



# FOUNDATIONS

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## The Purpose for which God Created the World Part Two

MARC RAGUSIN, SOURCES: TIM CHESTER, JOHN PIPER, JONATHAN EDWARDS, DR. RYAN TAFILOWSKI

## Our Journey

- Origins: Why did God Create Humanity?
- God's Purpose for Humanity: To Glorify God and Enjoy Him Forever
- **Taking this Idea into the World**



## “The Chief End of Man”

- God is for His Glory
- We’re Made to Enjoy Him
- We Glorify God When We Enjoy Him
- Enjoying God Fuels Discipleship

## Enjoying God... or Not

- We struggle to enjoy God because of:
  - Our sin
  - Our broken world
  - Our enemy

# Teleology

- “The doctrine of the design of the material world.”
- Our Enjoyment of God glorifies God, brings us joy, and fuels our discipleship
- But there are different ideologies with different teleology(s).



## Table talk:

- What is the telos of the views and actions of the characters in Genesis 4:17-24 and 11:1-4?
- What is being enjoyed?

## A World in Rebellion

- Mimesis – Regards the world as having a given order and a given meaning that humans must find and conform to.
- Poiesis – Sees the world as raw material out which meaning and purpose can be created by the individual

## Table talk:

- What is the telos of a poietic world?
- Poiesis – Sees the world as raw material out which meaning and purpose can be created by the individual



## Living in a Poietic World

- In sin, our world teaches us that we are the author of our lives:

## Dietrich Bonhoeffer

- “Because the fall of humankind is both inconceivable and finally inexcusable in God’s creation, the word disobedience fails to describe the situation. It is rebellion, the creature’s stepping outside of the creature’s only possible attitude, the creature’s becoming creator, the destruction of creatureliness, a defection, a falling away from being safely held as a creature.”

–*Creation and Fall*

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## Wolfhart Pannenberg

- Sin is the “consciousness of the failure of the self” understood as the failure to align ourselves with our *telos* (*Anthropology in Theological Perspective*).

## Table talk

- What difficulties could you imagine having sharing the gospel in a poietic world?



## Our Issues

- Shaped by our World
- We're fallen (Mark 7:20-23)



## Enjoying God... is better

- We are his creatures, not creators:
  - Made in love
  - Made to love



## Walking in this reality

- Table talk:
  - What does it look like to enjoy God in the ordinary and extraordinary parts of our lives?



## Walking in this Reality

- Step into the Trinity
  - Father:
    - Gratitude
    - Recognize his sovereignty and discipline (Hebrews 12)

## Walking in this Reality

- Step into the Trinity
  - Son:
    - Enjoy his grace
    - Know his work (Hebrews 4)

## Walking in this Reality

- Step into the Trinity
  - Spirit:
    - New life, Desire, and Power (Romans 8)
    - Hear his voice



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# Walking in this Reality

- The Church!!!



## 2 Corinthians 3:18

- And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.



## Table talk

- Where do you struggle the most to enjoy God (sin, broken world, etc)
- Which member of the Trinity do you most enjoy? Why?
- Which member do you least connect with? How can you seek to grow in your enjoyment of them?
- Pray

# FOUNDATIONS

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NEXT WEEK: