

# “Healing a Broken World”

## Part 2

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January 31, 2010

- We have been talking about the “mystery” that was hidden but now revealed through Christ. It was also previously explained that the “mystery” is not complicated but it **is** hidden.
- The Gospel is really very simple. But “religion” is what complicates it. God gave Moses 10 laws, and they were good. But by the time Jesus came, there were 10,000 laws added by man.
- We cannot find God with our brain alone but by a revelation of God in our heart. This revelation is also how we discover our purpose and destiny.
- Because people try to discover the answers to the deeper questions in life (ie: is God real? Who is God? What does He want from us? What’s the meaning of life?) with their natural brains, they end up being severely disappointed in God and then stop believing. They even get angry toward anyone who does believe. Why is that?
- To understand this, we need to look at the diamond of the mystery against the backdrop of the black cloth of man’s futile attempt to find God on their own. Here are 3 quotes that show this:
  1. ~**Carl Sagan**: “If God is omnipotent and omniscient, why didn’t he start the universe out in the first place so that it would come out the way that he wants? Why is he constantly repairing and complaining? No, there’s one thing the Bible makes clear. The Biblical God is a sloppy manufacturer. He’s not good at design. He’s not good at execution. He’d be out of business if there was any competition.”
  2. ~**Charles Darwin** (after his daughter Annie’s death): Annie’s cruel death destroyed Charles’ tatters of belief in a moral, just universe. Later he would say that this period chimed the final death knell for his Christianity. St. Charles now took his stand as an unbeliever.
  3. ~**Ted Turner** (a strident non-believer, having lost his faith after his sister, Mary Jane, died of a painful disease): “I was taught that God was love and God was powerful,” Turner said, “and I couldn’t understand how someone so innocent should be made or allowed to suffer so.”
- This is where you end up if you only seek to understand with your head. You are left to be disappointed by God. You try to make sense of all the tragedy in the world apart from insight from the very God who made all things.
- So many people say “I love God” but then they hit a tragedy and lose their own faith and become angry with God.
- To receive the fullness of God, you must understand the 4 elements of the Gospel and all its mystery:
  1. God’s Dream
  2. Satan’s Deception
  3. Christ’s Substitution
  4. Man’s Restoration
- **GOD’S DREAM**: there is one God – expressed in three persons: Father, Son, Holy Spirit. This is like a cherry pie. You cut it into 3 pieces which have a definite shape but when you try to take one out, they spill into each other as one.
- God had a dream that included us – it was a good dream.
- **Genesis 1:9-10 (The Message)**: *God spoke: “Separate! Water-beneath-Heaven, gather into one place; Land, appear!” And there it was. God named the land Earth. He named the pooled water Ocean. God saw that it was good.*
- He continues in Genesis to say after He made each part of creation “it is good”. God “knew” it was good but He was making a proclamation of His creation.

- After He makes man and proclaims man's dominion over His creations, God said **"That is very good"**.
- When we question "how could God make a world as bad as what we live in today?" The answer is, He didn't. What He made was very, very good.
- What He made and intended is what was in the garden before the fall. He made us in His image, gave us dominion, created us to be successful. God did not make us for defeat.
- When God made man, He made a beautiful garden - not a desert, a wilderness, or a cave - and that is where He placed man to live. He made beautiful flowers and plants. They were **beautiful** and extravagant. He is a God of beauty.
- But if you don't get this you constantly ask "What went wrong?"
- **SATAN'S DECEPTION:** These guys (Sagan, Darwin, Turner) didn't understand one fact – Satan's deception.
- The temptation Adam and Eve yielded to was not eating a piece of fruit but was a temptation to be disloyal to God and to not trust His plan for their lives. They believed the lie of Satan.
- When they disobeyed, their spirit died and God had to shut them out of the garden. Otherwise they might eat of the "tree of life" and there would be no way for God to get them back.
- Shouldn't God have made man without the possibility to fail? No. If we didn't have the ability to choose against Him, we would have no ability to choose for Him.
- **He needed an outlet to shower and express His love to and to receive love from!!**
- **Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV):** *For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*
- We should never get tired of reading this scripture. It tells us what God **thinks about us!** We are the apple of His eye.
- God loves us. Yes, God disciplines us, just as we do our children. But this is so we can be all He made us to be. If we are not careful, we can see Him as this judger and corrector. But He really created us because He wants to shower His love upon us. So if we do wrong, we should come to Him quickly and not be ashamed.
- To have this relationship of love with us, He **had** to create us with a free moral choice. We can choose for God or we can choose against God. For if we can't choose "against" God, then our choosing "for" God means nothing.
- If you are coming to God or the Church out of guilt or duty – then you are missing the point. You should come to Him out of love and passion.
- When man sinned everything was completely perverted and messed up.
- **Colossians 1:15-20 (The Message):** *We look at this Son and see the God who cannot be seen. We look at this Son and see God's original purpose in everything created. For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible, rank after rank after rank of angels—everything got started in Him and finds its purpose in Him. He was there before any of it came into existence and holds it all together right up to this moment. And when it comes to the church, He organizes and holds it together, like a head does a body. He was supreme in the beginning and—leading the resurrection parade—He is supreme in the end. From beginning to end He's there, towering far above everything, everyone. So spacious is He, so roomy, that everything of God finds its proper place in Him without crowding. Not only that, but **all the broken and dislocated pieces of the universe—people and things, animals and atoms—get properly fixed and fit together in vibrant harmonies, all because of his death, his blood that poured down from the cross.***
- This states that people are broken – this is why people do the things they do.
- It helps us to give grace and space to others when we understand that everyone has some brokenness.
- Cleansing Ministries helps us discover what parts are still broken – even though we are saved.
- There is so much pain, so much brokenness. But God has a plan for us – a plan for restoration. We will discuss this next week.