Sunday May 17, 2020

Crisis

Creates

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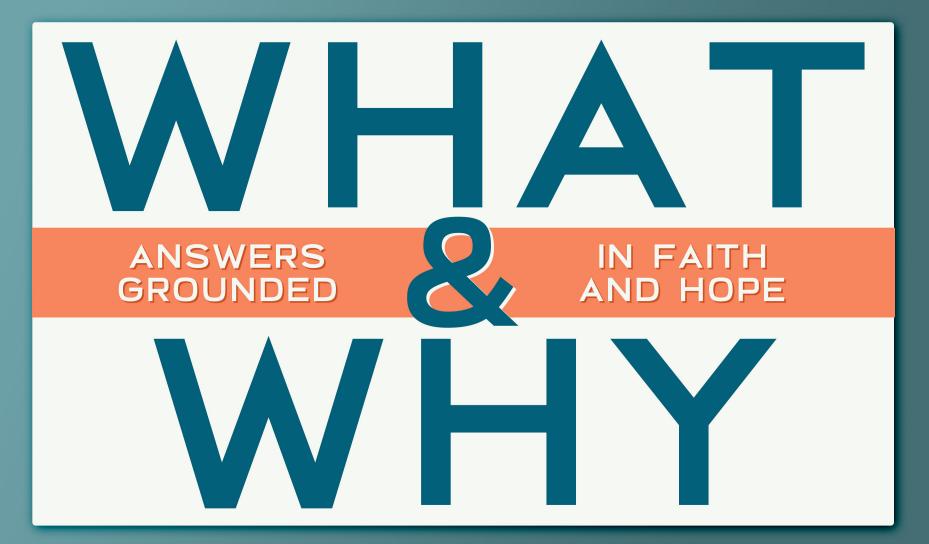
Courage

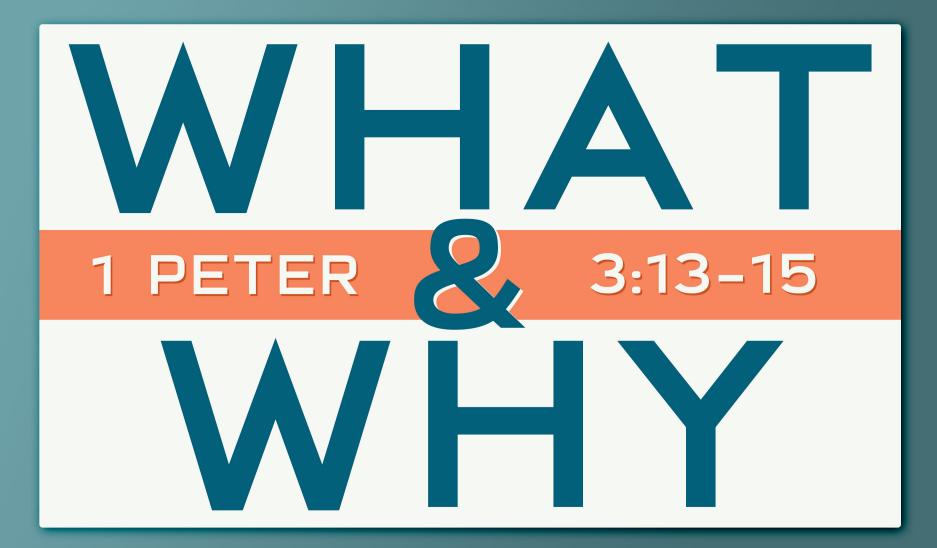
Crisis

Creates Conflict

Crisis

Creates Questions







I Peter 3:13-17

13 Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good?

14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled.

5 but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy,

always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you;

vet do it with gentleness and respect.

16 having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

17 For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

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There is nothing more ugly than Christian orthodoxy without understanding or without compassion.

The God Who Is There, Francis A. Schaeffer

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Why do you have hope?

Why do you have hope?

I have hope because

Why do you have hope?

I have hope because God is real

Why do you have hope?

I have hope because

God is infinite and personal

Why do you have hope?

I have hope because

God is sovereign and providential.

Why do you have hope?

I have hope because

God is sovereign and providential.

- <u>Sovereignty</u> refers to God's position of supreme authority and absolute power.
- <u>**Providence</u>** refers to God's His activity of **guiding**, **guarding** and **governing** His plan in all things.</u>

Question?

Why can God being 'sovereign' and 'providential' instill hope in you and in me?

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Why can God being 'sovereign' and 'providential' instill hope in you and in me?

...because we can trust God because He not only has all the authority and all the ability to handle my life and circumstances, but also because He has all the intent to do that in a way that brings the most good both in His expansive will and kingdom but also in my life and the lives of those around me.

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I have hope because

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...even when my world gets turned upside down and inside out!

God is providential



— Determinism

God is providential

Deism

...belief in the existence of a supreme being, specifically of a creator who does not intervene in the universe. The term is used chiefly of an intellectual movement of the 17th and 18th centuries that accepts the existence of a creator on the basis of reason but rejects belief in a supernatural deity who interacts with humankind.

Determinism

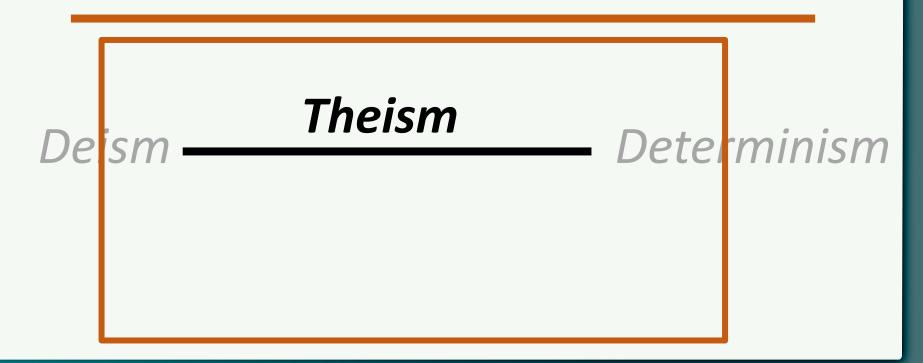
God is providential

Deism

Determinism

...the doctrine that all events, including human action, are ultimately determined by causes external to the will. Some philosophers have taken determinism to imply that individual human beings have no free will and cannot be held morally responsible for their actions.

God is providential



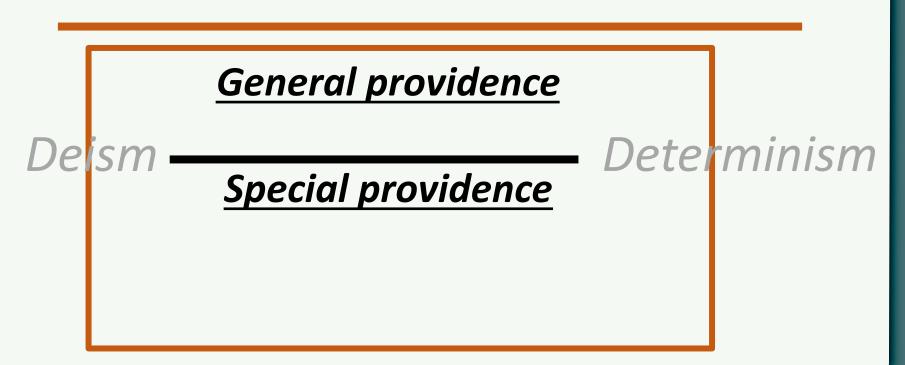
God is providential

Determinism

Theism

...belief in the existence of god, especially belief in one God as creator of the universe, who intervenes in it and sustains a personal relationship with His creatures.

God is providential



God is providential

Determinism

General providence

God's <u>continuous upholding</u> of the existence and natural order of the Universe.

Special providence

God is providential

Determinism

<u>General providence</u>

God's <u>continuous upholding</u> of the existence and <u>natural order</u> of the Universe.

Special providence

God's extraordinary intervention in the life of people.

3 dimensions of God's will:

- His perfect will
- His permissive will
- His ultimate will

1. Allow the natural consequences of mankind's rebellion against God to have its effect.

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Romans 6: 23

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord

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Romans 8: 18-22

18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

19 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.

20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope

21 that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

22 For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

- 1. Allow the natural consequences of mankind's rebellion against God to have its effect.
- 2. Execute specific divine judgement.

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-Not all suffering is a judgement.....Job
-Judgement starts with the household of God.....us! (I Peter 4)
-Acts 12: Herod
-Acts 5: Ananias and Sapphria
-Joshua 7: Achan

- 1. Allow the natural consequences of mankind's rebellion against God to have its effect.
- 2. Execute specific divine judgement.
- 3. Get our attention in light of the imminent coming of Christ.

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Matthew 24:36-44

36 "But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son,but the Father only.

37 For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

38 For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark,

39 and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

40 Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left.

41 Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left.

42 Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

43 But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into.

44Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

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- 2. Execute specific divine judgement.
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- 4. Awaken our personal need for an intimate relationship with God.

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Luke 13:1-5

- **1** There were some present at that very time who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.
- 2 And He answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way?
- **3** No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.
- 4 Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem?5 No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

- 1. Allow the natural consequences of mankind's rebellion against God to have its effect.
- 2. Execute specific divine judgement.
- 3. Get our attention in light of the imminent coming of Christ.
- 4. Awaken our personal need for an intimate relationship with God.
- 5. Call God's people to perform courageous act of love in the midst of danger and profound need.

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Matthew 5:13-16

13 "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.

15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.

16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

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even when my world gets turned upside down and inside out!

What's the next question?

What's the next question?

Can you show me what that looks like the life of a real human being?

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Can you show me what that looks like the life of a real human being? Like maybe.....Job? Joseph? Samson? Paul? Peter? Jesus?

What's the next question?

Can you show me what that looks like the life of a real human being? Like maybe.....Job? Joseph? Samson? Paul? Peter? Jesus? Next few weeks...see you then.