

Pastor Davenport April 14, 2024

Opening Prayer – ML Morning Prayer

I thank you, my Heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that you would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings of life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your Holy angel be with me that the evil foe may have no power over me.

Questions That Matter Opening Hymn – 593 See This Wonder in the Making

ISee this wonder in the making:
God Himself this child is taking
As a lamb safe in His keeping,
His to be, awake or sleeping.

Questions That Matter 2 Miracle each time it happens As the door to heaven opens And the Father beams, "Belovèd, Heir of gifts a king would covet!"

Questions That Matter Far more tender than a mother, Far more caring than a father, God, into Your arms we place them, With Your love and peace embrace them.

Here we bring a child of nature;
Home we take a newborn creature,
Now God's precious son or daughter,
Born again by Word and water.

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- In the beginning....
- And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good. Genesis 1:31
 - So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to th eeyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruti and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Genesis 3:6

- In the beginning...
- What did/does sin do?
- 1. broke God's perfect design for His creation.
- 2. Separates us from God
 - 3. When confronted with sin, we play the blame game
 - 4. Sin brings with it a very real curse: death.
 - 5. Moves God to restorative action. Genesis 3:15

Questions That Matter In the beginning...

- Who sins?
- 1 John 1:8
- Psalm 14:3; 53:1-3
- Romans 3:9
- Romans 3:23

- How does God interact with me, a sinner?
- Ephesians 2:8-9
- It's not about what I've done; it's what He does
- Baptism is God's pouring out His gifts of faith and grace to us through the water and His Word.
- "Baptism is not just plain water, but it is the water included in God's command and combined with God's Word".
- Titus 3:5-7