

Psalm 19:7-13

The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover by them Your servant is warned, And in keeping them there is great reward. Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; Let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be innocent of great transgression. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.

The Fundamental Questions

Sir Percival Lowell, renowned astronomer at the turn of the century, spent many years squinting into the eyepiece of his telescope, seeking to find the answers to the universe. Lowell's observations of the canals on Mars gained wide acceptance and confirmed for some the reality of intelligent life on other planets. It was discovered later that there were no canals, what Lowell saw were the blood vessels of his own eyes, enlarged due to a rare disease, reflecting back at him.

Man, being an imperfect observer, blinded by presuppositions, and prone to error, cannot find the answers to the universe through natural science alone. All the great minds of the world, with their combined speculation and proposed postulations, are still in the dark when it comes to putting the pieces of the puzzle together. Science, although bringing mankind many wonderful things, falls short in this most important area: finding an answer for why we are here and where we are going.

To find these answers man must turn from the lenses of microscopes and telescopes (a source of subjective truth) to the lens of scripture (the source of objective truth). J.I. Packer focuses on this in his book 'God Has Spoken': "God has revealed Himself to be the *source, stay and end* of all creation, and of mankind in particular. "Of him, and through him, and unto him, are all things" (Rom. 11:36). Paul develops these foundation-truths of theism in his sermon to the Athenians idolaters about the "unknown God" (Acts 17:22ff). First, he speaks of God as our *source*, the One who brought us into existence. "The God that made the world and all things therein" (verse 24) "created every race of men of one stock, to inhabit the whole earth's surface" (verse 26, N.E.B.). Then Paul speaks of God as our *stay*, the One who "giveth to all life, and breath, and all things", so that "in him we live, and move, and have our being" (verse 25,28). We depend upon God every moment for our existence: creatures only remain in being through the constant exercise of His upholding power (cf. Heb. 1:3). He, God transcendent, above and beyond and apart from His world, and entirely independent of it (cf. Acts 17:24f), is also God immanent, in the world as the One who is over it, permeating and upholding it as the One who orders its goings and controls its course. Lastly, Paul speaks of God as our *end*. God made men, he says, "that they should seek God" (verse 27)."

Science may have given man an answer for heartburn, but only scripture has an answer for the final fire: "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." (John 3:36). Where are you looking for the answers to life's most important questions?

What is my response:
