

PROGRAM 93 TEASER

You'll know it the moment you die and realize you're not dead. But then it's too late to do anything about it. Now is the time to get something straight—and then act on it. An immense and awesome God says that you are special. In fact, you are really His masterpiece of all creation. You would have to be super-special for Jesus Christ to come and die for you. It blows the fuses in my gourd—my head—to think that God is calling you and me to get to know Him—and to hang out with Him forever. An invitation from His Majesty to little old you—and me?! Really? Really! I'll prove it to you. Give me 30 minutes. I'll give you More Than Talk.

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YOUR INVITATION FROM HIS MAJESTY

PAGE 1 Did You Know You're A Masterpiece?

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Genesis 1:1

"In the beginning God..." No more sublime words could be used to open God's desire to reveal Himself to man. The Creator goes on to tell His masterpiece of creation - people like you and me - how it all began. Our galaxy alone contains a hundred billion suns. And astronomers report that our universe holds more than a hundred billion galaxies! Yet God effortlessly calls each star by name (Isaiah 40:26) as they operate in perfect order in space so vast we measure time in light years - 186,000 miles per second.

Is God telling us the genesis of all things only so we will put things in proper order? Or is He revealing a glimpse of His omnipotence, omniscience and omnipresence so that we will order our lives in proper perspective?! It is this glorious God who created the universe who also created you. Every hair on your head is numbered - even as they change. Every thought is known - even before you think it. And the whole theme behind "In the beginning God..." is God's desire to love you perfectly and have you love Him in return.

Listen to this poem I wrote:

He Made Just One Like You

In a world of teeming millions
crowding in on every side
when you feel so bewildered
that you want to run and hide
think of Him who counts the sparrows
gives each rainbow a special hue
and He counts the hairs you carry
'cause He made just one like you.

When you think no one really cares

and you feel so incidental
that even nice things done for you
are merely accidental
recall the snowflakes you've seen fall
each one is different and its true
that to God you're extra special
'cause He made just one like you.

If you've heard you're not important
with no special identity
that you're only just a number
to be carried out to sea
call to mind you're His creation
and from the song birds take a cue
let the whole world know you love Him
'cause He Made Just One Like You

My Prayer: "Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. And as You reveal Yourself to me, help me not to conceal myself from You. What does it mean to love You? Make that my greatest quest."

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YOUR INVITATION FROM HIS MAJESTY

PAGE 2 You Have A Call Waiting

“He stretches out the north over empty space; He hangs the earth on nothing.”

Job 26:7

When Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and other astronauts went to the moon, they were stunned by the immensity and awesomeness of God - even reading back to earth the creation story from Genesis. Yet they had only reached the moon - a mere quarter million miles away.

Astronomers stand dumb-struck at the incalculable vastness and perfect precision found in the universe. I love to "fly off into space" on my frequent walks alone with the God who made it all. Our galaxy of millions of stars is mind-boggling. But that's only one galaxy of unnumbered others! Our sun swallows our earth thousands of times - yet one star, Arcturus, could contain thousands of suns like ours! Space must be measured in "light years"; that's 186,000 miles a second. That's almost eight times around the earth - in one second! One word was all that was necessary at Mount Palomar in California to describe the size of the universe: "UNKNOWN"!

Why take time to ponder the imponderable; to wonder about wonders impossible to take in? Because your Redeemer, Jesus Christ, called it all into existence. The Father took delight in the Son creating our universe out of nothing. He merely spoke the Word! Now you call Him "Savior." He is the One living in you - He who hung the world on nothing, as Job knew, and who told Isaiah that the earth was a circle when his peers called it flat. Now He who is beyond time and space wants to fill you with the eternity and infinity of His presence. No wonder that the Psalmist exulted in the fact that while all the gods of all the nations are dead idols, our God - yours and mine - made the heavens. (Psalm 96:5) And like the old spiritual says: "He's got you and me, brother, in His hand"!

My Prayer: "Open my eyes, O God, to who You really are. I have no idea!"

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YOUR INVITATION FROM HIS MAJESTY

PAGE 3 It Doesn't Take A Rocket Scientist

“Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable.” Isaiah 40:28

Many a time when I long to just revel in the awesome presence of God I turn to the 40th chapter of Isaiah. It begins with a call to comfort the Jewish people, points out man's flesh as grass and his idols a joke, and soars into a symphony on the incomparable Creator of all there is. Oceans are like droplets in God's hand, He weighs mountains in scales, sees nations as drops in a bucket, gives names to trillions upon trillions of stars and then challenges His puny but precious people with: "To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? saith the Holy One." (v 25) Then He says to those (us included) who think He is too busy to be personally concerned about our every step that it's time to wake up to the real facts of life. We're being loved by "the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth." He never knows a fainting spell or needs a moment's rest. He is God! But until we are given a true vision of His greatness and grandeur we, like Israel, will doubt his care for us.

