7, 2011

Page Seven

God Is

To see the fantastic designs, the beauty, the intricate complexity in nature and then conclude there is no Master Designer is not rational. In my experience they put people who behave that way regarding other matters in a white coat with the sleeves tied behind their backs. Because they are not rational people, they don't have control of their own minds, they might hurt themselves or someone else and must be cared for.

The great apostle to the Gentiles wrote to our Roman brethren:

Romans 1:20 “FOR THE INVISIBLE THINGS OF HIM FROM THE CREATION OF THE WORLD ARE CLEARLY SEEN, BEING UNDERSTOOD BY THE THINGS THAT ARE MADE, EVEN HIS ETERNAL POWER AND GODHEAD; SO THAT THEY ARE WITHOUT EXCUSE.”

What did you say Paul?? Repeat underlines.

We have no excuse for rejecting God when we are surrounded by such an overwhelming display of wonders and marvels in His created order. The Apostle Paul tells the Lyconians, who tried to worship him, and tells us, that God did not leave himself without witnesses to testify of his being:

Acts 14:17 “NEVERTHELESS HE LEFT NOT HIMSELF WITHOUT WITNESS, IN THAT HE DID GOOD, AND GAVE US RAIN FROM HEAVEN, AND FRUITFUL SEASONS, FILLING OUR HEARTS WITH FOOD AND GLADNESS.”

All we have to do in order to see that there is a God, a Master Designer that created our universe and everything that is in it is simply to wake up and look around us. We will see the proof of His existence in everything that we see or touch.

Moral Proof

Another proof for the existence of God is the fact that objective moral values exist. If God does not exist, then all moral values, all ethics, all views of right and wrong are purely subjective. They are the product of the mind of man and mean no more than the opinions that any one of us might hold. That means that morality is merely the product of human beings arbitrarily deciding what is right and wrong with no outside influence other than what other people have taught us. Unfortunately that's the way more and more of this world is living.

If there is no God, if we are all merely the result of evolution – the mechanical, chance forces of nature – then human life is ultimately of no more value than the life of an ant. A cow is just as valuable as a person. You could place on a table a rock, a cockroach, a rat and a human baby and then go down the row of items smashing them with a sledge hammer. If God does not exist, there would be no ultimate difference or significance to what you're doing.

Arnos Vale church of Christ, Kingstown, St. Vincent Sunday Evening; August 7, 2011

Page Eight

God Is

Such behavior would be judged only by personal preference, and individual taste, mere human choice. Now does anyone have any question in their minds as why **abortion** is such a problem in this world! Why a man such as Hitler could exist? Why that a godless government such as that in China can control their birthrate by forcing women to abort their pregnancy if they already have two children? So what is the source of the man's moral values? Where did man's knowledge of what is good and what is evil come from? God tells us! God tells us!

Genesis 2:9 “AND OUT OF THE GROUND MADE THE **LORD** GOD TO GROW EVERY TREE THAT IS PLEASANT TO THE SIGHT, AND GOOD FOR FOOD; THE TREE OF LIFE ALSO IN THE MIDST OF THE GARDEN, AND THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL.”

God considered what he created to be “VERY GOOD” (**Genesis 1:31**). Up until the time that Eve was tempted to eat of the fruit of the “TREE OF KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL”, man knew only that which was good. Man only came to know evil the very first time when he disobeyed the law of God and ate of the forbidden fruit. They learned what was evil only by eating of the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

In every covenant that God has made with man he has provided mankind with the knowledge of the difference between good and evil. We see that under His covenants with the patriarchs. In the case of Noah because Noah was a righteous man who “FOUND GRACE IN THE EYES OF THE LORD” (**Genesis 6:8**) he and his family were saved while the rest of the world around him was so wicked that God destroyed them. We know that there was knowledge of the difference between good and evil in the days of the patriarchs.

God did not leave the Israelite nation without moral values. He did not leave them without knowledge of what is good and what is evil either:

Deuteronomy 30:15-16 “SEE, I HAVE SET BEFORE THEE THIS DAY LIFE AND GOOD, AND DEATH AND EVIL; IN THAT I COMMAND THEE THIS DAY TO LOVE THE **LORD** THY GOD, TO WALK IN HIS WAYS, AND TO KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS AND HIS STATUTES AND HIS JUDGMENTS, THAT THOU MAYEST LIVE AND MULTIPLY: AND THE **LORD** THY GOD SHALL BLESS THEE IN THE LAND WHITHER THOU GOEST TO POSSESS IT.”

And God has not neglected men today either. We find in the law of Christ, God's current covenant with mankind:

God Is

II Peter 1:2-4 “GRACE AND PEACE BE MULTIPLIED UNTO YOU THROUGH THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD, AND OF JESUS OUR LORD, ACCORDING AS HIS DIVINE POWER HATH GIVEN UNTO US ALL THINGS THAT *pertain* UNTO LIFE AND GODLINESS, THROUGH THE KNOWLEDGE OF HIM THAT HATH CALLED US TO GLORY AND VIRTUE: WHEREBY ARE GIVEN UNTO US EXCEEDING GREAT AND PRECIOUS PROMISES: THAT BY THESE YE MIGHT BE PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE, HAVING ESCAPED THE CORRUPTION THAT IS IN THE WORLD THROUGH LUST.”

