

Chapter 5- Our Restoration

So where does this leave us? What you have read up to this point has said that absolutes are for our benefit; they were not created to condemn us, but there are consequential outcomes for the good or the bad depending on how we respond to the absolutes. Yet how does all this fit into the big picture? God has communicated these truths through His written Word (The Bible) for generations. The reality of restoration began when the first opportunity for it presented itself. Restoration means that things can be made right even after they had once been made wrong. Here is the story of restoration as outlined in the Bible starting from the beginning.

Creator God told us that He made Adam and Eve in His image. He put them in the garden where everything was perfect. Everything was absolute so they could make decisions and depend on everything to respond as it was designed. The freedom to make decisions was so everything would be meaningful and rewarding for Adam and Eve. God also said that His Spirit would live with them. He would teach them what they needed to carry out in order to live the rich fulfilled life their Creator intended. He walked with them in the garden. He gave them work to do. They made decisions, they felt their worth, and they believed God regarding those absolutes. God told them they could eat of anything in the garden except of that tree in the middle (the tree of the knowledge of good and evil). We know now that tree became an object of unbelief.

That unbelief is called sin. Sin is not living out or believing what God tells us. Mankind is not capable of knowing all those absolutes on their own. We do not have the capacity to do so. I think we know we cannot speak the universe into existence. Creator God said that He did that. It is His role to reveal all we need to know. He chose this way- to give us the ability to give Him permission to live in us (i.e. to sit right beside us in that plane of life).

Our reality is so different from Adam and Eve's in the garden. We do learn so much from day to day, but our experience will never be theirs. And in that- the Creator God is in the process of restoration- restoring humanity to himself and restoring things to the way they were. He wanted to offer a gift- a better way. In order to appreciate and embrace the better way of God, learning to embrace the value of these absolutes is essential. This truth is right in front of us. When we

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learn and believe what He has told us, we experience life the way it was intended. This is a wonderful, beautiful story.

Questions:

- What did this say about God?
- What did this say about you?
- Is there an action step needed for you today?