

Slide Notes for “Why.”

Slides:

1. The ministry that created this talk is UnveilinGLORY. Bob Sjogren is the president of that ministry and the creator of this slide show.
2. This talk follows what we find in his book, “Why.” Note that there is not a question mark after the title Why, rather a period. That is because the book is not asking ultimate questions, but rather seeking to give ultimate answers to ultimate questions.
3. And in this talk, we are going to be seeking to answer two specific questions. First, what is one of the reasons why God created humans? And secondly, why did God create the devil?
4. We’re going to find our answers by thinking deeply about Ephesians 2:6,7.
 - a. Read the text on the slide.
 - b. Note the past tense of the words, “raised” and “seated.” In other words, it is a done deal. You are I are already raised up and seated with Christ in the heavenly realms.
 - c. But there is a reason for it.
5. Note the words “in order that.” That tells you that there is a purpose clause as to why we are seated with Christ in the heavenly realms. In other reasons, there is a reason why we are saved.
 - a. In order for you to understand that reason, I want you to hold up your hands as if you are being robbed. Put both of them up in the air, but don’t hold your fingers apart, make a fist.
 - b. Now, as I read the purpose statement, on the one hand I want you to put up a finger for every time God refers to Himself. And on the other hand, put up a finger for the number of times God refers to us in this purpose clause. Ready!
6. “...in the coming ages **He** might show the incomparable riches of **His** grace expressed in **His** kindness to **us** in **Christ Jesus**.
 - a. How many times did God refer to Himself? That’s right, four times.
 - b. How many times did God refer to us? That’s right once.
7. There’s a four to one ratio, and when we think of heaven, we think, “Wow, it’s all about what we get—mansions, and streets paved with God.... Heaven is all about us.”
 - a. And when we do that, we’ve missed the 80% reference to God.
8. Heaven is 80% about what God gets to do and it is only 20% about what we get. So what does God get to do?
9. He gets to “show” the incomparable riches of His grace... That Greek verb “to show” can easily be translated, “to put on display” or “to live out” as in “to demonstrate.”
 - a. In other words, God is wanting to live out, put on display or demonstrate His grace.
10. Why? Why is God wanting to “put on display” or “live out” His grace?
11. In order to understand that, I want to take a look a graph that was created. It was based off of Psalm 90:2. The Psalm says this:
 - a. From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.
 - b. The first “everlasting” is in reference to Eternity Past. What this means is that before God put the first electron together, before God made the first angel, God existed forever in Eternity Past.
 - c. The second “everlasting” is in reference to Eternity Future. In other words, just as God never had a beginning, so God never has an end. He will go on forever in Eternity Future.
 - d. There is a phrase which says, “God never began, He always Is.” God never had a beginning. Hard to understand, I know. But He didn’t. He has always existed eternally in the past.

Slide Notes for "Why."

12. To make sure we are understanding this, in Eternity Past, there were no angels that had been created. No humans had been created. And there was no creation. Nothing had been established.
 - a. It was only God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. He was the only one who existed in Eternity Past.
13. All of creation is found in this little circle. On the far left side of the circle, God put the first electrons together and/or made the angels. Scripture doesn't tell us which came first. During this circle, he also made Adam and Eve and then all of humanity up until this present day. The far right of the circle is when Christ will come back again and there will be a new heavens and a new earth. This is based on Revelation 21:1.
14. In Eternity Future there will be of course God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, Humans, Angels and creation. They will exist forever.
15. Now, in order to know why God created people, we need to understand a few things. The first is that God never changes. We find this in Malachi 3:6 and Hebrews 13:8.
16. Malachi 3:6 says, (Read the verse.)
17. Hebrews 13:8 says, (Read the verse.)
18. When the text says, "He is the same yesterday..." that first yesterday refers to Eternity past.
19. When it says, "today" that is referencing the circle.
20. When it says, "forever" it is referencing eternity future.
21. So, God is the same in Eternity Past, today, and forever in Eternity Future. Got that?
22. Now let's talk about some characteristics of God. And since they don't change, those characteristics flow in all three eras.
23. In 1 John 4:8, we find out that God is love.
24. In John 1:14, we find out that Jesus (God) is full of grace.
25. And in Ephesians 2:4 we find out that God is rich in mercy.
26. So, God is full of love in Eternity Future, now and Eternity Past.
 - a. God is also full of Mercy and Grace also in Eternity Future, now and Eternity Past.
27. Now let's ask this question. Which of these characteristics was God able to live out and in what era? In other words, was God able to live out love, grace and mercy in all of these areas?
28. Let's start out with Love. Will God be able to love in Eternity Future?
 - a. The answer is "yes." He will be loving us.
29. Is He able to love now?
 - a. Of course. He loves us right here, and right now?
30. Was He able to love in Eternity Past?
 - a. (When someone answers, "yes," ask "Who?")
 - b. (They may or may not answer "us." If they do, come back with "No, we weren't created back then. Only God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit existed. So who could He have loved?)
 - c. That's right. God the Father could love God the Son and the Holy Spirit. God the Son could love the Father and the Spirit. And the Spirit could love God to Father and the Son.
 - d. God was able to love in Eternity past.
31. OK. Now let's ask, is He able to live out grace and mercy in Eternity Future?
 - a. Yes, He will be able to do that by constantly overlooking our sin.
32. Is He able to live out grace and mercy now?
 - a. Yes, He is now giving us grace and mercy.
33. Was He able to live out grace and mercy in Eternity Past?

Slide Notes for "Why."

