

## CREATION

purpose



## **FALL**

problem



## REDEMPTION

response



love tangible.

## RESTORATION

hope

How do God's purposes illuminate this subject, idea, or concept?

Formed: designed for good . . . God spoke creation into existence and made us His image bearers.

There is one God-in the unity of Father-Son-Spirit-who pre-exists creation.

God created the heavens and the earth for His pleasure and delight. Everything works according to His purpose and plan.

God created humanity in His image and declares all things He has made to be good.

God gives human beings the mandate to work (tend and care for) the earth as stewards, that everything would flourish, realizing its created potential and purpose.

All human beings have identity and significance, are creative, relational, and self-aware beings animated by love.

Humans are rational, emotional, and moral, capable of perceiving truth and making decisions for the purpose of wise and loving stewardship to the glory of God.



What went wrong, and how has God's purpose been distorted?

Deformed: damaged by evil . . . All creation, including the human condition, is marred by rebellion.

God's intentions and purposes are distorted.

We have all rebelled, deceived by the allure of security, knowledge, power, and pleasure, apart from God's gracious provision and trusting relationship.

Humans are prone to idolatry, taking something created and making it God, our ultimate concern.

We turn in upon ourselves, ignoring God, (ab)using others, and vandalizing creation. The consequences of sin affect everything.

Relationship with God is damaged and all creation suffers, distanced from the Creator, life's source.

Death, decay, fractured relationships, alienation, and power struggles are consequences of sin.

Sin distorts our ability to discern what is true, good, and beautiful.

God calls us to re-pent ("re-think") from our way, and align with His loving purposes for life.

How does God's grace save the world and call us to respond in love?

Reformed: redeemed for better . . . God graciously makes a way for reconciliation with Himself and all creation.

God chooses the few and the least to bless the many, as models of justice who follow the way of peace.

God's community are called to speak truth to power, embodying life-giving law. They repeatedly fail, totally dependent on grace.

God completes His plan of redemption and reconciliation by sending Christ into the world as the ultimate sacrifice for sin.

Jesus, by dying in our place, reveals God's love and restores relationship. He provides salvation for those who trust in Him, winning the victory over sin and death, and resettling our calling as the new humanity, image bearers working for the life of the world.

We are re-created in Christ and become God's agents of peace and reconciliation.

We enjoy God's grace through faith and are given good works to do as stewards of creation.

Transformed: God sets it all right . . . The Spirit inspires life and hope, anticipating a glorious future of cosmic renewal. The Spirit empowers a community of character sent together

to help heal the world, making God's

Where is hope found and what

would restoration look like?

These inspired signs offer a foretaste of the restoration of all things, when God's plan will be fulfilled; evil will be judged, while peace and righteousness will prevail when Christ returns.

Our creative work in the Spirit will be refined and incorporated as building blocks in the New Jerusalem.

We will live in the new heaven and earth, stewarding creation. Our unity in diversity will mirror and worship our Triune God.

We can already share the future peace of God's kingdom through life in the Spirit.

Christ calls for ongoing transformation into His likeness, using gifts for God's glory right now.

We are tasked with bringing hope into every area of life, creating a new culture.