

December 17, 2017
Sermon Notes
Psalm 89

Colossians 1:9-10 GNT

9 For this reason we have always prayed for you, ever since we heard about you. We ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will, with all the wisdom and understanding that his Spirit gives. 10 Then you will be able to live as the Lord wants and will always do what pleases him. Your lives will produce all kinds of good deeds, and you will grow in your knowledge of God.

1. The God of Christmas ...

Creates

Everything from Nothing for the Glory of Christ

Genesis 1:1 ESV

1 In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

Colossians 1:17 ESV

17 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Colossians 1:16 ESV

16 For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

Everything from the bottom of the oceans to the top of the mountains, from smallest particle to the biggest star, from the most boring school subject to the most fascinating science, from the ugliest cockroach to the most beautiful human, from the greatest saint to the most wicked genocidal dictator — everything that exists, exists to make the greatness of Christ more fully known — including you, and the person you have the hardest time liking.

John Piper

2 Timothy 1:8 ESV

8 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God,

I do not feel that I am the product of chance, a speck of dust in the universe, but someone who was expected, prepared, prefigured. In short, a being whom only a Creator could put here; and this idea of a creating hand refers to God.

Jean Paul Sartre

2. The God of Christmas ...

Speaks

promises and warnings

1 Kings 18:26-27 ESV

26 And they took the bull that was given them, and they prepared it and called upon the name of Baal from morning until noon, saying, "O Baal, answer us!" But there was no voice, and no one answered. And they limped around the altar that they had made. 27 And at noon Elijah mocked them, saying, "Cry

aloud, for he is a god. Either he is musing, or he is relieving himself, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and must be awakened."

Job 33:14 NCV

14 God does speak—sometimes one way and sometimes another—even though people may not understand it.

God Speaks through:

1. the Bible
2. others
3. thoughts & impressions
4. circumstances

Genesis 2:7 ESV

7 then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.

Amos 4:13 ESV

13 For behold, he who forms the mountains and creates the wind, and declares to man what is his thought, who makes the morning darkness, and treads on the heights of the earth—the Lord, the God of hosts, is his name!

3. The God of Christmas ...
Disappoints

We pray for someone, and they are not converted. Yet we are promised that God answers prayer. We see someone come to Christ, and they "fall away." Yet we are promised that no one can pluck them out of Jesus' hand. We ask God to heal someone, and they continue to be sick. Yet we are promised that God heals all our diseases.

Genesis 50:20 NLT

20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good. He brought me to this position so I could save the lives of many people.

Hebrews 1:1-2 ESV

1 Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.