

Redemption - Wilkerson

We are meaning-makers, hard-wired to interpret life. As Paul Tripp says, "We do not live our lives based on the bare facts of our existence; we live our lives according to our interpretation of those facts." In other words, it's not our raw experiences that determine our lives but the meaning we make of them—the stories we tell and the stories we believe. Out of those stories, we live our lives.

THE BIBLE AND CHRISTIAN PSYCHOSIS

Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago, at many times and in many ways,
God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in
these last days he has spoken to us by his Son,
whom he appointed the heir of all things,
through whom also he created the world.

- He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

God Spoke!

- Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke ... Hebrews 1:1
- In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. John 1:1–3

Amos 8:11-12

“Behold, the days are coming,” declares the Lord GOD, “when I will send a famine on the land—not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD. They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, to seek the word of the LORD, but they shall not find it.

... at many times, in many ways ...

- It didn't have to be many
- God is not withdrawn and uncommunicative
- What if the only thing he said was ...
- But he doesn't

...He has spoken to us by his Son...

- CV:

- Heir of everything
- Created the world
- Upholds the world by his word
- Radiance of the glory of God
- Exact imprint of his nature
- Made purification for sins
- Sat down at the right hand of the majesty on high
- Superior than angels

Whenever God Speaks He Defines Reality

- And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. Genesis 1:3
- And God said, “Let there be an expanse ... And God called the expanse Heaven. Genesis 1:6,8
- 17 times God speaks in Genesis 1:1-31

Psalms 119

- The psalmist's struggle to rivet the reality of God's words onto his life

What Defines Our Reality?

- Suffering

- This is my comfort in my affliction, that your promise gives me life. Ps 119:50
- If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction. Ps 119:92

- Deceitfulness of sin

- Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things;
and give me life in your ways. Ps 119:37
- Keep steady my steps according to your promise,
and let no iniquity get dominion over me. Ps
119:133

- Sleeplessness

- I remember your name in the night, O LORD, and keep your law. Ps 119:55
- I rise before dawn and cry for help; I hope in your words. My eyes are awake before the watches of the night, that I may meditate on your promise. Ps 119:147–148

- Depression

- My soul clings to the dust; give me life according to your word! Ps 119:25
- My soul melts away for sorrow; strengthen me according to your word! Ps 119:28

■ Enemies

- Even though princes (Hollywood/Lady Gaga) sit plotting against me, your servant will meditate on your statutes. Your testimonies are my delight; they are my counsellors. Ps 119:23–24
- The insolent utterly deride me, but I do not turn away from your law. Ps 119:51

What does this mean?

- Recover Bible study – exegesis and hermeneutics
- Bible memorisation
- Bible reading
- False dichotomy
 - I open my mouth and pant, because I long for your commandments. Ps 119:131
- 'God has never spoken to me'