The very fact that mankind knows what is good and what is evil is a powerful proof of the existence of God. No other creature on earth has that knowledge and it is because we are made in the image of God. (**Genesis 1:26**).

Conscience

Since mankind gained the knowledge of good and evil in the Garden of Eden; God has placed in us a tool that helps us follow the moral values that we have been taught. If you or I think that a certain behavior is wrong and we go ahead and do that which we think is wrong there is a part of us that will feel guilty. We will be reminded that we did something that was against what we believe to be right. God placed within every one of a moral sensibility, a capacity to make moral distinctions and govern our lives. This capacity in human beings is called a “conscience”. Of course, that conscience must be taught and trained.

It doesn't matter what our belief system might be or what precepts of right and wrong that we hold dear; if we violate what our belief system says is right and do something wrong we will be troubled about that. That is because we have this inner self, this conscience; that will tell us that we have done

something wrong. It will continue to goad, prod, and prick us until we either quit doing that which is wrong and repent, or we become so hardened that it doesn't bother us anymore. Animals don't have that capability. They have no means of determining right from wrong, they do not have the capability to reason as we do. The very first time that man sinned we see the conscience in action. When Eve was tempted by Satan, accepted the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and caused Adam to eat it as well:

“AND THE EYES OF THEM BOTH WERE OPENED, AND THEY KNEW THAT THEY **were** NAKED; AND THEY SEWED FIG LEAVES TOGETHER, AND MADE THEMSELVES APRONS. AND THEY HEARD THE VOICE OF THE **LORD** GOD WALKING IN THE GARDEN IN THE COOL OF THE DAY: AND ADAM AND HIS WIFE HID THEMSELVES FROM THE PRESENCE OF THE **LORD** GOD AMONGST THE TREES OF THE GARDEN.” **Genesis 3:7-8**

God Is

Adam and Eve knew that they were naked. They knew that they had violated God's commandment. They, for the first time ever, knew that they had done something wrong. Their reaction was much the same as anyone else should have in the same circumstances: they wanted to find a hole, crawl in it and pull the dirt in after them. They were ashamed. The conscience that God had given them worked to perfection the first time they used it.

The conscience in man is a proof of the existence of God. It could have come from no other place. Science can't account for it. It didn't come from rocks and dirt. It didn't evolve over time. It is a spiritual quality that was created and placed within us by our Divine Creator. The Apostle Paul recognized its existence and its influence in his life:

Acts 23:1 “AND PAUL, EARNESTLY BEHOLDING THE COUNCIL, SAID, MEN AND BRETHREN, I HAVE LIVED IN ALL GOOD CONSCIENCE BEFORE GOD UNTIL THIS DAY.”

We see from the example of Paul that training that is wrong will allow us to do wrong things and not have our conscience bother us. We also see from the example of Paul that if our conscience has received the wrong training that we can retrain it and get it right. Because the one that persecuted the church became one of its greatest champions of all time.

We can also see from the writings of Paul something else that can happen to our conscience. He writes to the young preacher Timothy:

I Timothy 4:1-2 “NOW THE SPIRIT SPEAKETH EXPRESSLY, THAT IN THE LATTER TIMES SOME SHALL DEPART FROM THE FAITH, GIVING HEED TO

SEDUCING SPIRITS, AND DOCTRINES OF DEVILS; SPEAKING LIES IN HYPOCRISY; HAVING THEIR CONSCIENCE SEARED WITH A HOT IRON;”

We can allow our conscience to become seared. It will get just like a scar or a callus on our hand, tough, hard, until nothing can penetrate it. Then we become just like old Pharaoh of Egypt, our hearts so hard our conscience so seared that we are able to turn away the blessings of being a child of God because we will not allow His Word to enter our hearts.

So here we have four major proofs of the fact that God is. The existence of this universe and all that is in it. The undeniable evidence demands a master designer as well as a master builder. The existence of a moral code that is rooted in the Word of God and the existence of the conscience that was built into us by God at the time mankind was created.

What is the condition of your conscience and your soul this night? Are you a child of God or a child of Satan, you can't serve two masters, the Christ tells us that (**Matthew 6:24**).

Arnos Vale church of Christ, Kingstown, St. Vincent Sunday Evening; August 7, 2011

Page Eleven

God Is

What is your relationship with God my friend? If you're not a child of his then the scripture says you must hear the gospel of Jesus Christ **Romans 10:17**, must believe that He is the Son of the Living God, **John 8:24**; must repent of your past sins, **Luke 13:3**, must confess his name before men, **Matthew 10:32** and be baptized to remove the stain of these sins as Peter told the multitude in **Act 2:38**.

Or if you are a child of his but wayward or disobedient you need to come back, repent and pray for forgiveness as we're told in **James 5:16**. Whatever your need.....