

The Presence of Jesus: Order in the Midst of Chaos

In the beginning was the Logos, and the Logos was with God, and the Logos was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being by Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life (zoe) and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. John 1:1-5

The primary, or first, characteristic of Jesus

- Logos: lit. “Word”
 - First cause, organizing impulse of creation. _____
 - Spoken: figuratively God, or Jesus in this instance, “spoke” creation into being. _____
 - Nothing exists that has not come into being through his agency. _____
- Life as light
 - His light is what enlivens us. _____
 - Contrasted with darkness: not the opposite of light, but the absence of light. _____
- Logos as “order”
 - As opposed to chaos. _____
 - In this universe, with its conflicting characteristic of chaos and the 2nd law of thermodynamics. _____

The conflict of order v. chaos

- Opposing characteristics
 - Light v. darkness. _____
 - Creation v. destruction. _____
 - Assembly v. disassembly. _____
 - Law v. lawlessness. _____
 - Peace v. Conflict. _____
- Chaos as evil
 - Within physics and biology. _____
 - In morality. _____

The really big picture

“Like” so what? What’s the point here? What perspective can we gain which will help us grasp the nature of the relationship of God to this world and our lives?

- Evil gains a personality
 - Satan, or more appropriately, the Devil. _____
 - The destruction of the chaotic impulse attempts to usurp the creative. _____
 - Blinded by evil. The seduction of chaos is that it becomes its own reward. _____
 - Evil, or chaos, becomes its own motivation. _____
- Closer to home: our world is chaotic
 - We observe it in our civilization. _____
 - Who, or where, are the “Chaos creators?”
 - In government? _____
 - In the media? _____
 - In local society? _____
 - In our families? _____
 - In our churches? _____

The order principle in our lives

And this is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. If we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

I John 1:5-7

- We are light in a dark world. _____
- But darkness neither knows us nor likes us. _____
- The God provided order in our lives brings peace. _____
- But our peace irritates the world. _____
- Our lives should attract those truly seeking peace. _____
- But that attractiveness is offensive to the world. _____

The tough call: *And you will be hated by all on account of My name, but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved. Matthew 10:22*