- a. (Many times the audience automatically says, "Yes." Then challenge them with "how?")
 - b. It wasn't toward us or the angels, because neither of us existed.
 - c. Could God the Father show grace or mercy to Jesus or the Holy Spirit? No.
 - d. Could Jesus show grace or mercy to God the Father or to the Spirit? No.
 - e. Could the Spirit show grace or mercy to God the Father or the Son? No.
 - f. So who could God show mercy or grace to in Eternity Past?
34. The answer: He couldn't. God couldn't live out or demonstrate mercy or grace in Eternity Past.
35. Yet He was rich in mercy and full of grace.
36. (Read the text.)
37. For us humans, it would be "FRUSTRATING."
- a. But if you're God, you don't get frustrated. Why?
38. Look at Psalm 115:3. Our God is in the heavens, He does what pleases Him.
39. (Read the slide.)
40. (Read the slide.)
41. Let's look at Romans 11:32. In this verse, we find out why you and I are sinners, and as a result, we get a glimpse as to why we were created. What does it say?
- a. For God bound all men over to sin...
 - b. That word "Bound" means being chained to sin. You are I are chained to sin.
 - c. Yet, we have a free will. Just because we are bound doesn't mean we don't have a free will.
42. The word "bound" means, whether you go up or down, left or right, forward or backwards, you are going to sin. There's no way around it.
43. Now let's look at the new two words, "so that." The words "so that" means there is a purpose as to why you and I are bound to sin. It is a purpose statement. What is the purpose statement?
44. So that he might have mercy on them all. Did you catch that? God has bound us to sin so that he might have mercy on us all. What God wasn't able to do for all Eternity Past, he can now do.
45. This explains why you and I are sinners. We are sinners just so God gets to have mercy. It also gives us one of the reasons why you and I were created.
46. But deep down inside, some people want to yell out, "BUT THAT'S NOT FAIR."
47. But let's look at Psalm 115. It says, "Our God is in the heavens. He does whatever he pleases." God has rights. He gets to do whatever he wants.
48. He thought this up in Eternity Past and during that time, you and I weren't around to be questioned.
49. God never had to ask,
- a. Are you okay with this?
 - b. Would you mind if I created you this way?
 - c. Is this going to upset you?
50. Only God existed. And when He is by himself, he gets to do whatever he wants. And what did he want? He wanted to create us sinful so he could have mercy on us. God does whatever he pleases.
51. Now lets look at Revelation 4:11 and see how it ties in perfectly with what is being taught. Revelation 4:11 says this:
- a. (Read the text.)
 - b. Note the words, "because of your will." That phrase can be accurately translated,
52. For your pleasure. Let's read it again with this new translation:

Slide Notes for “Why.”

- a. (Read the text.)
53. Here’s a valuable lesson we need to learn. Life is not about us—as if we existed before God.
54. Nor is life about us AND God—as if we existed with God in Eternity Past and he needed to consult with us because we are equal to God in importance.
55. Life is about what God gets (and wants) to do.
 - a. And what did he want to do?
 - b. He wanted to create a creation SO THAT he could have mercy on them because he was full of mercy and unable to express it in eternity past.
56. Remember Ephesians 2:6,7. This is the key verse we are working from. He wants to “show” the incomparable riches of his grace. That verb “to show” can be translated “to live out” or “to put on display.” This is all about what God is getting to do.
57. But God had a “problem” in wanting to live out his mercy.
58. In order for God to show off his mercy,
 - a. we have to sin.
 - b. But in order for us to sin, we have to be tempted.
59. Does anyone see the problem here?
 - a. (Wait and see if your audience responds.)
60. That’s right, God can’t tempt anyone.
61. (Read the text.)
62. So what did God create?
63. He created a tempter to do what he was unable to do.
64. We call him Lucifer, or Satan or the Evil One.
 - a. “Really?” you might be thinking? “Satan was created? Where does it say that in the Bible?”
 - b. Maybe you thought Satan and God created eternally for ever. Well that’s not the case.
65. Colossians 1:16 says this:
 - a. (Read the text.)
 - b. Now, which of these references Satan?
 - c. You’ll find it highlighted in the white.
 - i. “All things” that references Satan.
 - ii. “in heaven” also references Satan.
 - iii. “invisible” refers to Satan.
 - iv. “Thrones, powers, rulers and authorities” also refers to Satan and all the demons with him.
66. And note the last words. Satan (and everything else) was created “for God.”
67. Satan was created by God for a purpose.
 - a. What was that purpose?
68. To tempt humanity to sin SO THAT God might have mercy on us all.
 - a. Okay, take a deep breath. That was a lot.
 - b. Let’s review.
69. What have we learned?
 - a. (Read the slide.)
70. Now everything you’ve heard me tell you, what you’ve learned, is not incorrect, but it is incomplete. There is more to teach and tell.
71. Questions like:
 - a. Why is there evil?
 - b. (Read the rest of the slide.)
72. (Read the slide.)

Slide Notes for "Why."

73. You'll find the answers to these questions (and much more) in the book, "Why." This is the book I have been studying in my homeschool curriculum and is what is answering many people's ultimate questions about life.
74. Remember, we are asking the question, "What would be the greatest revelation of his grace in Eternity Future?"
75. There is so much more to discover in answering that question. And those new discoveries are found in the book, "If I'm Saved By Grace, Why Bother With Works?" That is what I'll be studying in the rest of my year.
76. But we have answered two of our questions we sought to answer:
 - a. What was one reason why God created anything and everything.
 - b. And secondly, why did God created the Devil.
77. All of this teaching comes from UnveilinGLORY which has a website where you can learn more.
78. Now, let's go around and I want each of you to tell me one new thing you learned through this teaching:
 - a. (Let each person share one thought.)
 - b. Thank you so much for your time and for listening!