TAKEN FOR GRANTED

It’s easy to take things for granted, particularly things we have always known or experienced. How easy, for instance, for young children to take their parents for granted, whom they have known all their short lives? How easy for us, too, to take for granted the sun, the sky, the air, and the ground beneath our feet.

However, have you ever stopped to think just how much we take existence itself for granted? How often do we stop and ask the famous philosophical question “Why is there something instead of nothing?”

Why does our universe and all the majesty and grandeur and astonishing things in it exist to begin with? According to the latest scientific theory (they tend to change), our universe once did not exist. In other words, ours is a contingent existence; it’s a miracle that we are here at all. And despite all sorts of myths about the universe arising from absolutely nothing or from some kind of mathematical equation, our universe exists because God, the Creator, has made it and everything in it.
Write out Revelation 4:11 from the translation of your choice. You may also rewrite the passage in your own words, or outline or mind-map it.
Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

**Circle** repeated words/ phrases/ideas

**Underline** words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you

Draw **Arrows** to connect words/ phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?

Memorize your favorite verse. Write it out multiple times to help with memorization.

How does the overwhelming size of the Creation only amplify the reality of God’s love?

How does it affect your faith to know that God personally listens to each of us and cares deeply about each of our troubles?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/3am07-3
After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks seem to point to overall?

What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

What do you believe was the main reason behind Ahaz’s refusal to become acquainted with God?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/3am07-4
What relationship do the following verses have with Revelation 4:11?

2 Corinthians 5:17
Psalm 139:15–18
Acts 17:26–29
Colossians 1:15–20

What other verses/promises come to mind in connection with Revelation 4:11?

Review your memorized verse from Revelation 4:11
In light of the cross, why is the idea of fallen human beings being able to add anything to what Christ did on the cross such a heretical idea? Which of our works could add to what the Creator has already done for us?

How do you see Jesus differently in the light of this week’s lesson?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

What is He saying to you personally through these texts?

Prayer Response:

Meditate on Revelation 4:11 again and look for where Jesus is.

Read more at www.inversebible.org/3am07-6
Review the memory verse. How does it apply to your life this week?

After this week’s study, what are some decisions that must be made in your personal life?

What are some public decisions you must make in your social circles?

Read more inSight from the Spirit of Prophecy at www.inversebible.org/3am07-7
inQuire

Share insights from this week’s memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.

How is the biblical understanding of Creation different from a deistic understanding of it? Why is this difference so important?

Why is being created by God not enough for humanity? Why does humanity also need the promise and fulfillment of redemption?

How have you personally experienced God’s love through His creative power working in your life?

How does the reality that God created the entire cosmos comfort you? How does it humble you?

What does it say about God if He used evolutionary methods such as death, violence, destruction, suffering, and mass extinction to “create” humanity?

How does this week’s study impact your private and public worship of God?