

THE AGE OF ENTROPY

ROMANS 8:19-27

How did you see God working in your life this week? (Romans 1:11, 12)

BACKGROUND: “The second law of thermodynamics, entropy, tells us that all things deteriorate. This means that everything was once in a better condition than it is now.” Randy Alcorn, Heaven, p. 128.

STARTED WITH THE FALL. All of life is a race to defeat the effects of the fall. The farmer’s pesticides, extensive research in the medical field and unrelenting physical exercise programs are just some of the examples of man’s attempts to reverse these effects. This deterioration will be reversed when God creates the new heavens and new earth. (Romans 8:19-22, fn 18:19-22[1st], fn 18:19-22[2nd], Genesis 3:1-17, fn 3:14[ff], fn 3:15, fn 3:22-24, Ecclesiastes 2:1-11, fn 2:11, Ecclesiastes 3:9-11, fn 3:11, John 10:10, fn 10:10, II Corinthians 5:17, fn 5:17, Revelation 21:1-6, fn 21:5) *How has the hopelessness of this life helped you to find and know Christ?*

IS WAITING FOR ITS REVERSAL. “...one day God is going to renovate and restore not only our souls, and not only our physical bodies, but the entire cosmos. All will be put right. Eden will be restored. This globe will become what is was always meant to be.” Gospel Transformation Bible, p. 1513. (Romans 8:23-25, fn 8:23, fn 8:24, 25[1st], fn 8:24, 25[2nd], II Corinthians 1:20-22, fn 1:21, 22, II Peter 3:1-14, fn 3:8,9, fn 3:13, Revelation 22:1-5, fn 22:2) *Describe your hope!*

IN THE MEANTIME THE HOLY SPIRIT IS INTERCEDING. “The Holy Spirit does not give armchair advice. He rolls up his sleeves and helps us bear our weakness... We have two intercessors: one in Heaven—our Lord Jesus who intercedes for our sins (v. 34), and one in our hearts—the Holy Spirit himself. How greatly we are loved!” R. Kent Hughes, Romans: Righteousness from Heaven p. 163. (Romans 8:26, 27, fn 8:26, 27, Ephesians 6:18, fn 6:18, Jude 20, fn 20, I Corinthians 2:10-16, fn 2:9, fn 2:15, 16) *Why is it important for you to set aside time to pray?*

Check up—Are you praying with your spouse and your family? Group—Pray for personal requests and bond together by fellowshiping together.