

"THE GROANING OF CREATION"

ROMANS 8:19-22

I. A CERTAIN SEGMENT OF CREATION IS WAITING FOR THE UNVEILING OF THE GENUINE SONS OF GOD (8:19)

A. What That Creation Is Not

1. Extraterrestrial Spirits
 - a. Elect Angels
 - b. Evil Angels
2. Human Beings
 - a. Believers
 - b. Unbelievers

B. What The Creation Is: Anything Lower Than Man And Angels

1. This Impersonal "Sub" Creation Is Personalized In This Text
2. This "Sub" Creation Is Said To Be Straining With Anticipation

II. THIS SEGMENT OF CREATION IS AWAITING THE UNVEILING OF THE SONS OF GOD BECAUSE ITS OWN POSITION WILL BE REVERSED AT THAT TIME (8:20-21)

A. The Historical Reversal Of That Which Was Good (8:20)

1. Verified By The Laws Of Thermodynamics
2. "Sub" Creation Has Been Made Subject To Vanity Against Its Will

B. The Future Reversal To That Which Will Be Better (8:21)

1. Deliverance From Present Slavery
2. Described By The Prophets

III. THE HUMAN CREATION IS CALLED UPON TO DRAW CONCLUSIONS FROM WHAT IT KNOWS INTUITIVELY (8:22)

A. Consider Your Observations Of Nature

B. Consider Your Observations Of People

THE LAWS OF THERMODYNAMICS

LAW #ONE

The sum total of energy in the universe is constant. Energy may be converted from one form to another but cannot be created or destroyed.

LAW #TWO

The universe and all natural processes within it, if left to themselves, tend toward disorder or dissipation of energy. Everything is in a process of decay.

THE ANSWER TO LAW #ONE: THE CREATION

Hebrews 11:3 "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear."

Genesis 2:1 "Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them."

2:2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made."

2:3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made."

THE ANSWER TO LAW #TWO: THE CURSE

Genesis 3:17 "And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed *is* the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat *of* it all the days of thy life;

3:18 Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field;

3:19 In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou *art*, and unto dust shalt thou return."