

Does Matter Matter?



Trinity Alps Wilderness, by Tom Carr

Does "it" Matter

Humanity
Matter Jesus
Marriage
Sabbath
Community

Missions
Church

Being Human

The Image

- Reflection
- Representation
- Responsibility



Does Matter Matter?



God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

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Does Matter Matter?

There is no good trying to be more spiritual than God. God never meant man to be a purely spiritual creature. That is why he uses material things like bread and wine to put the new life into us. We may think this rather rude and unspiritual. God doesn't: he invented eating. He likes matter. He invented it"

CS Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

Does Matter Matter?



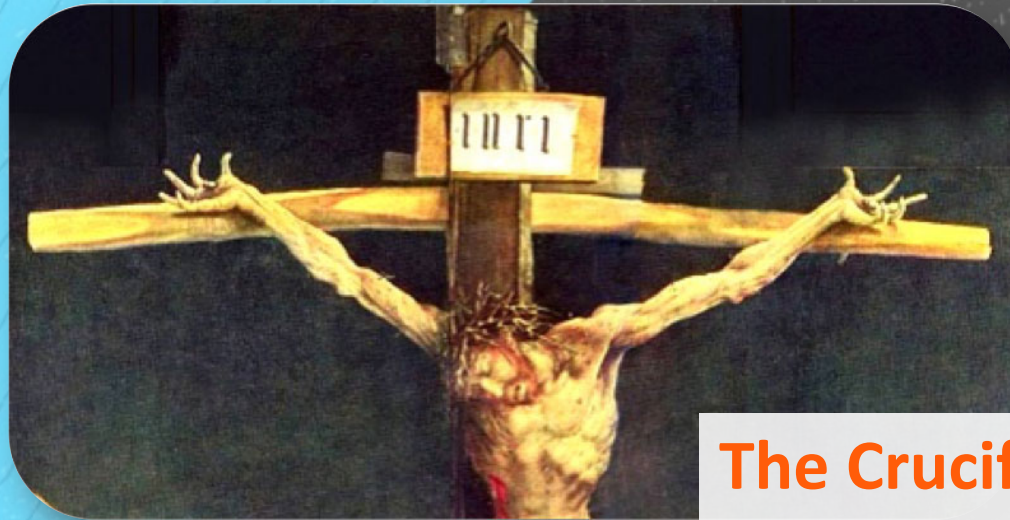
The Incarnation

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

Does Matter Matter?



The Incarnation



The Crucifixion

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

Does Matter Matter?

26 Then God said, “Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” 27 So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. 28 God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and **subdue** it. **Rule** over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

Gen 1:26-28

Does Matter Matter?

Humanity's Responsibility (Gen 1)

- Procreation
- Stewardship: subdue and rule
 - Rule on God's behalf
 - Love as God loves (not exploitative)



Does Matter Matter?

15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to **work** it and **take care** of it.

Gen 2:15

Does Matter Matter?

Humanity's Responsibility (Gen 2)

- Stewardship: work and take care
 - “Serve and keep”
 - This is holy work!







1. God made it.
2. God loves it.
3. God keeps it.

Does Matter Matter?

The Implications

- Practice gratitude
- Practice contentment
- Practice baby steps



LIFE RESTORATION FOR YOUNG MEN IN CRISIS

Rockside Ranch

Etna, California





BRANDON

"The best part of farming is waking up in the morning knowing that I'm doing the right thing."

SHAUN

"I've grown closer to Jesus by taking the time to focus on Him without all the distractions."



DISCIPLESHIP

8-MONTH PROGRAM



LIFE SKILLS



JOB SKILLS



MENTORING

A group of people are dining outdoors at night. They are seated at tables covered with white and checkered tablecloths. The tables are set with various dishes, including a large glass dish of food, a bowl of salad, and a bowl of bread. A man in a grey shirt is standing and talking to a woman who is holding a baby. Other people are seated around the tables, some looking towards the man. The background is dark with trees and string lights hanging from above. The text "COME TO ME WITH YOUR EARS WIDE OPEN. LISTEN, AND YOU WILL FIND LIFE." -ISAIAH 55:3 is overlaid on the image in white capital letters.

"COME TO ME WITH YOUR EARS
WIDE OPEN. **LISTEN**, AND YOU
WILL FIND LIFE." -ISAIAH 55:3

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