

Hebrews 11:3, Bible Devotions

☐ Monday - In the Beginning God.

Hebrews 11:3

Without explanation or apology, the Bible asserts God's existence as a matter of fact: "In the beginning God ..." (Gen. 1:1). Is there a place then for apologetics? (i. e. proving the existence of God and the truths of the Bible). Yes! We are to "study to show [ourselves] approved" (2 Tim. 2:15), so that we are "always ready to make a defense" of the Faith (1 Pet. 3:15; 2 Tim. 4:2; cf. Jude 1:3). Nevertheless, we understand that "it is the Spirit who gives life" (Jn. 6:63), yet not apart from our presentation and defense of the Word (Rom. 10:17).

Read Hebrews 11:6

☐ Tuesday - Ex Nihilo.

Hebrews 11:3

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" (Gen. 1:1). God created the universe out of nothing (Latin: *ex nihilo*); that is, there was no preexisting material from which the worlds were made, but rather, God "calls into being that which does not exist" (Rom. 4:17), so that "what is seen was *not* made out of things which are visible" (Heb. 11:3). The evolutionist chooses to believe in an *eternal universe* (cf. 2 Pet. 3:5, KJV; Rom. 1:25), the Christian in an *eternal God*. Here then are two systems of belief, two opposing world views. Which do you believe – the sworn testimony of One who was there and knows all things *or* the theories of those who weren't there and don't know? The Bible asks, "How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him..." (1 Kgs. 18:21). "And if it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve ... but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Josh. 24:15)

Read Jeremiah 10:12

☐ Wednesday - Purpose of Creation.

Hebrews 11:3

We live in a confused world. People are questioning their own existence and purpose in life. But the Bible explains, "There is one God, the Father, from whom are all things, and *we exist for Him*" (1 Cor. 8:6). And again, "Worthy art Thou, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for Thou didst create all things, and *for Thy pleasure* they existed and were created" (Rev. 4:11). That's it – my purpose in life is to give God pleasure! "Therefore also we have as our ambition ... to be *pleasing* to Him" (2 Cor. 5:9).

Read Romans 14:8

☐ Thursday - Fiat Creation.

Hebrews 11:3

The Creation account is marked by the phrase, "And God *said*..." (8x: Gen 1:3,6,9,11,14,20,24,26), for "by the *word* of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of His mouth all their host ... for He *spoke*, and it was done; He *commanded*, and it stood fast" (Psa. 33:6,9; cf. 148:5). "By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the *word* of God" (Heb 11:3). This is called "fiat" creation, meaning *by decree*. Since life did leap into existence at the Word of God, let me by all means pack God's Word into my heart, that His life may be manifested in me!

Read John 1:1-3

☐ Friday - You Belong to Christ 3x.

Hebrews 11:3

If you are a Christian, then you belong to Christ three times over: Once by creation (Psa. 24:1), once by redemption (1 Cor. 6:19-20), and once by inheritance (Heb. 1:2).

So then, since we belong to Christ, "Therefore we also have as our ambition to be pleasing to Him" (2 Cor. 5:9).

Read Colossians 1:10, 1 Thessalonians 4:1