

Renewed Unity Creation by God

God is the Greatest Conceivable Being and as such is the perfect being. The GCB/perfect being must be All-Knowing, All-Powerful, All-Good, Eternal, Necessary, and Triune. These six primary attributes are essential to God's nature. He is perfect in Himself. He does not need anything else nor to do anything else to be perfect. This means that if God never chose to create the universe, He would still be perfect in Himself. But God *did* choose to create the universe. Creating the universe revealed other attributes of His.

Because God created, His creativity and intelligence in design are visible. Because God created, His holiness is recognized. God is holy (Isaiah 6:3, Revelation 4:8), but holiness is a relational attribute, like being "taller than." If there were only one physical thing in all reality, then that thing is *some amount tall*, but is not taller than anything else because there is nothing else against which the physical thing's height is judged relative to another physical object. Likewise, God is not holy in Himself since holiness is the attribute of being set apart or being distinct from something else. If God never created the universe, then God would never be set apart from or be distinct anything else since the only thing in all reality would be God. God creating the universe revealed other attributes of His.

Topic: God is All-Knowing, All-Powerful, All-Good, Eternal, Necessary, and Triune in Himself. Aside from creation, God's attributes of creativity, intelligence in design, & holiness are not revealed.

- Why is God not holy in Himself?
- What other attributes or roles of God are revealed because He created the universe? Is God the savior until there is something that requires being saved?
- Romans 1:20 tells us that "God's invisible attributes, both His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that men are without excuse." How does creation display God's eternal power?
- How does creation display His divine nature?
- Why does this display through creation mean that men are without excuse?
- Read Genesis 1:1-3 and John 1:1-3, then Colossians 1:15-17 and Hebrews 1:1-3. Which person of the Trinity actually did the creating?
- Read Genesis 1:26-27. What does it mean for human people to be made in God's image?

Association: We all have our favorite aspects of creation and of God's nature.

- Are you more of an ocean/lake/river person or more of a mountains person?
- What is the most beautiful display of God's creation that you've ever seen?
- When has God spoken to you, either verbally, internally, or through creation?

Guidance:

- How would you recommend your discipleship partner better appreciate God's nature in creation?
- Consider praying to God the three rings His attributes—God is All-Knowing, All-Powerful, All-Good, Eternal, Necessary, and Triune in Himself. He is perfect in Himself (the first ring) He chose to create. In so doing He revealed that He is Creator and Holy (the second ring). Because His creation sinned, God enacted His plan of salvation and is Savior, Healer, Redeemer, etc. (the third ring).
- Pray with and for one another using the three rings of His attributes.