

Based on Many Passages

A Closer Look at the Evidence!

Services: Sunday, 2/19 at 8:00 & 10:45 + Monday, 2/20 at 7 PM

Church Year: Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany – 2017

Mondays Continue through Lent | March 1 is Ash Wednesday

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: We are living during a sad ☹️ time in America in regard to the truth:



- Some people have become apathetic – *they don't care!*
- Some live in a dream world – *hoping THEIR truth is true!*
- Some twist the truth – *in an effort to get rid of God!*
- Some do as they please – *not taking God seriously!*

For the apathetic people: ^{NIV} **2 Thessalonians 2:10** “...They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.”

For the dreamers: ^{ESV} **Romans 1:22** “Claiming to be wise, they became fools...”

For the deceivers: ^{NAS} **Isaiah 5:20** “Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil...”

For the non-serious people: They should know that the LORD is NOT looking upon them with favor (see **Isaiah 66:2 NAS**).

Therefore, today, we will take a closer look at some of the evidence in the world *which clearly points to the reality of a great and awesome God!* Then, by God's grace, let us ✨see God's awesomeness, ✨admit our sins, ✨rejoice in His Word of Truth, ✨know that we are forgiven through Jesus, and ✨use today's resource to bless us and others!

Evidence from Botany 1/4: The Amazing Tree Pump System!

Day Three of Creation: Genesis 1:9-13 ESV: ⁹ And God said, “Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one

place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹ And God said, “Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.” And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

HYMN: *On Eagles' Wings*

LSB 727, sts. 1-2

Evidence from Biology – 1/28: *The Speed and Sight of an Eagle!*

The LORD Made the Amazing Eagle: Job 38:1, 27-29 ESV: ¹ Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said... ²⁷ Is it at your command that the eagle mounts up and makes his nest on high? ²⁸ On the rock he dwells and makes his home, on the rocky crag and stronghold. ²⁹ From there he spies out the prey; his eyes behold it from far away.

If you are Disobedient, an Eagle-like Enemy will come upon you: Deuteronomy 28:15, 49-50 ESV: ¹⁵ ...if you will not obey the voice of the LORD your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then... ⁴⁹ The LORD will bring a nation against you from far away, from the end of the earth, swooping down like the eagle, a nation whose language you do not understand, ⁵⁰ a hard-faced nation who shall not respect the old or show mercy to the young.

Those who Trust in the LORD will be like Eagles: Isaiah 40:28-31

NAS: ²⁸ Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth Does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable. ²⁹ He gives strength to the weary, And to *him who* lacks might He increases power. ³⁰ Though youths grow weary and tired, And vigorous young men stumble badly, ³¹ Yet those who wait for the

LORD Will gain new strength; They will mount up *with wings* like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary.

HYMN: *On Eagles' Wings*

LSB 727, sts. 3-4

Evidence from Anatomy – 1/24: *Our Amazing Blood Vessels!*

Acknowledging God's Awesome Workmanship: Psalm 139:13-14

ESV: ¹³ For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

HYMN: *How Great Thou Art*

LSB 801, st. 1

Evidence from Biology – 9/19-20: *The Amazing Octopus!*

The LORD made the Amazing Sea Creatures: Psalm 104:24-25

NIV: ²⁴ How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. ²⁵ There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with creatures beyond number-- living things both large and small.

HYMN: *How Great Thou Art*

LSB 801, st. 2

Evidence from Anatomy – 12/13: *Our Amazing Liver!*

The LORD made Each Part of the Body: 1 Corinthians 12:21-25

ESV: ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²² On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unrepresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, ²⁴ which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵ that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.

Evidence from Archeology – 12/17: *Our Awesome Virgin-Born Savior!*

Let us be Certain, Jesus is **God with Us**: Isaiah 7:14 ESV; Matthew 1:20-23 ESV

This promise was made 700 years before Jesus' birth:

¹⁴ Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

This event took place when Mary was pregnant with Jesus:

...an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

Conclusion: The evidence-statements I shared today are from a book entitled, A Closer Look at the Evidence.¹ The book is a daily devotional book, so you simply read one page each day. *If you are willing to do so*, please take home a free copy and read it together as a family – *one page each day!*

Let us pray: LORD God Almighty, Your fingerprints are all over Your awesome creation. So let us ✦see and marvel, ✦be ever-sorry for our sins, ✦constantly embrace Jesus as Savior and Lord, and ✦shine the light of Your Truth to others! In Jesus' name, we pray...

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¹ Richard L. & Christina E. Kleiss, Midland, MI: Search for the Truth Publications, 2003.