The size of the universe is unknown. Yet Dr. Wernher Von Braun, the rocket scientist, says; "The idea of an orderly universe is inconceivable without God - the grandeur of the cosmos confirms the certainty of creation. One can't be exposed to the law and order of the universe without becoming aware of a divine intent." Now if this wonderful God keeps count of stars, can't you believe he counts the hairs on your head?! If He orders the universe, will He not keep His promise to order your steps?! And if, as Von Braun says, "there is a divine intent" in God creating the universe, that there is just as surely a divine intent in His creating you?! That doesn't take a rocket scientist. It just takes a little faith in God's biblical Book of facts.

My Prayer: "Forgive me, mighty God, for cutting You down to my size through my unbelief. Open the eyes of my understanding to begin to grasp who You really are!"

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YOUR INVITATION FROM HIS MAJESTY

PAGE 4 You're Made To Last Forever

“Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.” Philippians 1:6

How many times this verse has quieted the heart of many a fearful soul - including my own. As a young Marine in the Far East, I didn't have to look hard to find sin. It was all around, with harlots and bars in abundance. Many a professing "Christian" had gone to Okinawa and returned to the States an alcoholic or ravaged by venereal disease. But God in His mercy revealed Jesus to me the day I arrived on the island Marines called "Alcatraz" or "The Rock." And the Lord became my true "Rock", making Himself so beautiful to my heart that all the world's beauty appeared stark and ugly. When two young harlots took me by my arms as I stood on a street, the Spirit of God came over me and I preached Jesus to them. None ever returned for a second sermon. And over the last nearly fifty plus years, through every test, temptation, trap and trial, the Shepherd has jealously guarded this sheep.

You are also His precious sheep and God wants you to know that "He who began a good work in you will continue until the day of Jesus Christ - right up to the time of His return." (v 6 Amplified) What is that "good work" that launches us on our spiritual pilgrimage, and how does the Lord keep us on the straight and narrow path? First, He gives us a spirit of repentance so that we come running to Him for forgiveness, cleansing and favor, rather than thinking we're doing God a favor by believing in Him. And once we are truly "born again", the Holy Spirit's job really begins. He's at work in you now - making the invisible real, convicting you when you sin, creating in you a desire to study the Scriptures and pray, warning you of the brevity of life, filling you with a healthy fear of God, and opening your eyes to examples of winners and losers all around you - those who say "Yes" to God and those who say "No". You're not left on your own - not for a moment. God loves you. He's determined to have you with Him forever. When He begins something, He finishes it. Including the good work begun in you!

Our Prayer: "Thank You, Father, for making me Your personal concern. What a comfort to my soul!"

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YOUR INVITATION FROM HIS MAJESTY

PAGE 5 Kings That Can't Be Toppled

“And has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.” Revelation 1:6

Rome thought they had made John a prisoner at their wishes. John knew otherwise; that he was on Patmos at God's wishes. He was about to see history from beginning to end and the ultimate triumph of the Messiah whom he adored. The hated sect called "Christians" were being hunted down like quarry to be killed. Millions of early Christians would seal their testimonies in blood - as have millions more during two millennia. It was a small price to pay - for our tainted blood cannot compare to the perfect Son of God who "loosed and freed us from our sins by His own blood." (v 5 Amplified)

Weak Christians? Nobodies? Inferior? That's what Rome thought - and so have countless others who have disdained God's children. But look at what God says about those who choose His Son - including you. He has made you a king and a priest. A king is meant to have dominion, and you already do over sin's power and the devil's bluffs. Far more dominion awaits faithful saints "in the morning" when the meek inherit the earth and we rule and reign under our great King.

Not only are you part of "a kingdom (a royal race)" (v 6 Amplified), but you are also a priest who has been chosen to speak directly to, worship, and offer sacrifices of praise and adoration to the Creator and Sustainer of the universe and all that is in it. People fight, kill and die for earthly crowns that last only briefly. A king today, a nobody, or a dead body tomorrow. Not you! You're part of a Kingdom that shall endure forever; and your priesthood of offering praise and worship to your King will be only just beginning when this world comes to its end.

Our Prayer: "Lord Jesus, I can only try to tell You what angels never cease to say: blessing and honor and glory and power to You forever and ever! I glory in the Cross and praise You for making me a king and a priest in service to You."