

## New City Catechism

### Question 2: What is God?

*Answer: God is the creator of everyone and everything.*

Psalm 86:8-10; 15

Read the Scripture verses for this week's question above.

- What do we learn about our Creator's nature from these verses?

Read the excerpt from Job as paraphrased in *The Message*

- How did God reveal Himself as the Creator of to Job?
- How did the revelation of God's glory as Creator affect Job?
- How does God's creation bring glory to him?
- How does God's creation of **you** bring him glory?
- If God is our Creator, how should we act toward Him?

If you have time, watch Louie Giglio's *Indescribable* video on Youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oNgJhulCrVA> (43 minutes long but worth watching).

Please make use of the Commentary, Video, Prayer, and Song as you see fit.

Job looked at his friends and sighed. His friends had only made his suffering worse, convinced as they were that he had done something to make God angry.

"How can you say you're innocent, Job?" Bildad said. "Don't you know you're a sinner? No one is righteous before God. You should quit claiming to be."

"You're a great help, Bildad," Job replied sarcastically. "I'm telling you I'm holding on to my righteousness. There's nothing hurting my conscience. I have left no sin unconfessed."

Job's friend Zophar was silent. He had already tried to tell Job that God only punishes the wicked. If Job really was innocent, he would still be healthy and rich. Indeed, Job had once had ten beautiful children and had been considered the greatest man in the East. He had owned thousands of sheep, camels, donkeys and oxen, and everyone had respected him. Most importantly, he had always loved and obeyed God. Then God had allowed everything to be taken from him- his wealth, his children, even his health. He now sat, a little apart from his friends, scraping his diseased skin with a piece of broken bowl.

"Never has my heart been secretly enticed to worship the sun or the moon," Job declared to his friends. "I've been faithful and obedient. I've shared with the poor. I've been true to my wife and children. I was kind to my servants. Yet now God is against me for no reason and I don't think it's right."

His friends finally gave up trying to convince him and fell silent. As they all sat pondering Job's recent misery, a gust of wind caught their attention. A storm was beginning to brew. The rumble slowly grew to a loud howl. A black sky was closing in above them. What they heard in the winds and pelting rain caused them to fall face down. God was speaking.

"Who is this who questions my wisdom? Were you there when I created the earth? Did you stretch a measuring line across it to mark off its borders? Who shut up the sea behind doors and knit the clouds into its garment? Have you given orders to the morning or shown the sun where to rise? Tell me if you understand how really big the earth is, Job. Have you seen where light lives, or have you cut channels through the earth for the torrents of rain? Do you dispatch the lightning bolts, and do they come back and tell you where they have been? Do you know when the mountain goats have their babies, or do you nourish the hungry raven?"

On and on God unfurled the wonders of his creation to Job, while more and more, Job realized the wisdom and goodness of God. Finally, the storm subsided and Job was silent before God. Never had he fully understood God's ways until now! Everything in creation belongs to God and he can do no wrong with it. Thereafter, whenever Job didn't understand something, God's creation was a magnificent reminder that God could still be trusted. God had shown Job his glory.