

#### **GENESIS 1:1-2:3**



"God has saved us from sin through Jesus our Lord and Saviour"



#### GOD

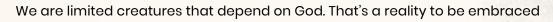
God isn't in the play, he created the play and everything in it

#### **CREATION**

Science is brilliant to understand the "What?" and "How?" Genesis is brilliant to understand the "Why?"

Christians have a strong logical foundation for why something is right and wrong







Humans are "fallen monarchs with amnesia" (John Calvin)

#### THE CHALLENGE OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

God's image on us is his claim on us

#### **QUESTIONS**

1. God isn't in the play; he created the play and everything in it. Where do people look to "find God"?



2. The Bible gives us a strong logical foundation for what is right and wrong. What else do people base their morality on, and how satisfactory are they?

3. Why is our limitedness and dependence on God a good feature of humanity to be embraced?

4. If we bear God's image and his claim is on us, how then should we live?

#### **GENESIS 3:1-13**

## **BAD: Sin and the Fall**

"God has saved us from <u>sin</u> through Jesus our Lord and Saviour"

#### **CHRISTIANITY: A STORY ABOUT HOW THE WORLD IS**

"Humanity is a race to whom something happened" (Jean-Paul Sartre)



#### A TALKING SNAKE AND FORBIDDEN FRUIT

Arbiters of right and wrong: a declaration of autonomy

Sin is living apart from and separate to God-pursuing something other than him

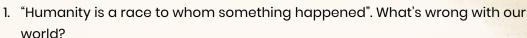
#### **REBELLION AND ITS CONSEQUENCES**

We are both victims and perpetrators of the world and its chaos



"Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship" (David Foster Wallace)

#### **QUESTIONS**





2. At the heart of sin is a declaration of autonomy. Why do we naturally want to live apart from and separate to God?

3. How are we both victims and perpetrators of chaos and evil in our world?

4. "Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship". What do you worship?

#### MARK 14:12-25



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Passover: the blood of the lamb protected Israel's houses

#### **JESUS**

"If I really acknowledged that Jesus lived, died and rose again, I'd have to change my life dramatically"

Nice guys don't get crucified

#### THE MEANING OF JESUS' DEATH

Jesus' death deals with the sin problem

Jesus' death addresses the slavery problem

Jesus' death addresses the people problem

The action to become a Christian is to come knowing your need

#### **QUESTIONS**

1. If Jesus actually lived, died and rose again, how should that change our lives?

2. Why is it not enough to acknowledge Jesus as a nice guy but not follow him as Lord and Saviour?

3. Jesus' death saves us from sin, frees us from slavery and gathers a new people who follow him. Which of these benefits resonates most with you? Why?

4. If, in order to be saved, we simply need to acknowledge our need and entrust our lives to Jesus, why do so many of us struggle to do this?

# **BEST: New Creation and Hope**

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### HEAVEN

The Christian hope isn't destruction but fulfilment: it's this world redeemed

In suffering, not "Why?" but "How long?"

Nothing will be swept under the carpet; everything will be given what it deserves

#### **NOW AND THEN**

Living in hope of the new creation means I will live this life differently

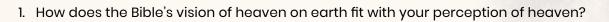


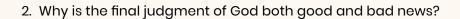
Jesus is a sign of the new creation to come

#### **FOLLOWING JESUS**

Repent and entrust our lives to Jesus









4. What might it look like for you to repent and entrust yourself to Jesus?