John 1:1-18

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 came into being through Him, and without Him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in Him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

John 1:1-18

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

John 1:1-18

He was in the world, and the world came into being through Him; yet the world did not know Him. He came to what was His own, and His own people did not accept Him. But to all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

John 1:1-18

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen His glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to Him and cried out, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because He was before me.'") From is fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made Him known.

Text ***baptism*** to

1-833-275-2412

- 1 in 5 US adults experience mental illness each year
- 746,000 adults in KY have a mental health condition
- The percentages of adults with mild, moderate, or severe symptoms of anxiety and depression were highest among adults ages 18–29 and decreased with age
- 64% of people w/mental illness say the holidays make things worse
- 3 in 5 Americans feel their mental health is negatively impacted by the holidays

Week One - Spiritual Over Secular

Week Two - Self-Denial Over Self-Indulgence

Week Three - Meaning Over Meh

Week Four - Gospel Over Grief

The Without-God Worldview

Our broad acceptance of a secular (rather than a spiritual) frame for life is causing much of our despair and emptiness.

From a Spiritual to Secular Frame

Today people live as if there is nothing outside of the here and now. No God. No transcendent. No magic. No miracle. Just matter. Just us. Consequently, we live in a society of self-constructed (rather than divinely-given) purpose, worth, identity, morality, and hope.

Psalm 104 Worldview

-God sends rain

-God causes grass to grow

-God makes the moon and sun rise

-God feeds all the living creatures

-God gives us breath

John 1 Worldview - The Three Nativities of v.1-18

Birth of Creation – *"All things came into being through Him, and without Him not one thing came into being."*

Birth of Incarnation – *"And the Word became flesh and lived among us."*

Birth of Regeneration – *"But to all who received Him, who believed in His name, He gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God."*

Birth of Creation	Past	Origin	Design (God made us.)
Birth of Incarnation	Present	Immanence	Value (God is with us.)
Birth of Regeneration	Future	Destiny	Hope (God will heal us.)

-Saving for retirement replaces hoping in heaven.

-The perfect body now replaces the resurrection body.

-Careerism replaces mission and evangelism.

-Vacation becomes the new Sabbath rest.

-Life coaches become the new pastors

-Talking to a therapist replaces confessing to a priest.

-Self-help technique replaces prayer, fasting and self-control.

-The pursuit of human flourishing replaces spiritual formation.
-Cell-phones and social media replace the Spirit of God as the inner voice.
-Chat GPT and Copilot replace Scripture as the source of wisdom.
-Subjective personal tastes replace objective communal duties.
-Political regime change replaces building the Kingdom of God.
-Power replaces morality.
-Trauma replaces personal sin.

Amendment I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

1. Faith over Facts

“I’m a person of faith. I know in my heart what is true. It doesn’t matter what science can prove."

2. Facts over Faith

“I’m a skeptic and I only take to be true that which is proven by science.”

“The United States is failing at a fundamental mission — keeping people alive ... The trail of death is so prevalent that a person could go from Virginia to Louisiana, and then up to Kansas, by traveling entirely within counties where death rates are higher than they were when Jimmy Carter was president.”

- *Washington Post*

1 Corinthians 15:32

If there is no resurrection,

“Let’s feast and drink for tomorrow we die!

John 1 Worldview - The Three Nativities of v.1-18

Birth of Creation – *"All things came into being through Him, and without Him not one thing came into being."*

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