

## **QUESTION 26**

### **WHAT ELSE DOES CHRIST'S DEATH REDEEM? EVERY PART OF FALLEN CREATION.**

#### **READ COLOSSIANS 1:18-20**

Paul says that Jesus is "the beginning." By that, he means that the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ announces the beginning of the redemption of the whole earth. Jesus's redeeming death has implications for creation as well as for humanity.

In verse 20 Paul explains that the redemption is characterized by making peace. He brings peace in the restoration of God's relationship with humanity and peace in the restoration of the world to perfection. God the Son was the one who brought the world into creation (lesson 5), and now he is proclaimed Lord over all creation.

Jesus is re-creating, making new, both creation and humans. Re-creation has already begun, but that it will not be fully complete until the Lord Jesus returns. At that time God will conclude history, and he will bring all those who have been redeemed in Christ to live with him in a new, perfect creation. Creation will be fully renewed and restored, there will be new heavens and a new earth, and the perfection that was found in Eden will be once again seen in the new creation.

Explain to the children that all of creation belongs to God, and he is concerned to redeem it as well as humans. Creation is still affected by sin, but because of Christ's redeeming work it will one day be free from sin and all its effects.

#### **READ REVELATION 21:1-5**

Redemption leads to restoration. The redemption has already been accomplished by Christ's death and resurrection, but the creation will not be fully restored until he comes again.

#### **MEMORY VERSE**

"For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross." (Col. 1:19-20)